**Husson Stock Index**

 **Week Ended October 25, 2024**

 For the week ending October 25, 2024, the Husson Stock Index (HSI) closed at 236.30,

 which is a 2.82% decrease from the week prior. The S&P 500 decreased this week by 0.96% from 5,846.67 to 5,808.12. The Dow Jones Industrial Average decreased this past week by 2.68% from 43,275.91 to 42,114.40. Year to date, the HSI has grown by 4.03%, while the S&P 500 has grown by 21.77% and the Dow Jones Industrial Average has grown by 11.74%.

 **Summary**

For the week ending October 25, 2024, the stock with the greatest percentage increase was Bar Harbor Bank Shares (BHB). This stock rose by 5.64% as share prices rose from $30.68 to $32.41. This increase may have been attributed to the recent quarter three earnings report posted by the company earlier this week on 10/22. The earnings were promising, as they posted quarterly EPS of $0.80. This beat the consensus estimate of $0.68 held by Zacks. This marks the third of the past four quarters where estimates on EPS were beaten. BHB has also surpassed consensus estimates for revenues in three of the past four quarters. The second largest increase within the Husson Stock Index for the week was Charter Communications, Inc. (CHTR). Shares for this company rose by 3.19% this week, with prices jumping from $325.61 to $336.0. The increase may be following a projected year over year increase in earnings. The EPS estimate for an upcoming report is $8.55, which would be a 3.6% increase. The revenues estimate is currently sitting at $13.7 billion, a 0.9% increase from the previous year. Zacks recently posted their rankings in which they held CHTR at #3 indicating a **Hold** position.

 For the week ending October 25, 2024, the largest percentage decrease was WEX, Inc. (WEX). Shares fell by 17.44% from $216.62 to $178.85. The company did post revenues of $665 million, which was up 2% year over year, but it fell short of management’s estimates of $688-698 million. A large part of Wex’s revenue relies on fuel prices, as the company specializes in fuel cards, travel, and benefits-management software. In quarter three, fuel prices dropped, which caused the company to lower its full year revenue estimate. There may be some optimism though, as reports are posting news of insider share repurchases throughout this slower quarter. This week, the stock with the second largest percentage decline was Walgreens Boots Alliance (WBA). WBA’s share price fell by 14.18% this week, as share prices moved from $10.79 to $9.26. This may come as a surprise to investors as WBA had been on a hot streak as of late this year, frequently topping our index’s top increase list. The sudden drop may be due to increased competition from Walmart, a giant within the same industry. Walmart has continued to expand into the prescription drug industry and recently rolled out their business plan for same-day delivery service in their pharmacies. Amazon, another major company, has also entered this market. This may not be too shocking as increased concentration within markets leads to bigger winners, but also bigger losers. Jim Cramer, a very influential analyst and the host of Mad Money on CNBC, did give praise to WBA CEO Tim Wentworth, indicating his trust that the company can steer through this increased competition and still remain profitable.

 **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 Cameron Silva under the supervision of Associate Professor of Finance Dr. Jia Liu. The HSI currently tracks and analyzes the stocks of 26 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*

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**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 |
| 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 |