HSI WEEK ENDED MARCH 9, 2018

The Husson Stock Index(HSI) increased 3.68% from the week ended March 2nd. The Husson Stock Index on March 2, 2018 was 144.71 and is now 150.03 The most substantial changes in the week were athenahealth (ATHN), IDEXX Laboratories (IDXX), and Rite Aid (RAD).

athenahealth (ATHN): athenahealth’s stock price increased 6.32% from the week ended March 2, 2018. Zacks Equity Research reported that athenahealth has had an amazing stock return of 7.4% over the past six months, while the industry as a whole has had a gain of 0.5%.

IDEXX Laboratories (IDXX): IDEXX Laboratories stock price increased 9.37% from the week ended March 2, 2018. Zacks Equity Research reported that IDEXX stock has had an increase of 28.1% over the last year, compared to an industry increase of 24%. “The company’s five-year historical growth rate is also favorable at 15.9%, compared with 9.9% of the industry.” (www.zacks.com)

Rite Aid (RAD): Rite Aid’s stock price decreased 8.9% from the week ended March 2, 2018. Zacks Equity Research reported that Rite Aid plans to complete selling off 1,932 stores, 3 distributions centers and related inventory to Walgreens Boots Alliance by the spring of 2018. Rite Aid has already transferred 1,651 stores and related assets. Additionally, Rite Aid and Albertsons Companies have announced plans to merge.

The Husson Stock Index 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 Simon Lebel. The index tracks and analyzes 27 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, number of consumers, and overall presence in the State. This price-weighted index offers a numerical break down of Maine’s economy. The analysis looks into the events of the week and finds the likely reasons the index was up or down. The index and analysis help provide a better understanding of Maine’s economy and offer an explanation of significant changes in the stock prices of the companies that comprise the Husson Stock Index.

Zacks Equity Research. (2018, March 6). 3 Reasons Why You Should Invest in athenahealth (ATHN) Stock. Retrieved March 11, 2018, from <https://www.zacks.com/stock/news/294581/3-reasons-why-you-should-invest-in-athenahealth-athn-stock?cid=CS-YAHOO-FT-294581> .

Zacks Equity Research. (2018, February 20). Here's Why You Should Invest in IDEXX Laboratories (IDXX) Now. Retrieved March 11, 2018, from <https://www.zacks.com/stock/news/292998/heres-why-you-should-invest-in-idexx-laboratories-idxx-now?cid=CS-YAHOO-FT-292998> .

Rite Aid Nears Completion of Assets Transfer to Walgreens. (2018, March 06). Retrieved March 11, 2018, from <https://www.zacks.com/stock/news/294630/rite-aid-nears-completion-of-assets-transfer-to-walgreens?cid=CS-YAHOO-FT-294630> .