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 downgraded expectations on 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.
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.

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?
The Top 5 Series

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 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.
## Which college has the richest grads?

Number of Forbes 400 members who graduated from selected schools and their average net worth in billions in 2006.

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<th>College</th>
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<td>MIT</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Harvard</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>U of Michigan</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Yale</td>
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<td>Columbia</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>U of Pennsylvania</td>
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<td>Princeton</td>
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<td>UCLA</td>
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<td>USC</td>
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<td>U of Texas–Austin</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Brown</td>
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<td>UC–Berkeley</td>
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<td>Dartmouth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cornell</td>
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Seven of the top ten richest college grads over the years attended state universities, at least for their first degree.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>University</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Warren Buffett</td>
<td>U of Nebraska</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gordon Moore</td>
<td>UC–Berkeley</td>
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<td>S. Robson Walton</td>
<td>U of Arkansas</td>
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<td>Helen Walton</td>
<td>U of Oklahoma</td>
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<td>Philip Anschutz</td>
<td>U of Kansas</td>
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<td>Sergey Brin</td>
<td>U of Maryland</td>
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<td>Larry Page</td>
<td>U of Michigan</td>
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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:

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- 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

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IMPORTANT: Early registration ends March 1, 2008.