Bulls & Bears Press

Established 2007

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DJIA 12348.21 ▲ 1.4%	**NASDAQ** 2321.85 ▲ 0.7%	**NIKKEI** 13017.24 ▲ 4.7%
OIL $95.50 ▲ $3.73	**10-YR TREASURY** 97 21/32 ▼ 1 6/32, yield 3.78%	**EURO** $1.4673

Top Stories

- Bond Insurer FGIC Seeks Split
- Fed Sees 2nd-Half GDP Pickup, Sluggish growth in current quarter
- Retail Sales Unexpectedly Climb
- Buffett Offers To Reinsure $800 Billion in Bonds
- Yahoo Rejects Microsoft's Offer

Market Summary

Monday 02/12/08

The day started off with Yahoo formally rejecting Microsoft's buyout offer. This bold move fueled tech stocks as some theorized that Yahoo would hold out for a better offer from someone else. News also surfaced that Motorola was in talks with Nortel Network to merge their wireless infrastructure units to address slowing growth. AIG, meanwhile, plummeted after expressing doubts about its derivatives holdings, while Google announced a decrease in market share for the first time in two years. Although they initially opened lower, the markets recovered in the afternoon to finish in the green.

Tuesday 02/13/08

This morning's news that Warren Buffett was willing to reinsure 800 million in municipal bonds through Berkshire Hathaway inspired a triple digit rally in the Dow. Credit Suisse declined after announcing a 72% fall in profits due to writedowns while users of Research in Motion's Blackberry had to cope with a service outage. Oil declined as uncertainty over Venezuela ended.

Wednesday 02/14/08

Talks that Air France/KLM will probably make an investment in a Delta merger with Northwest. The Wall Street Journal reports that banks are trying to get Congress to allow the federal government to take on some of the risk of their home loans. Microsoft to replace the head of its mobile unit. Baidu, the leading search engine in China, posted a net income up by 79%.

Thursday 02/15/08

Fed Chair Ben Bernanke testified before Congress that the Central Bank projected slower growth for 2008, but if necessary was ready to take action. This downgrade to the economy, inspired selling pressure sending all three indexes into negative territory. MBIA announced that it completed the sale of $1.1 billion worth of stock, while a smaller-than-expected increase in Crude inventories sent crude $2 higher.

Friday 02/16/08

Stocks ended the week on a negative note on slashed guidance from Best Buy and a number of weak economic data. Citigroup declined further as its hedge fund troubles mounted while poor earnings from Yingli Green Energy weighed down the solar sector. Priceline surged higher after reporting that its profits almost doubled while Kraft food experienced a boost after Warren Buffett revealed he had an 8.6% stake in the company.

Today's Issue

The Week in Quotes

"It's in many senses like giving a drink to an alcoholic."

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, criticizing the economic stimulus plan that will give rebates to more than 130 million taxpayers

"Oil and gas prices are fixed, and diamonds. Why should chocolate be any different?"

Accountant Owen Cullimore reacting to news that federal regulators are investigating price-fixing among top candy makers including Kraft and Nestle

"What can you sell for 99 cents? The bun? "

Andrew Puzder, of Carl's Jr. and Hardee's, on not offering 99-cent products as the dollar's value continues to drop

"Exxon Mobil turns oil into blood."

Venezuelan State Television after leader Hugo Chavez announced the country will no longer sell crude oil to the American company

"You didn't say anything about our trades, did you? Otherwise, you're dead meat."

Jérôme Kerviel, former Société Générale trader, talking with a broker in an Oct. 11 online chat about risky trades that are believed to have cost the bank $7.2 billion

Questions or comments? Want to contribute? E-mail us at: Bulls.Bears.Press@gmail.com

Sachs vs. Stanley

By Mehnt Bhatia

Lloyd Blankfein
Goldman Sachs CEO

Lloyd Blankfein, born in 1954, was appointed as Chairman and CEO of Goldman Sachs in June 2006, replacing Hank Paulson. Prior to this, he was a director since April 2003 and the CEO and president since January 2004. Other than Goldman Sachs, he chose not to take an active part in any other company. However, he holds active positions in almost 5 Universities. He completed most of his education in Harvard.

In recent times, he has come to being known as "Wall Street's Smartest CEO". Blankfein is responsible for Goldman Sachs excellent performance in recent times by making sure Goldman Sachs has limited exposure to the Sub-prime problems.

