



Union College Wins 2017 Adirondack Cup Competition

22 Colleges and Universities Participated in Unique Stock Picking Challenge

Guilderland, N.Y. – A team of students from Union College has won the 2017 Adirondack Cup, a stock picking contest for college students interested in the investment field. The contest focuses exclusively on “small cap” public companies, the expertise of the Cup’s sponsor, Adirondack Research & Management, Inc. This firm is the advisor to The Adirondack Small Cap Fund (ADKSX), an SEC registered no-load mutual fund established in 2005. The advisor employs a contrarian investment strategy, focusing on those companies currently “out of favor” with mainstream investors.

At the start of the competition in October 2016, teams were expected to research and allocate a hypothetical \$1 million portfolio among five small cap stocks (defined as companies with market caps between \$50 million and \$3 billion). Students create a thesis on their picks and industry diversification is required. To encourage a long term focus, teams are only allowed to change their portfolio once during the competition.

The Adirondack Cup fielded teams from 22 colleges and universities mainly across the Northeast with over 160 students participating. The goal of the competition, now having finished its sixth year, is to provide a unique setting for students to test their investment research skills using businesses not widely covered by analysts and news media.

The Union team posted a 35.12 percent return during the contest, significantly beating the Russell 2000 Index which measures the performance of small cap stocks in the U.S. The index posted an 11.13 percent gain for the period.

“The recent presidential election helped Union trump its competition. One of its smaller positions, Health Insurance Innovations (HIIQ), a beneficiary of potential changes in the Affordable Care Act, nearly tripled in value. The team employed a buy and hold strategy and mitigated risk by offsetting this pick with bigger, more stable, companies. Union led for a good part of the competition and they should be proud of their effort,” said Greg Roeder, Co-Portfolio Manager.

Rounding out the top five were Wesleyan University (24.28 percent return), Stonehill College (23.66 percent return), University at Albany (22.39 percent return) and St. John Fisher College (17.56 percent return). Other colleges participating in the competition included Binghamton University, Bryn Mawr College, Buffalo State, SUNY Brockport, Clarkson University, SUNY Geneseo, Hofstra University, Ithaca College, Maria College, Nazareth College, Rochester Institute of Technology, The College of Saint Rose, St. Lawrence University, Siena College, SUNY Plattsburgh, Temple University, and University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Past performance is not an indication of future returns. This Fund may not be appropriate for all investors, and determining whether it may be appropriate can only be accomplished by individual consideration of your goals and risk profile. The information above is believed to be true, but we cannot guarantee its accuracy. Please consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of The Adirondack Small Cap Fund (ADKSX) before investing. For a prospectus containing details on investment objectives, risks, fees, and expenses, please visit www.adirondackfunds.com. Read it carefully before you invest. The Adirondack Small Cap Fund is distributed by Rafferty Capital Markets, LLC, Garden City, NY 11530.