

HSI WEEK ENDED DECEMBER 21, 2018

The Husson Stock Index (HSI) decreased from 138.65 on December 14, to 129.53 representing a (6.57%) change for the weekend December 21, 2018.

This was a week of big losses, with a decline of 6.57%. People were worried after hearing President Trump last week mention the possibility of a government shutdown, but that worry grew when Trump tweeted again. He threatened that if the Democrats vote no on the vote for the border wall and increased border security that there will be a long government shutdown. The possibility of a shutdown on top of other economic factors led to this week's big decline.

The highest percentage decrease for the week came from Penn National Gaming, Inc. (PENN) with a 20.27% drop. However, a number of analysts expect the stock price of PENN to increase to \$33 to \$40 per share. Additionally, equity analysts expect the company's earnings per share could increase from \$0.38 to \$0.54.

Another high percentage drop this week was Rite Aid Corporation (RAD), a company that has been dropping a lot in the past weeks. It dropped 20.22% this week, which is almost double last week's drop of 11.9%. This drop occurred despite overall positive news. On Thursday, December 20, RAD announced third quarter earnings that beat expectations and that it had successfully refinanced its revolving credit facility in the amount of \$3.15 billion.

The HSI was developed by Marie Kenney, while a student at Husson University, in consultation with Associate Professor J. Douglas Wellington. The index is currently being tracked and

analyzed by Husson student Mairéad O'Sullivan. The HSI tracks and analyzes 29 companies that are considered to have an effect on the Maine economy. These companies are either based in Maine or have an influence on the Maine economy through employment, and overall presence in the State. This price-weighted index offers a numerical break down of Maine's economy to help provide a better understanding of Maine's economy. The analysis looks into the events of the week and tries to explain significant changes in the stock prices of the companies that comprise the Husson Stock Index.

References

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