This earned him a gigantic bonus of $68 Million and has thus made him one of the most well-paid people on wall street. He has managed to keep the profits coming, even when firms like Citigroup and Merrill Lynch have faced heavy losses. By his excellent performance for the company, Blanfein has earned the reputation of being, by far, one of the best CEOs of our time. It will be interesting to see whether John Thain, the CEO of Merrill Lynch, or John Mack, the CEO of Morgan Stanley will be able to make their companies ascend and compete with Goldman Sachs.

John J. Mack
Morgan Stanley CEO

John Mack, born in 1944, was appointed CEO of Morgan Stanley, replacing Phil Purcell. He worked with Morgan Stanley for almost 30 years and was president for 4 years. He initially worked as a bond trader and in the span of 7 years became the Managing Director. Due to his efficiency in Management and his ruthlessness with subordinates, he earned the nickname "Mack the Knife." In 2001, he quit the Company after having some conflicts with Purcell. He joined as CEO of Credit Suisse where he faced the task of cutting excessive costs.

Once again "Mack the Knife" was able to cut down by around $3 Billion by eliminating almost 10,000 jobs. Through his exceptional skills he managed to turn Credit Suisse into a profit-making concern. However, after a large number of high-profile executive departures in the ranks of Morgan Stanley, Purcell was forced to leave the Company, thereby, reopening the gates for Mack.

Mack is now the CEO of Morgan Stanley, effective June 2005. His re-entry into Morgan Stanley right at the top can be attributed to his shrewd and effective management skills. Morgan Stanley's greatest challenge in recent times has been overcoming the stock's performance lag in comparison to its competitors, especially Goldman Sachs. John Mack may well be the best candidate to solve this problem.

Economic Views of Potential Candidates

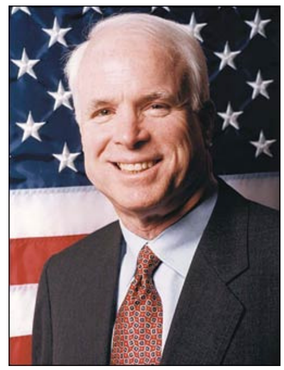
By Emily Anderson

On every campaign trail there are a wide variety of issues that a presidential hopeful needs to face. In this 2008 campaign Iraq is a huge issue, as well as abortion and the degrading environment. The one issue, however, that remains consistent on every campaign trail is the economy. In order to have a better view of who to vote for a person should have a fairly good idea of what their potential future president intends to do with the economy.

Obama's theme for his economic plan is to shift the economic burden to the wealthy, and he goes about this in a way slightly more aggressive than his main competitor, Hillary Clinton. He wants to pay for the rising social security debt by raising taxes on the wealthy, and he also hopes to implement a $1,000 tax credit for those in the bottom ninety percent of the income distribution. One of his other main ideas to lower costs for the middle class is to implement what he coins an "iPod government." This means that he hopes to clear up choices for people. For example, he would require Medicare to explain all of a person's prescription options so that they would have the advantage of being able to choose the lowest prescription cost. He plans to pay for all of his expenses and programs by taxing the rich, and closing corporate tax loopholes and cracking down on tax safe havens overseas.

Hillary has many of the same basic ideas that Obama has. She hopes to roll back tax breaks for those who make over $250,000 while increasing tax breaks for those who are located on the bottom portion of that threshold. She also hopes to have more scrutiny on financial markets, and spend more money on job-creating activities such as alternative energy research. She has proposed tax credits for such things as college tuition, retirement savings, health care and alternative energy use. Her campaign claims that the high-end taxes will bring in $52 billion, which would help pay for her tax-break proposals. While many of her plans seem to be a disadvantage to the rich, such people as John Mack the CEO of Morgan Stanley, and Lloyd Blankfein CEO of Goldman Sachs have endorsed her.

McCain has taken a very conservative stance and has proposed a long-term economic plan that will lower corporate income tax and a host of other tax breaks that will benefit businesses. Some of these tax cuts include cutting the corporate tax rate from 35% to 25%, establishing a permanent research and development tax break, and making some of Bush's tax cuts permanent. McCain says that his tax cuts will spur economic growth and make U.S. businesses more competitive globally.



