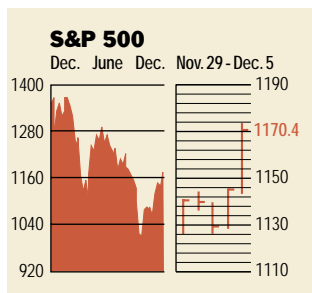


Stocks



COMMENTARY

Stocks soared on Dec. 5 after the National Association of Purchasing Management reported better-than-expected growth in services. The move topped off a week in which the Dow Jones Industrials and the S&P 500 rose 4.1% and 3.7%, respectively. But the real star was the Nasdaq, up 8.4%, on optimism that chip prices have bottomed and demand is growing.

Data: Bloomberg Financial Markets
Bridge Information Systems, Inc.

U.S. MARKETS

| | Dec. 5 | Week | % change | |
|-----------------------|----------|------|--------------|----------------|
| | | | Year to date | Last 12 months |
| S&P 500 | 1170.4 | 3.7 | -11.4 | -13.4 |
| Dow Jones Industrials | 10,114.3 | 4.1 | -6.2 | -5.2 |
| Nasdaq Composite | 2046.8 | 8.4 | -17.1 | -29.2 |
| S&P MidCap 400 | 503.9 | 4.8 | -2.5 | -0.6 |
| S&P SmallCap 600 | 226.9 | 6.3 | 3.3 | 8.9 |
| Wilshire 5000 | 10,834.5 | 3.9 | -11.0 | -14.1 |

SECTORS

| | Dec. 5 | Week | % change | |
|------------------------------|--------|------|--------------|----------------|
| | | | Year to date | Last 12 months |
| BusinessWeek 50* | 754.9 | 3.9 | -22.2 | -30.2 |
| BusinessWeek Info Tech 100** | 440.3 | 8.5 | -22.2 | -38.9 |
| S&P/BARRA Growth | 608.6 | 3.6 | -11.5 | -20.5 |
| S&P/BARRA Value | 561.2 | 3.8 | -11.8 | -10.0 |
| S&P Energy | 813.2 | 5.8 | -12.7 | -8.8 |
| S&P Financials | 146.6 | 1.7 | -11.0 | -6.7 |
| S&P REIT | 93.4 | 1.9 | 6.2 | 9.6 |
| S&P Transportation | 694.4 | 4.0 | -0.5 | -0.3 |
| S&P Utilities | 234.0 | 1.0 | -33.3 | -27.4 |
| GST Internet | 106.7 | 7.1 | -41.2 | -55.9 |
| PSE Technology | 724.7 | 8.6 | -11.0 | -19.7 |

*Mar. 19, 1999 = 1000 **Feb. 7, 2000 = 1000

BEST-PERFORMING GROUPS

| Group | Last month % | Last 12 months % |
|---------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Metals | 26.0 | 70.1 |
| Photography/Imaging | 22.1 | 61.6 |
| Semiconductors | 20.9 | 55.2 |
| Commercial Services | 20.8 | 41.4 |
| Homebuilding | 20.8 | 41.3 |

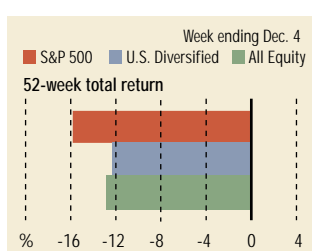
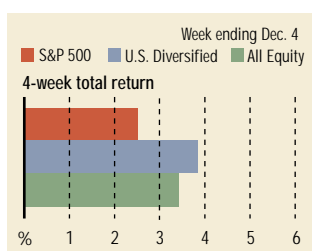
EQUITY FUND CATEGORIES

| Category | 4-week total return % | 52-week total return % |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Leaders | | |
| Pacific/Asia ex-Japan | 12.0 | 21.8 |
| Diversified Emerging Mkts. | 8.4 | 15.3 |
| Technology | 7.9 | 11.8 |
| Communications | 5.5 | 8.9 |
| Laggards | | |
| Japan | -3.9 | -43.1 |
| Utilities | -1.4 | -40.9 |
| Precious Metals | -0.3 | -33.5 |
| International Hybrid | 0.6 | -26.1 |

