

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Scarborough students triumph in national stock competition

Students from L'Amoreaux collegiate claim national title with portfolio of \$219,799

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WATERLOO – The next generation of Bay Street stock wizards may be high-school students from Scarborough. Students from L'Amoreaux collegiate have captured top honours in the national stock market competition for high-school students run by Wilfrid Laurier University.

L'Amoreaux students Alex Cheng, Antonios Wisa, Sukeevan Kailaya and Alan Tian won the Winter 2003 National Secondary School Stock Market Competition by turning a virtual \$100,000 into a portfolio worth \$219,799. The team made its money early with an equity purchase of shares in Air Canada, and added to it with equity purchases of Corel Corporation, Nortel Networks and ATI Technologies Inc. Advising teacher Donna Ward can be reached at donna-dale.smith@tdsb.on.ca.

“The competition is designed as a learning exercise and the team from L'Amoreaux has applied all that the members have learned,” said Sandra Hughes, director of Laurier's national stock market competitions. “This is a great way for students to learn about investing.”

With the competition opening amidst talks of a war in Iraq and closing during the SARS epidemic, participants were forced to overcome some economic uncertainty. Despite the challenges, however, the Canadian economy remained steady throughout the competition, with the Canadian dollar making a strong showing, rising to a three-year high of over \$0.69 US, before closing at \$0.68 US.

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The winter competition, which ran from February 3 to April 24, had 600 teams participating from 100 schools. As the national winner, the L'Amoreaux team won prizes that include \$500 and a scholarship to Laurier worth \$1,000. The first-place winner in each of the competition's six regions earns the team \$250, second place is worth \$100 and the third-place finisher wins \$50.

This year's regional winners are:

- Ontario (Greater Toronto Area) – Steve Leung, Larry Daguanno, Mike Elias, Andrew Vizmuller and Nicky Hueni of St. Elizabeth Catholic high school in Thornhill finished with a portfolio worth \$155,954, with purchases of ATI Technologies Inc. and a final margin purchase of Nortel Networks. Advising teacher Ken Ho can be reached at st_elizabeth@hotmail.com.
- Ontario (North and East) – Natalie Hahn, Spencer Cass and Sarah Laverdure of Bishop Smith Catholic high school in Pembroke finished with a portfolio value of \$207,857, due to a short position in Biovail Corporation and a straight equity purchase of Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited. Advising teacher Jack Rosien can be reached at jrosien@rccdsb.edu.on.ca.
- Ontario (Toronto) – Kyle Stuart, Andrew Rance and Tom Dovey of The Crescent School in Willowdale finished with \$166,123 through a short position purchase of Hummingbird Ltd. and a subsequent purchase and exercise of Canadian Pacific Railway Limited options. Advising teacher Charmaine Ing can be reached at cing@crescentschool.org.
- Ontario (South and West) – Paula Pajak, Nicole Morais and Matthew Curran of Ursuline College in Chatham had a final portfolio of \$154,981, built on an early purchase of Scotia Split Corporation and short positions in Bank of Montreal and Bombardier Inc. Advising teacher Warren Seton can be contacted at warren.seton@st-clair.net.
- Eastern Canada – Kristy Downs, Craig Holt and Meryl Whynacht of Saint John high school, Saint John, NB, finished with a \$110,835 portfolio, through an early short sale acquisition of Air Canada, which they subsequently covered at a substantial profit. Advising teacher Paul Hodgins can be reached at phodgins@nbnet.nb.ca.

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- Western Canada – Meghan Ho, Abbie Cheung, Hanan Davidson, Sara Davis and Nicki Giouzelis from Kitsilano secondary school in Vancouver, BC, finished with a portfolio of \$106,571, earned on an early stock purchase of Stuart Energy Systems Corporation and the acquisition, and later sale, of Biovail Corporation options. Advising teacher Mike Vulgaris can be contacted at vulgaris@shaw.ca.

Joel Tulloch, Megan Clarke and Sarah Ventura of Ursuline College in Chatham earned the 2003 Huntly McKay Award. The team's final portfolio value of \$110,762 came from successful positions in Sears Canada Inc., Petro Canada and Canadian Natural Resources Limited, and a straight equity purchase of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. Advising teacher Warren Seton can be reached at warren.seton@st-clair.net.

The Huntly McKay Award is given to recognize the team that best embodies the spirit of trading. Named for a TSX vice-president who was instrumental in involving the exchange in Laurier's competitions, the \$500 award goes to a team that participates in active trading and experiments with a range of investment strategies.

An awards banquet is held every year for the winners of the fall and winter competitions, for Ontario's regional winners and for the Huntly McKay Award recipients. This year's banquet will be held at The University Club of Toronto on Monday, May 26.

Laurier began running stock market competitions in 1972 at the high-school, university/college and MBA levels. Held twice each year, the national competitions teach participants about investing as they monitor stock quotations, submit daily trade requests and view their portfolios on-line. The National Post, Sun Microsystems Canada Ltd., CGI Group Inc., WestJet and Bell Canada are the major sponsors of the competitions.