Huckabee is basing his economic policy on a policy he terms "FairTax." With this policy he hopes to completely eliminate all federal income and payroll taxes. The FairTax aims to replace the Internal Revenue Code with a consumption tax. Every citizen will get a monthly rebate that will reimburse for taxes on purchases up to the poverty line so that no one will be taxed on essentials, people below the poverty line will not have to pay any taxes. Huckabee expects that the FairTax system will make American products 12 to 25$ more competitive because the cost of those goods will no longer be inflated by corporate taxes, costs of tax compliance, and social security matching payments. He estimates that the current US tax system deprives itself of about $1 billion in exports annually, and he hopes to fix that with the FairTax system.

Those are the economic views of the candidates, now you decide: who will be the next president of the United States of America?

By Krishan Wanchoo

The Top 5 Most Expensive Cars:

1. Bugatti Veyron- $1,700,000

The Bugatti Veyron 16.4 is the most powerful, most expensive street-legal production car in the world, with a proven top speed of over 253 mph. The car is built by Volkswagen AG subsidiary Bugatti Automobiles SAS and is sold under the legendary Bugatti marque. The Veyron features a W16 engine- 16 cylinders in 4 banks of 4 cylinders.

2. Ferrari Enzo- $1,000,000

The Enzo Ferrari, sometimes referred to as the the Ferrari Enzo and also F60 is a 12-cylinder Ferrari supercar named after the company's founder, Enzo Ferrari. After a maximum downforce of 1709 pounds is reached at 186 mph the rear spoiler is actuated by computer to maintain that downforce.

3. Pagani Zonda C12 F- $741,000

The Zonda C12 F is the most extensive reengineering of the Pagani car yet, though it shares much with its predecessors including the 7.3 L V12. The company promises a 3.2 second sprint to 60 mph, with a top speed over 225 mph and it will be the queen in braking from 186 mph to 0.