EQUITY FUNDS

| Fund | 4-week total return % | 52-week total return % |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Leaders | | |
| CDC Nvest Bullseye B | 34.7 | 82.4 |
| iShares MSCI S. Korea Indx. | 21.2 | 62.4 |
| Black Oak Emerging Tech. | 19.6 | 52.3 |
| Matthews Korea | 18.9 | 52.0 |
| Laggards | | |
| ProFunds UltraShort OTC | -15.2 | -78.3 |
| Potomac Internet Short | -14.4 | -73.9 |
| O'Higgins | -8.7 | -70.4 |
| Prudent Bear | -8.3 | -70.4 |

Mutual Funds



Data: Standard & Poor's

GLOBAL MARKETS

| | Dec. 5 | Week | % change | |
|-----------------------------|----------|------|--------------|----------------|
| | | | Year to date | Last 12 months |
| S&P Euro Plus (U.S. Dollar) | 1087.3 | 4.6 | -23.7 | -21.7 |
| London (FT-SE 100) | 5333.5 | 2.5 | -14.3 | -15.0 |
| Paris (CAC 40) | 4677.6 | 5.2 | -21.1 | -21.8 |
| Frankfurt (DAX) | 5262.8 | 7.1 | -18.2 | -20.5 |
| Tokyo (NIKKEI 225) | 10,713.8 | 0.8 | -22.3 | -28.0 |
| Hong Kong (Hang Seng) | 11,678.4 | 5.5 | -22.6 | -22.7 |
| Toronto (TSE 300) | 7620.2 | 3.6 | -14.7 | -17.4 |
| Mexico City (IPC) | 6099.3 | 4.3 | 7.9 | 5.3 |

FUNDAMENTALS

| | Dec. 4 | Wk. ago | Yr. ago |
|--------------------------------------|--------|---------|---------|
| S&P 500 Dividend Yield | 1.36% | 1.36% | 1.16% |
| S&P 500 P/E Ratio (Trailing 12 mos.) | 46.3 | 46.3 | 26.7 |
| S&P 500 P/E Ratio (Next 12 mos.)* | 21.9 | 22.0 | 21.8 |
| First Call Earnings Revision* | -1.80% | -2.45% | -1.72% |

*First Call Corp.

TECHNICAL INDICATORS

| | Dec. 4 | Wk. ago | Reading |
|----------------------------------|--------|---------|----------|
| S&P 500 200-day average | 1177.1 | 1181.9 | Negative |
| Stocks above 200-day average | 51.0% | 49.0% | Neutral |
| Options: Put/call ratio | 0.72 | 0.64 | Positive |
| Insiders: Vickers Sell/buy ratio | 1.12 | 1.06 | Positive |

WORST-PERFORMING GROUPS

| Group | Last month % | Last 12 months % |
|--------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Natural Gas | -15.0 | -64.7 |
| Gold Mining | -7.5 | -50.3 |
| Tobacco | -4.1 | -40.0 |
| Soft Drinks | -2.6 | -39.6 |
| Electric Companies | -2.5 | -35.8 |

Interest Rates

| Instrument | Dec. 5 | Week ago | Year ago |
|--------------------------------|--------|----------|----------|
| KEY RATES | | | |
| MONEY MARKET FUNDS | 2.11% | 2.18% | 6.15% |
| 90-DAY TREASURY BILLS | 1.76 | 1.83 | 6.07 |
| 2-YEAR TREASURY NOTES | 3.06 | 3.05 | 5.42 |
| 10-YEAR TREASURY NOTES | 4.89 | 4.92 | 5.32 |
| 30-YEAR TREASURY BONDS | 5.36 | 5.35 | 5.52 |
| 30-YEAR FIXED MORTGAGE† | 6.88 | 7.01 | 7.55 |

†BanxQuote, Inc.

