**Husson Stock Index**

**Week ended March 24, 2023**

For the week ending March 24, 2023, the Husson Stock Index (HSI) ended the week at 201.44. This is a 0.19% increase from the week prior, and a 0.16% increase year to date. In comparison, the S&P 500 saw a 1.39% increase from last week and is currently up 3.42% year to date. Finally, the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) increased 1.18% over the last week but decreased 2.74% year to date.

**Summary**

 For the week ending March 24, 2023, the individual stock that had the largest percentage increase was ImmuCell Corporation (ICCC). ICCC increased from $4.87 to $5.07 per share. That is a 4.11% increase in price from where it was last week.

 The stock with the second-highest percentage increase in price this week was Unum Group (UNM). UNM increased from $36.65 to $38.00 per share, equivalent to a 3.68%increase. Just this week Zacks Equity Research wrote an article about how UNM is a great dividend stock to buy currently. They state that UNM has increased its dividends 4 of the last 5 years, with an average annual increase of 6.16%. This paired with their 21% payout ratio has caused Zacks Equity Research to be optimistic on the future price of UNM. (Zacks Equity Research, 2023)

 The worst performing stock for two weeks in a row was Rite Aid Corporation (RAD). This week RAD decreased from $2.68 to $2.10 per share. That is equal to a 21.64% decrease. Over the last two weeks RAD went from $3.28 to $2.10 per share, a 35.98% decrease over 14 days. In continuation with the lawsuits filed against Rite Aid last week, there was a successful lawsuit against RAD this week. According to Leigh Searcy from the LEX18, a local newspaper in Lexington, KY, a 14-million-dollar verdict was reached in Kentucky against RAD. They were accused of falsely and carelessly filling opioid prescriptions. According to Searcy this could be the first of many lawsuits to come. (Searcy, 2023)

The second largest percentage decrease in price this week was Northeast Bank (NBN). NBN saw a decrease from $37.97 to $35.79 per share. That is equal to a 5.74% decrease.

**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):**

Searcy, L. (2023, March 20). *CVS, rite aid hit with $14 million verdict in Kentucky lawsuit*. LEX 18 News - Lexington, KY (WLEX). Retrieved March 25, 2023,

Yahoo! (n.d.). *Why Unum (UNM) is a great dividend stock right now*. Yahoo! Finance. Retrieved March 25, 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 |