**Husson Stock Index**

**Week ended March 03, 2023**

For the week ending March 03, 2023, the Husson Stock Index (HSI) ended the week at 211.11. This represents a 1.16% increase from the week prior and contributes to the 4.96% increase year to date. In comparison, the S&P 500 increased 1.90% this week and 5.37% year to date, and the Dow Jones increased 1.76% over last week with a .74% increase year to date.

**Summary**

 The stock that had the best performance this week for percentage increase was Valero Energy Corporation (VLO). VLO increased from $132.75 to $141.17 per share. This equates to a 6.34% increase in price, which marks the second week in a row that VLO has been among the top two best performing stocks. In an article published by markets insiders, and written by Zacks Equity Research, they quote the well-known investor, Kevin O’Leary, as saying that VLO is one of the major energy stocks to watch after a bad February month. This coupled with the fact that VLO has maintained a 3.2% increase over the last month compared to the industry’s 3.9% decrease. This makes VLO a stock that many have kept an eye on going into the month of March. (Zacks, 2023)

 The second largest increase percentagewise this week was from IDEXX Laboratories Inc. (IDXX). IDXX increased from $468.17 to $488.00 per share. That is equal to a 4.24% increase from last week.

 The stock with the biggest decrease this week was Rite Aid Corporation (RAD). RAD decreased from $3.90 to $3.58 per share. This constitutes an 8.21% decrease in the price per share. Last 4 years have been financially difficult for RAD. When other pharmaceuticals have been relatively successful, according to Simply Wall St, even with the 89% loss over the past 4 years they still have little hope that it can recover at all. Their recommendation is to avoid RAD shares and pay attention to any future warnings and price decreases. (Simply Wall St, 2023)

 The second worst performing stock this week was ImmuCell Corporation (ICCC). ICCC closed the week down 5.75% from the week prior. The price per share decreased from $6.26 to $5.9.

**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 Richard Jones under the supervision of finance professor 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 looks into 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.

**Reference(s):**

Business Insider. (2023, March 2). *Valero Energy Corporation (VLO) is attracting investor attention: Here is what you should know*. Business Insider. Retrieved March 3, 2023.

Yahoo! (2023, February 23). *Investors in Rite Aid (NYSE:RAD) have unfortunately lost 89% over the last five years*. Yahoo! Finance. Retrieved March 3, 2023.

**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 |