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XAVIER LAUNCH-A-BUSINESS COMPETITION / 2011 WINNERS

WINNER: Courtney Tudor, Mr. Bigshot – Online Stock Market Game

This product would be a new multi-player online version of a stock-investing game called Mr. Bigshot. The game uses 45 years of historical stock market data. Players buy and sell stocks of a given year. The goal is to have the most money at the end of the game. In addition to its commercial uses, it can be used as a teaching tool in high schools, with the goal of conducting a nationwide tournament.

Comments of X-LAB evaluators: This product has the potential to improve financial literacy among high schools students.

Contact information: 513-478-3650; mrbigshot@gmail.com

WINNER: Adam Treister, Student Designed – Connecting Students with Real-World Work

Student Designed is a social networking website connecting businesses and universities. It creates a place where businesses can submit requests for students to work on projects in their classrooms. Universities review the project proposals and accept the best ones for their students. Professors guide their students by basing their course work on real-world projects. Examples include developing a marketing campaign for a business and designing a flagship store for a retail chain.

Comments of X-LAB evaluators: Adam Treister presented a well-researched business model that has great potential value for students, colleges and businesses.

Contact information: 304-543-8866; treister.adam@studentdesigned.com

WINNERS: Dr. David Croop and Don Carter, DC2 Technologies – Advanced Dental Instrument

DC2 Technologies has developed and patented a self-cleaning dental mirror. This instrument addresses a common problem experienced by dentists. When using a mirror for some procedures, it is nearly impossible to keep the mirror clean from debris. In most cases, the dentist must repeatedly stop the procedure and manually clean the mirror. The idea for this instrument stems from 27 years of practicing dentistry and encountering the daily frustration of limited visibility when using a conventional dental mirror.

Comments of X-LAB evaluators: This instrument would reduce the amount of time it takes to treat dental patients. Sales of this product could generate significant income.

Contact information: 513-673-8380; drdavid@cinci.rr.com; 859-866-1611; dcarter3@zoomtown.com
WINNER: Mary Fennell, Easy Peez -- Innovative Boys’ Underwear

Mary Fennell has a patented product called Easy Peez, the only boys’ underwear with a fly designed as a flap that uses Velcro as a fastener. The flap-fly provides easy access, gives privacy to the child’s backside while standing in public restrooms and prevents bunching of clothing, which often leads to splatters and soiled clothing. Marketing research from major brands have shown that, although there is a fly opening for boys on the traditional boys’ briefs, most boys don’t use them.

Comments of X-LAB evaluators: An evaluator who has a two-year-old son said the design of the underpants would be very useful in potty training.

Contact information: 859-359-0465; kfennell@insightbb.com

WINNER: Doug Moormann, Chip Gerhardt and Jim Benedict, Development Strategies Group – Economic Development Consulting

Private businesses have been reluctant to take advantage of government incentives, even though the incentives are designed to cut the cost of business expansion, relocation and acquisition. Some view the process of securing the incentives as too cumbersome. Others are concerned about strings being attached to the incentives. Development Strategies Group will help its clients identify and obtain these incentives. The firm’s consultants will manage the process. As a result, more jobs will be retained and more businesses expanded in Greater Cincinnati.

Comments of X-LAB evaluators: This business has high potential for regional, national and international growth.

Contact information: dmoormann@devstrategiesgroup.com; 513-651-4100; 513-237-2466

WINNER: Djibril Thiaw, Senfacture – Online Method for Paying Overseas Bills

Senfacture is an easy way to receive, track and pay international bills online. In some developing nations, utility companies don’t accept personal checks or online payments. Senfacture’s method eliminates the hassle of having to stand in line for up to a day just to pay one bill. This method is especially helpful for immigrants in the U.S. who support families overseas. But it will be convenient for anyone who lives in one country and needs to pay bills in other countries.

Comments of X-LAB evaluators: This entrepreneur is bright and enthusiastic, and his venture has great potential in developing nations.

Contact information: thiawd@xavier.edu; 513-652-4770; www.senfacture.com

WINNERS: Brett Elkins and Mike Buob, GameDay Advantage Technologies – Mobile Device Applications for Sports Teams

This business wants to develop mobile device software for professional sports teams to enhance the fan experience. The suite of applications allows fans to become more engaged and entertained through the use of games such as bingo, trivia and predicting the play. A rewards-loyalty program could generate increased use
of the mobile device application by providing free or discounted team items to fans. In addition, teams could send targeted advertisements to fans’ mobile devices on behalf of the teams’ corporate sponsors.

Contact information: 513-515-1639; mbelkins@msn.com; 513-310-4292; mikebuob@gmail.com

**WINNER: Candace Klein, SoMoLend -- Peer-to-Peer Lending Technology**

With the decrease of bank loans to startup businesses, SoMoLend wants to capitalize on a trend in lending. It’s called peer-to-peer lending, and it involves private individuals and businesses lending to each other. This company has software that uses the web and interactive mobile devices to match borrowers with lenders. Revenue will mostly come from a fee on the transactions made through an electronic payment system.

Comments of X-LAB evaluators: This entrepreneur has recruited top-notch advisors and secured substantial financial backing.

Contact information: Candace@somolend.com; 859-803-9499

**WINNER: Brad Rogers, Urban Harvest -- High-Yield Farming in Cities**

Urban Harvest relies on an innovative approach to grow fish and crops. The technique, called aquaponics, produces large quantities of food in small areas and does so organically. The crops are grown with their roots in water. Fish waste fertilizes the crops. Urban Harvest wants to establish such farming systems in urban areas.

Comments of X-LAB evaluators: Brad Rogers has the passion, dedication and technical knowledge to make this happen.

Contact information: 513-835-6335; brad@urban-harvest.org; www.urban-harvest.org

**WINNERS: Brendan Cmolik, Wyatt Link and Sean Zavoda, Green City Cuisine -- Locally Grown Organic Food Truck**

Green City Cuisine would capitalize on two of the strongest trends in the food services industry -- food trucks and organic cuisine -- by combining them. It would be the first food truck in Greater Cincinnati with organic and locally grown food, helping to renew the connection between the community and its food. This business hopes to reinvigorate people’s appreciation for the food they eat and the farmers who provide that food.

Comments of X-LAB evaluators: Green City Cuisine will be giving potential customers what they want: Great local food that is convenient.

Contact information: cmolikb@xavier.edu; 419-551-2946