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University of Dayton, Ohio (url: http://www.udayton.edu/index.php)

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03.22.2014 | Business, Campus and Community  University of Dayton senior Nathan Hauge is the grand prize winner in the Next Great StockPickr competition sponsored by TheStreet (url: http://www.thestreet.com) and the University of Dayton's RISE 14 student investment conference.

Hauge, who will graduate this spring with a double major in finance and business economics, pitched Wyndham Worldwide Corporation (NYSE: WYN). Runners up for the competition included Sumant Chittiprolu, The Ohio State University; Brian Ross, University of California Fullerton; Jason Sigmon, University of South Carolina; and Kevin Wivell, Bentley University.

Hauge, from London, Ohio, said he knew a lot about Wyndham because he pitched it last fall to Flyer Investments, a $16-million portion of the University's endowment managed by undergraduate students in the University of Dayton's Davis Center for Portfolio Management. The stock is now part of the Flyer Investments portfolio.

"It's my favorite stock. I really like the hospitality and hotel industry and I researched it extensively," he said, adding that the hard part was getting it into a one-minute video. "Sixty seconds is a really short period of time."

Hauge also serves as chief investment officer for one of the University's newest hands-on learning opportunities, the $1-million Kudla Dynamic Allocation Fund, established last year by David Kudla, RISE executive director and CEO, Mainstay Capital Management LLC.

"I'm just so proud of him," said Kudla, who advises the fund as adjunct faculty. "This was a tough competition and he showed how the experience he gained by managing real money as part of his education translates into exceptional stock analysis skills."

The Next Great StockPickr competition invited college and graduate students to submit a one-minute video presenting and analyzing a stock they believed would show the most gains in the coming year. Entries were posted to TheStreet's Facebook page and finalists were selected based on the number of "likes" the video received. Jim Cramer, TheStreet's founder and chief markets commentator, and his investment team then selected Hauge as the grand prize winner from the finalists.

"In order to reap the long-term benefits of a good investment, people need to learn about the stock market at a young age, and that's what our competition encouraged students to do," Cramer said. "Nathan's video demonstrated a smart assessment of a stock by highlighting important industry trends, evaluating the different drivers for each segment of the company and importantly, considering the shareholder return focus."

Hauge will receive a trip to New York City to meet Cramer at TheStreet's headquarters on Wall Street this summer, in addition to a one-year subscription to The Chairman's Club, which encompasses TheStreet's full suite of premium services plus access to The Deal Pipeline, The Deal's transaction information service reporting on the deal economy.

Hauge and the other finalists will be honored at the University of Dayton March 27-29 at RISE, the largest student investment conference in the world. Stephanie Link, CIO, director of research and co-portfolio manager of TheStreet, will speak at the conference, and Cramer will field questions from students live via a remote connection from New York.

Hauge's winning video is available online at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kVf9Z_lYBRw (url: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kVf9Z_lYBRw). For more information about TheStreet, visit www.t.st (url: http://www.t.st). For more on RISE, visit http://www.udayton.edu/business/rise/.

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For more information, contact Cilla Shindell, director of media relations, at 937-229-3257 or shindell@udayton.edu (url: mailto:shindell@udayton.edu).