

HSI WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 5, 2018

The Husson Stock Index (HSI) decreased from 158.26 on September 28th, to 153.84, representing a (2.79%) change for the week ended October 5, 2018.

Rite Aid Corporation [RAD] showed the highest percentage change from the week prior dropping 10.16%; this represented a dollar change of (\$.13) from \$1.28 to \$1.15. Rite Aid, a company faced with significant turmoil in recent months, has had problems with their board of executives and shareholders, and have been lampooned by the market as a result. In news this week, Bruce Japsen, a Senior Contributor for Forbes, made a report shining a light on the "unrest" of the shareholders, as the company they invested in faces a new board slate up for election. Following a "new governance that strips CEO John Standley of the chairman's role", Mr. Standley is among six current board members and three new independent directors that will stand for election on Oct. 30 at the 2018 annual stockholders meeting.

Another large percentage decrease came from Penn National Gaming, Inc. [PENN] which posted an 8.75% decrease from the week prior; a dollar change of (\$2.88) from \$32.92 to \$30.04. Penn National Gaming, which is the parent company for many casinos spanning 15 states and 1 province, continued with its pending acquisition of Pinnacle Entertainment this week. On October second, PENN secured Federal Trade Commission Clearance of its pending acquisition of Pinnacle Entertainment; this was then followed by approval of the acquisition by Nevada Gaming Regulators on October third. Outside of this seemingly positive news, there was no particular news for the drop that occurred for the week.

Lastly, the highest dollar change for the week came from Idexx Laboratories, Inc. [IDXX], which posted a change of (\$20.42) from \$249.66 to \$229.24 representing a 8.18% decrease from the prior week; this also simultaneously represented the largest negative impact on the index, which was a 0.713% decrease. Idexx has not released any press releases or had any substantial news since the prior week, where they stated the date for release of their third quarter financial results.

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 Dominick Lizotte. 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

Japsen, B. (2018, October 07). Despite New Governance, Rite Aid Shareholder Unrest Remains. Retrieved from <https://www.forbes.com/sites/brucejapsen/2018/10/05/despite-new-rite-aid-governance-shareholder-unrest-remains/#771feb277516>

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