**Husson Stock Index**

**Week ended April 21, 2023**

For the week ending April 21, 2023, the Husson Stock Index (HSI) ended the week at 208.56. That is a 0.38% increase from last week and is part of an overall 3.70% increase year to date. In comparison to the S&P 500 and the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA), the HSI was the only one of the three to go up this week. The S&P 500 was down 0.10% this week, which contributed to its 7.66% increase year to date, and the DJIA decreased 0.23% over the last week. Overall, the DJIA was up 2.00% year to date.

**Summary**

For the week ending April 21, 2023, the individual stock with the largest percentage increase in price was Northeast Bank (NBN). NBN had a 4.57% increase in price, up from $34.80 to $36.39.

 The stock with the second-largest percentage increase in price since last week was Lowe’s Companies, Inc. (LOW). LOW increased in price per share from $202.18 to $211.04. That is equal to a 4.38% increase in price per share. Lowe’s remains a low-cost investment with high dividends for investors. In fact, Neil Patel from the Motley Fool, wrote an article where Lowe’s was on his top three dividend paying stocks to buy. The major reason listed in the article was that over the last 25 years, Lowe’s has increased the dividends paid every single quarter. Neil expects the price to follow the dividend trend and increase soon. (Patel, 2023)

 This week the stock with the largest percentage decrease in price was Valero Energy Corporation (VLO). Since last week, VLO decreased price per share from $131.86 to $119.63. That is a 9.27% decrease in price. This may be a bad representation of VLO, but according to Zacks Equity Research, VLO is their second highest buy recommendation. Zacks believe due to VLO’s price-equity ratio being 0.45 ahead of industry average and a price-cashflow ratio of 3.39, VLO is undervalued and should be purchased. (Zacks, 2023)

The individual stock with the second largest percentage decrease in price this week was Rite Aid Corporation (RAD). RAD decreased over the last week from $2.45 to $2.30 per share. That is equal to a 6.12% decrease and contributes to their 31.14% decrease year to date.

**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):**

Patel, N. (2023, April 21). *If you like dividends, you should love these 3 stocks*. The Motley Fool. Retrieved April 21, 2023.

Yahoo! (n.d.). *Is Valero Energy (VLO) stock undervalued right now?* Yahoo! Finance. Retrieved April 21, 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 |