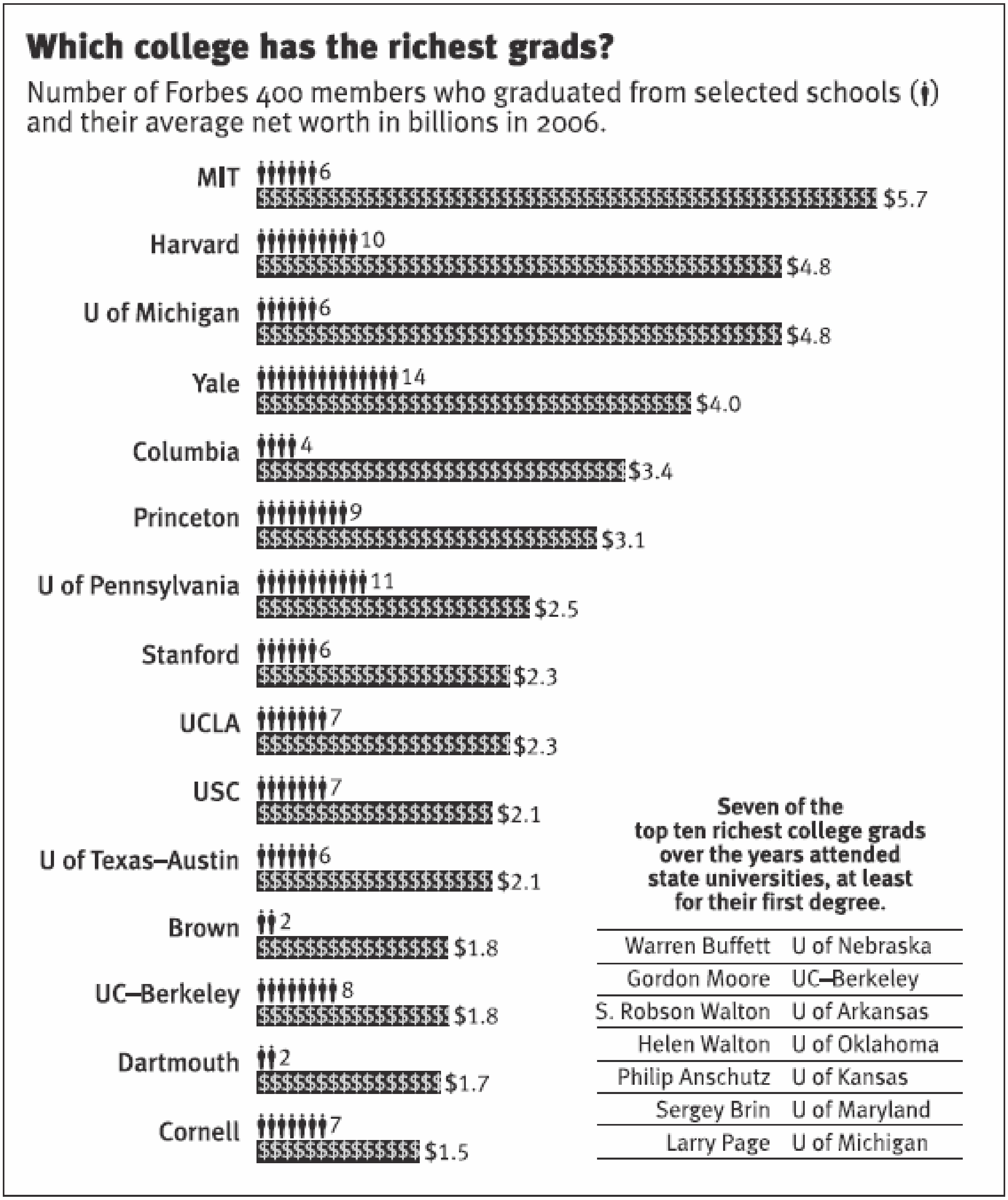
4. SSC Ultimate Aero- $654,400

The SSC Aero is an American-built mid-engine sports car by Shelby Super Cars. Its higher-performance limited production version, the SSC Ultimate Aero TT, is currently the fastest production car in the world, with a highest recorded speed of 257 mph. The Ultimate Aero's acceleration is 0-60 mph in 2.78 seconds, slightly more than that of former top-speed record holder the Bugatti Veyron.

5. LeBlanc Mirabeau- $645,084

Mirabeau is the newest car from Wysstec GmbH and Leblanc cars. It's a new proposal for a racecar and prepared to FIA/Le Mans standards. The fact that it is street legal, is almost unbelievable. To reach the maximum of lightweight building and race feeling the car interior is optimized for maximum of speed and acceleration.

$ Colleges with Richest Grads $



UIC News & Events

Suggested Events

Carnegie Mellon Advising Resource Center (CMARC)
2008 Leadership Retreat

Date: Sat. March 1st - Sunday March 2nd
Time: 9:00am Saturday March 1st- 3:00pm Sunday March 2nd
Location: DoubleTree Hotel Downtown Pittsburgh

This Leadership Retreat focuses on developing skills and strengths in order to propel you into the next level of professional and global leadership. It is open to all Carnegie Mellon undergraduates.

- One day of meeting and networking with leaders in the fields of Technology, Business, Public Policy, Medicine, and more
- Leadership skill and development sessions with renowned Consultant Mr. Marvin Worthy

Mark your calendars, plan to attend, and if you haven't yet - register now!!! Contact Lynna Martinez at lynnam@andrew.cmu.edu for registration (Limited spaces available!)

R.I.S.E. VIII Forum
"The World's Largest Student Investment Conference"

Date: March 27 - 29, 2008
Location: University of Dayton (Ohio)

During these challenging times, stock and bond market participants look to a select group of experts to gain insight into what the future holds for our economy and, hence, our investments. You are invited to interact with **TWENTY** of the market's most sought after investment professionals including:

-**Christopher Gardner** – Inspiration for *The Pursuit of Happyness* and CEO of major brokerage firm
-**John Surma** – Chairman and CEO, U.S. Steel
-**David Rosenberg** - Chief North American Economist, Merrill Lynch
-**Dr. Bob Froehlich** - Chairman, Investor Strategy Committee, Deutsche Asset Management;
-**Dr. Finn E. Kydland** - 2004 Nobel Laureate in Economics, University of California

Last spring, more than ***1,700*** participants representing 218 universities attended this unique educational event. In addition, a portion of the R.I.S.E. Forum was broadcast to more than 900,000 professionals in 140 countries.

Forum Brochure: http://sba.udayton.edu/rise/brochure.asp
Website: http://udrise.udayton.edu

IMPORTANT: Early registration ends March 1, 2008.

Upcoming Events

UIC Board Meetings
4:30pm Every Tuesday
UC Alumni Lounge

The Board of UIC meets every Tuesday at 4:30pm. Everyone is welcome to drop in and participate. Join us sometime and give us your opinion regarding the decisions that impact UIC.

To sign-up for our d-list and get the newsletter e-mailed to you each week, visit: www.undergradinvestors.com

Board: Spring 2008

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