

# ***NEWS FROM THE ND SECURITIES COMMISSIONER***

**For Immediate Release – January 7, 2002**

## **STOCK MARKET GAME WINNERS ANNOUNCED**

**Bismarck, ND** – Students from Washington Elementary and Discovery Junior High of Fargo and Trinity Christian High School of Williston have won the Elementary, Middle School and High School competitions in North Dakota for the Fall Stock Market Game.

Members of the winning team in the Elementary competition from Washington Elementary are Josh Nichelson, Aaron Sauvageu and Rick Sellnow. Their teacher-advisor is James Schutz. The Middle School division competition winners are Faheem Amini, Light Smith Moadi, and Zachariya Abdukarim of Discovery Junior High School. Their teacher-advisor is Anne Bower. Winning the High School division competition from Trinity Christian High School is Beau Black. His teacher-advisor for the game is Nancy Vickers. There were 608 teams and 2070 students participating in the fall competition.

The Stock Market Game (SMG) is a ten-week simulation of Wall Street trading that provides a framework for teaching students in grades 4-12 about the American economic system. “Offered in the fall and spring semesters, SMG is available through the Internet and is designed for classroom use as a motivational tool to increase understanding of the stock market, the costs and benefits involved

in economic decision-making, the sources and use of capital and other related

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### ***Stock Market Game Winners Announced – Page 2***

economic concepts,” said Diane Kambeitz, Coordinator of the North Dakota game from the Office of the Securities Commissioner.

SMG is an interdisciplinary teaching tool that allows teachers to create and direct learning in the classroom in a variety of disciplines. During the ten-week session, student teams invest a hypothetical \$100,000 in common stocks on the New York and American stock exchanges and the NASDAQ Stock Market. Teams enter their transactions and monitor daily their portfolios including trades, current holdings, brokerage fees, margin interest and team ranking. At the end of the ten-week simulation, the winning teams in the elementary, middle school and high school competitions achieving the largest investment gains are recognized. Winning teams in the fall competition increased their portfolio by as much as \$90,000.

SMG is a free resource to North Dakota schools coordinated through the Office of the Securities Commissioner offered through their Investor Education program. The Stock Market Game was created and is provided by the Securities Industry Foundation for Economic Education, an affiliate of the Securities Industry Association and is offered in all 50 states.

“SMG is an opportunity for students to not only learn about the market and how it affects our economy, but also to think about wise investing and saving for

their financial futures,” stated Kambeitz.

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***Stock Market Game Winners Announced – Page 3***

The spring game will begin on February 11, 2002. It is available at no cost to all North Dakota teachers and students in grades 4-12. For more information on SMG, contact the Office of the Securities Commissioner at 1-800-297-5124 (local 328-2910) or visit the SMG website at [www.smgww.org](http://www.smgww.org).

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