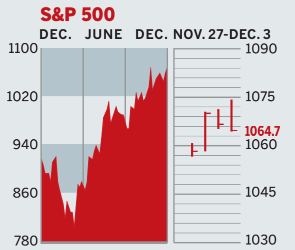
Personal Business Figures of the Week

STOCKS



COMMENTARY

Stocks provided holiday cheer this week. Rosy economic news and healthy retail sales over Thanksgiving weekend drove stocks to new highs. On Dec. 1 both the Dow and S&P reached 18-month highs. And on Dec. 3, the NASDAQ hit a two-year high, passing the 2,000 mark intraday. Investors often plow bonuses and dividends into stocks in December, sending them up.

Data: Bloomberg Financial Markets, Reuters

U.S. MARKETS

	DEC. 3	WEEK % CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE % CHANGE	LAST 12 MONTHS % CHANGE
S&P 500	1064.7	0.6	21.0	15.6
Dow Jones Industrials	9873.4	1.0	18.4	12.9
NASDAQ Composite	1960.3	0.4	46.8	35.3
S&P MidCap 400	569.3	0.7	32.4	28.4
S&P SmallCap 600	265.3	0.0	34.9	30.8
Wilshire 5000	10,402.3	0.6	24.7	19.5

SECTORS

	DEC. 3	WEEK	YEAR TO DATE	LAST 12 MONTHS
BusinessWeek 50*	600.8	0.0	10.8	7.1
BW Info Tech 100**	327.4	–2.3	14.7	4.4
S&P/BARRA Growth	536.3	0.4	19.5	13.1
S&P/BARRA Value	524.6	0.7	22.6	18.4
S&P Energy	199.5	1.0	8.9	7.7
S&P Financials	365.3	0.5	23.0	17.9
S&P REIT	114.2	1.2	25.7	25.1
S&P Transportation	199.6	0.6	17.4	16.4
S&P Utilities	111.7	0.4	14.3	18.3
GSTI Internet	136.8	–2.2	83.1	63.6
PSE Technology	679.4	0.8	48.2	35.6

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

GLOBAL MARKETS

	DEC. 3	WEEK % CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE % CHANGE	LAST 12 MONTHS % CHANGE
S&P Euro Plus (U.S. Dollar)	1118.6	4.9	31.2	24.5
London (FT-SE 100)	4392.0	0.5	11.5	7.8
Paris (CAC 40)	3501.9	2.5	14.3	8.7
Frankfurt (DAX)	3875.7	4.4	34.0	18.1
Tokyo (NIKKEI 225)	10,326.4	1.8	20.4	14.7
Hong Kong (Hang Seng)	12,361.2	2.3	32.6	23.7
Toronto (S&P/TSX Composite)	7959.9	1.3	20.3	19.9
Mexico City (IPC)	8553.7	2.0	39.6	37.5

FUNDAMENTALS

	DEC. 2	WEEK AGO	YEAR AGO
S&P 500 Dividend Yield	1.61%	1.63%	1.72%
S&P 500 P/E Ratio (Trailing 12 mos.)	26.9	26.6	29.9
S&P 500 P/E Ratio (Next 12 mos.)*	18.0	17.7	16.7
First Call Earnings Revision*	–0.23%	–0.69%	–2.40%

*First Call Corp.

TECHNICAL INDICATORS

	DEC. 2	WEEK AGO	READING
S&P 500 200-day average	967.9	963.2	Positive
Stocks above 200-day average	87.0%	85.0%	Negative
Options: Put/call ratio	0.61	0.66	Neutral
Insiders: Vickers NYSE Sell/buy ratio	7.22	6.53	Negative

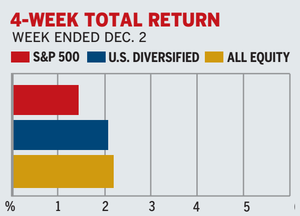
BEST-PERFORMING GROUPS

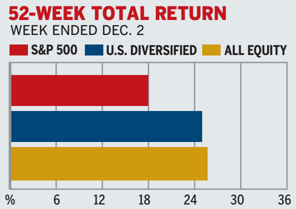
	LAST MONTH %		LAST 12 MONTHS %
Gold Mining	16.6	Divsfd. Metals & Mining	148.6
Office Electronics	14.9	Internet Software	144.0
Health-Care Facilities	13.0	Homebuilding	110.4
Environmental Services	12.7	Gold Mining	105.5
Divsfd. Metals & Mining	10.9	Computer Retailers	83.7