BLOOMBERG MUNI YIELD EQUIVALENTS

Taxable equivalent yields on AAA-rated, tax-exempt municipal bonds, assuming a 31% federal tax rate.

| Instrument | 10-yr. bond | 30-yr. bond |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| GENERAL OBLIGATIONS | 4.28% | 5.04% |
| TAXABLE EQUIVALENT | 6.20 | 7.30 |
| INSURED REVENUE BONDS | 4.49 | 5.34 |
| TAXABLE EQUIVALENT | 6.51 | 7.74 |

THE WEEK AHEAD

FOMC MEETING Tuesday, Dec. 11, 9 a.m. EST ► The Federal Reserve's Open Market Committee will meet to set monetary policy. Over two-thirds of the economists surveyed by Standard & Poor's MMS, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, forecast a quarter-point cut in the federal funds rate, to 1.75%. The remainder of economists surveyed forecast no change.

RETAIL SALES Thursday, Dec. 13, 8:30 a.m. EST ► Retail sales probably fell 1.5% in November, due to a drop-off in

auto sales after a record October. Excluding autos, sales were likely up 0.3%.

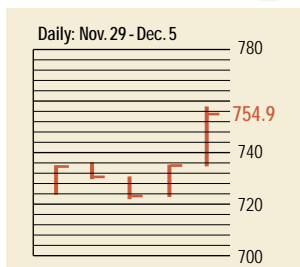
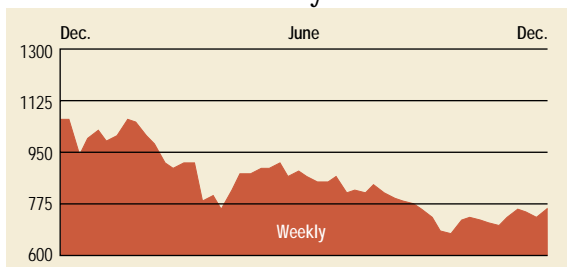
PRODUCER PRICE INDEX Thursday, Dec. 13, 8:30 a.m. EST ► Producer prices of finished goods in October likely fell 0.2%. Core prices, excluding food and energy, are expected to have risen 0.1%.

BUSINESS INVENTORIES Friday, Dec. 14, 8:30 a.m. EST ► Inventories in October are projected to have fallen 0.3%, after dropping 0.5% in September.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX Friday, Dec. 14, 8:30 a.m. EST ► Consumer prices for goods and services were likely unchanged in November, after slipping 0.3% in October. Core prices, excluding the more volatile food and energy components, probably increased 0.2%, after growing 0.2% in October.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION Friday, Dec. 14, 9:15 a.m. EST ► Factory output likely fell for the 10th time this year, by 0.3% in November, after a 1.1% drop in October.

The BusinessWeek Fifty

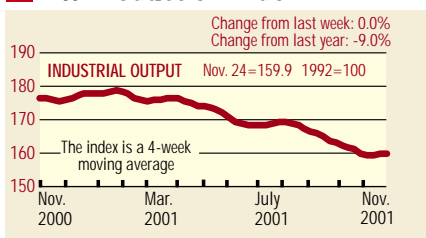


The BW 50 jumped 3.9% for the week. Leading the charge were chipmakers Micron Technology, up 23.7%, Altera, 23.6%, and Xilinx, 23.1%. Semiconductor equipment manufacturers Teradyne and Applied Materials climbed 15.5% and 14.6%, respectively. Dynege declined another 21.2%, and Calpine fell 4.4% this week as investors dumped energy stocks in the wake of the Enron bankruptcy proceedings.

