

Dallas students have the Midas touch in stock market game.

☐ They make \$100,000 in play money grow in a tough market

By M.B. GILLIGAN
Post Correspondent

Two teams of students from the Dallas Elementary School were among those recognized by Prudential Retirement Services for their expertise in 2001-2002 Stock Market Game conducted by the University of Scranton Center for Economic Education.

"In the beginning we had Wal-Mart, Coke, Phillip Morris, NVR, and the Wall Street Journal," said Elena Habersky, Dallas, a member of the fifth grade team that took first place in its age group category. "We stuck with Phillip Morris, Wall Street Journal and NVR."

The Stock Market Game is a 10-week simulation during which students from three grade categories (4-6, 7-8, 9-12) invest an imaginary \$100,000 by buy-

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James Ivory
Dallas sixth grader

ing and selling stocks listed on the major securities exchanges. Each team is given an ID number and a password to log onto a computer Web site.

"You can check all of the stocks and whether they are going up or down," said Elena. "You can buy or sell but you have to have at least three different stocks to win."

Students who compete in the game learn how financial markets operate and they develop their mathematical and decision making skills.

"We bought 100 shares of four or five different stocks," said James Ivory, a member of the fifth grade team to place third in the competition. "We just looked for stocks that kept going up and we bought them and

they kept going up."

The University of Scranton is one of 13 colleges and universities that host Centers for Economic Education, each of which conducts its own Stock Market competition. Teams that finished first, second, and third in each category were recognized at an awards ceremony sponsored by Prudential Retirement Services.

"After we ate we had to talk about our stocks and we told them about our winning stock," said Meghan Pietraccini, another member of the first place team. "It was fun to play the game and it will be good for later in life when we are really investing in the stock market. I think I will probably invest a little money if it is a good stock."

The team comprised of Sarah Flannery, Elena Habersky, Meghan Pietraccini and Stacey Stepniak ended up with \$116,166 from their original investment of \$100,000. The third place team members, Mitchell Artsma, James Ivory, and John Prater, finished with \$104,667. Linda Doughton is advisor at Dallas Elementary School for the Stock Market Game.



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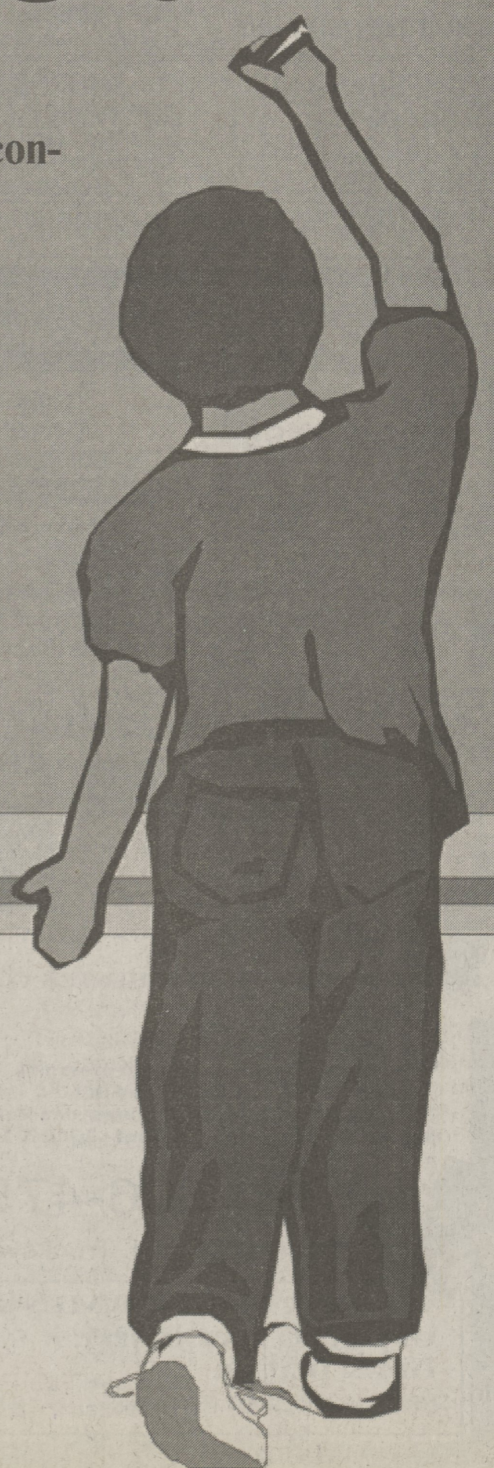
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