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Loyalist Paramedic Students Bring Two Medals Home to Bancroft

Loyalist College Paramedic students placed second and third at the Annual Skills Competition sponsored by the Durham Paramedic Association in Oshawa. Kelly Whiteway-Madden and Kristina Nieminen were the silver medalists and Jason Rice and Tammy Hembruff placed third. There were 22 teams entered in the competition, 13 of which were from colleges. The competition consisted of skill stations, scenarios and written testing. Contestants knowledge was challenged in areas ranging from control of mass casualty incidents to cardiac arrest.

Our instructors went above and beyond in preparing us, giving us the most difficult and obscure practice scenarios, commented Kelly Whiteway-Madden. There was a lot of time and energy spent preparing. From the time we began training in January, we would meet two or three times each week in addition to the weekends that we had classes. It was truly an amazing feeling to compete and place in the top three.

There were many challenging scenarios throughout the course of the day, said Kelly Sheppard, Coordinator of Loyalists Paramedic program. Our teams worked hard and performed well. Kelly and Kristina missed first place by only three points. Both teams did a great job and made us all proud. Kristina was shown on CTV news as part of the coverage of the event. Once again Loyalist showed everyone that we have what it takes. Durham initiated this competition five years ago and since it began a Loyalist team has placed first or second every year.

I think it is a great experience for students to enter this competition, added Kristina Nieminen. It helped prepare us for what will be happening to us as paramedics. Part of the hiring process that we will go through consists of practicals and this will be useful experience for that. Weve definitely learned to work hard and deal with pressure.

To place in the top two teams for five consecutive years when competing against working paramedic professionals as well as students from other programs speaks volumes about the quality of our program, commented Tom Malloy, Dean of Skills Training, Access, Continuing Education and Satellite Services. The expertise and experience that our instructors bring to this program is evident in the calibre of the students who successfully complete this rigorous program.

The Loyalist College Paramedic program is offered at the Bancroft Campus on a part-time basis. For more information regarding this and other Bancroft Campus programs call (613) 332-1743 or visit www.loyalistcollege.com.

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