COMPANY PERFORMANCE

| Rank | Company | % change | | Rank | Company | % change | |
|------|--------------------------|----------|--------------|------|----------------------------|----------|--------------|
| | | Week | Since 3/1/01 | | | Week | Since 3/1/01 |
| 1 | Tyco International | 2.4 | 9.5 | 26 | Verizon Communications | 0.6 | -0.6 |
| 2 | Anadarko Petroleum | 6.3 | -13.0 | 27 | Citigroup | 2.5 | 0.7 |
| 3 | Calpine | -4.4 | -54.7 | 28 | Sun Microsystems | 10.7 | -27.4 |
| 4 | Dynege | -21.2 | -38.2 | 29 | Merck | 1.4 | -16.9 |
| 5 | Applied Materials | 14.6 | 1.3 | 30 | El Paso | -1.5 | -37.7 |
| 6 | Provident Financial | -3.8 | -93.9 | 31 | Altera | 23.6 | 6.3 |
| 7 | Occidental Petroleum | 9.1 | 12.0 | 32 | Marsh & McLennan | 2.1 | 3.7 |
| 8 | Apache | 8.1 | -17.4 | 33 | Household International | 1.1 | 4.5 |
| 9 | Kerr-McGee | 5.5 | -15.7 | 34 | ChevronTexaco | 3.5 | 0.8 |
| 10 | Oracle | 8.9 | -28.1 | 35 | SBC Communications | 2.0 | -15.7 |
| 11 | Lehman Brothers Holdings | 2.6 | -0.1 | 36 | Mercury Interactive | 15.2 | -39.4 |
| 12 | EMC | 7.5 | -58.2 | 37 | AOL Time Warner | 0.9 | -18.6 |
| 13 | AES | 5.7 | -68.9 | 38 | Washington Mutual | -2.9 | -8.1 |
| 14 | Forest Laboratories | -0.7 | 4.9 | 39 | General Dynamics | -0.4 | 22.0 |
| 15 | FleetBoston Financial | 0.9 | -8.3 | 40 | Comcast | 4.2 | -7.5 |
| 16 | Micron Technology | 23.7 | -7.9 | 41 | Morgan Stanley Dean Witter | 3.1 | -12.2 |
| 17 | Xilinx | 23.1 | 2.2 | 42 | Tellabs | 12.3 | -61.6 |
| 18 | Amerada Hess | 6.5 | -16.8 | 43 | Exxon Mobil | 4.8 | -4.5 |
| 19 | Duke Energy | 2.7 | -10.1 | 44 | Scientific-Atlanta | 17.3 | -33.7 |
| 20 | ADC Telecommunications | 4.0 | -55.1 | 45 | U.S. Bancorp | 5.4 | -16.6 |
| 21 | Capital One Financial | -1.3 | -8.0 | 46 | Paychex | 12.8 | -0.2 |
| 22 | Phillips Petroleum | 7.4 | 9.6 | 47 | Merrill Lynch | 7.4 | -12.5 |
| 23 | Analog Devices | 15.9 | 14.7 | 48 | Bed Bath & Beyond | 6.8 | 37.8 |
| 24 | EOG Resources | 13.8 | -10.4 | 49 | Texas Instruments | 8.0 | 3.4 |
| 25 | Cardinal Health | -0.1 | 1.2 | 50 | Teradyne | 15.5 | 3.6 |

BW Production Index



The production index remained unchanged over the Thanksgiving week ended Nov. 24. Before calculation of the four-week moving average, the index fell to 158.8, from 160.4. Lumber and rail-freight traffic declined significantly, with coal and electric power also slipping. Autos, trucks, steel, and crude-oil refining were all higher on the week. Through November, the production index inched lower, to 159.9, from 160.1 in October.

Information on each of the index components is at www.businessweek.com. BW production index Copyright 2001 by The McGraw-Hill Companies

Online Resources

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For more investment data and the components of the production index, visit www.businessweek.com.