**Husson Stock Index**

**Week Ended October 6, 2023**

 For the week ending October 13, 2023, the Husson Stock Index (HSI) saw an increase for the first time in three weeks. The index ended the week at 202.22, a 0.86% increase from the week prior. The S&P 500 recorded a growth of 0.45%, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average grew 0.60% from last week. With the increase of the index this week, the HSI has returned to a positive year-to-date growth. To date, the HSI has increased by 0.54%, the S&P 500 has grown by 12.72%, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average has grown by 1.39%.

**Summary**

For the week ending October 13, 2023, the stock with the greatest percentage increase was Rite Aid Corporation (RAD). Once again, this is still a surprise as discussions of the company's bankruptcy plans continue to grow. This week, RAD saw a 20.37% increase or a $0.11 increase per share, from $0.54 to $0.65. While this is the second week in a row that Rite Aid has had a large increase, there is no information to support that this will be a trend. RAD is still facing potential delisting from the NYSE, and there are still plans of downsizing by roughly 500 stores as they prepare for bankruptcy. According to Todd Campbell of *The Street*, "A retail store chain on the verge of Chapter 11 bankruptcy could shutter one-quarter of its 2,200 stores." The main reasons for Rite Aid’s struggles, including a slip in sales, can be directly related to increased competition from businesses such as Walgreens, CVS, and online retailers, as well as an increase in theft, which has jumped to "a 9 million dollar increase in retail store shrink”. Retail store shrink is the term in the industry to track losses due to theft and lost inventory. The stock with the second-largest percentage growth was General Dynamic Corporation (GD). GD saw a 10.50% gain in share price from $219.94 to $243.04.

This week, the stock with the largest percentage decline was ImmuCell Corporation (ICCC). ICCC stock dropped 7.89%, from $5.45 to $5.02. ImmuCell Corporation is an animal health company that creates and distributes products that attempt to improve the health and increase productivity of cattle. On October 5th, 2023, the company released its "Preliminary, Unaudited Total Sales Results." The report showed that for the nine-month period ending September 30th and the one-year period ending September 30th, they had a 16% decrease in sales and a 19% decrease in sales. This 9-month and 1-year decrease could be directly correlated to the decrease in share price. The stock with the second-worst performance this week was IDEXX Laboratories Inc. (IDXX). This week, IDXX stock price went down by 4.44% from $445.98 to $426.18.

**Overview**

 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 Parker Deprey under the supervision of Associate

Professor of Finance Dr. Jia Liu. The HSI currently tracks and analyzes the stocks of 27 companies that are considered to affect the Maine economy. These companies are either based in Maine or have an influence on the Maine economy through employment or consumer spending. This price-weighted index offers a numerical breakdown of Maine’s economy. The analysis investigates the events of the week and finds the likely reasons the index went up or down. This index and analysis help provide a better understanding of Maine’s economy as well as explain significant changes in stock prices of the companies that comprise the HSI.

*References*

Yahoo! (n.d.-b). *ImmuCell announces preliminary, unaudited sales results for Q3 2023*. Yahoo! Finance. <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/immucell-announces-preliminary-unaudited-sales-200500201.html>

Bankruptcy could force this popular retailer to close 500 stores. (n.d.-a). <https://www.thestreet.com/retailers/bankruptcy-could-force-this-popular-retailer-to-close-500-stores>

**Composition of the Husson Stock Index (HSI)**

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| **Ticker****Symbol:****Exchange** | **Stock** | **Maine****Affiliation** | **Sector** |
| AGR: NYSE | Avangrid, Inc. | Presence | Utilities |
| BAC: NYSE | Bank of America Corporation | Presence | Financials |
| BHB: NYSE | Bar Harbor Bank | Maine-based | Financials |
| CAC: NASDAQ | Camden National Corporation | Maine-based | Financials |
| CHTR: NASDAQ | Charter Communications, Inc. | Presence | Communications Services |
| CL: NYSE | Colgate-Palmolive Company | Maine-based | Consumer Staples |
| DRI: NYSE | Darden Restaurants, Inc. | Presence | Consumer Discretionaries |
| FNLC: NASDAQ | The First Bancorp, Inc. | Maine-based | Financials |
| GD: NYSE | General Dynamics Corporation | Presence | Industrials |
| HLT: NYSE | Hilton Worldwide Holdings, Inc. | Presence | Consumer Discretionaries |
| HD: NYSE | The Home Depot, Inc. | Presence | Consumer Discretionaries |
| ICCC: NASDAQ | ImmuCell Corporation | Maine-based | Health Care |
| IDXX: NASDAQ | IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. | Maine-based | Health Care |
| LOW: NYSE | Lowe's Companies, Inc. | Presence | Consumer Discretionaries |
| MCD: NYSE | McDonald's Corporation | Presence | Consumer Discretionaries |
| NBN: NASDAQ | Northeast Bank | Maine-based | Financials |
| PENN: NASDAQ | Penn National Gaming, Inc. | Presence | Consumer Discretionaries |
| RAD: NYSE | Rite Aid Corporation | Presence | Consumer Staples |
| RTX:NYSE | Raytheon Technologies Corporation | Presence | Industrials |
| TD: NYSE | The Toronto-Dominion Bank | Presence | Financials |
| TMUS: NASDAQ | T-Mobile US, Inc. | Presence | Consumer Services |
| UPS; NYSE | United Parcel Service, Inc. | Presence | Industrials |
| UNM: NYSE | Unum Group | Presence | Financials |
| VLO: NYSE | Valero Energy Corporation | Presence | Energy |
| WMT: NYSE | Walmart Inc. | Presence | Consumer Staples |
| WEX: NYSE | WEX Inc. | Presence | Information Technology |
| WBA: NASDAQ | Walgreens Boots Alliance, Inc. | Presence | Consumer Staples |