WORST-PERFORMING GROUPS

	LAST MONTH %		LAST 12 MONTHS %
Home Entertainment	–14.5	Photographic Products	–33.8
Employment Services	–10.2	Intgrd. Telecomms. Svcs.	–14.1
Hypermarkets & Supcntrs.	–10.0	Trading Cos. & Distribs.	–11.5
Airlines	–5.7	Home Furnishings	–11.3
Multi-line Insurers	–5.1	Oil & Gas Drilling	–11.0

MUTUAL FUNDS





Data: Standard & Poor's

EQUITY FUND CATEGORIES

4-WEEK TOTAL RETURN	%	52-WEEK TOTAL RETURN	%
LEADERS		**LEADERS**	
Precious Metals	6.2	Precious Metals	81.5
Small-cap Value	4.5	Latin America	51.9
Small-cap Growth	4.3	Diversified Emerg. Mkts.	39.2
Small-cap Blend	4.3	Technology	34.1
LAGGARDS		**LAGGARDS**	
Japan	–6.3	Domestic Hybrid	12.7
Diversified Pacific/Asia	–3.8	Large-cap Blend	13.7
Pacific/Asia ex-Japan	–1.2	Utilities	14.4
Utilities	0.5	Large-cap Growth	15.2

EQUITY FUNDS

4-WEEK TOTAL RETURN	%	52-WEEK TOTAL RETURN	%
LEADERS		**LEADERS**	
PFds. Smicdr. Ultsr. Inv.	13.7	U.S. Gl. Invs. Pr. Minls.	133.8
Rydex Electronics Inv.	11.8	Scudder Gd. & Pr. Mts. S	133.3
U.S. Gl. Invs. Pr. Minls.	10.9	U.S. Gl. Invs. Resources	108.5
Emerald Select Tech. A	10.6	U.S. Global Invrs. Gold	102.4
LAGGARDS		**LAGGARDS**	
J.P. Morgan Flem. Jap. A	–10.4	Frontier Equity	–55.7
Reserve Pr. Int. S.-Cp. R	–9.1	Rydex Dynam. Vent. 100	–49.3
Credit Ssse. Jap. Eq. Cmn.	–8.3	ProFunds UltSh. OTC Inv.	–49.0
ProFunds Ultra Japan Inv.	–8.2	Potomac Sm. Cap/Sh. Inv.	–31.4

INTEREST RATES

KEY RATES

	DEC. 3	WEEK AGO	YEAR AGO
Money Market Funds	0.62%	0.62%	1.14%
90-Day Treasury Bills	0.93	0.93	1.21
2-Year Treasury Notes	2.07	1.92	1.98
10-Year Treasury Notes	4.40	4.25	4.15
30-Year Treasury Bonds	5.19	5.07	5.00
30-Year Fixed Mortgage†	5.97	5.81	6.08

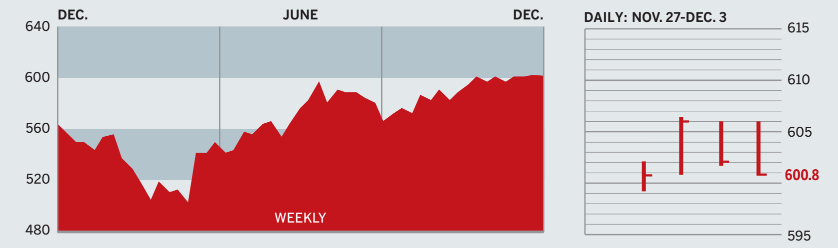
†BanxQuote, Inc.

BLOOMBERG MUNI YIELD EQUIVALENTS

Taxable equivalent yields on AAA-rated, tax-exempt municipal bonds, assuming a 30% federal tax rate.

	10-YR. BOND	30-YR. BOND
General Obligations	3.71%	4.69%
Taxable Equivalent	5.30	6.70
Insured Revenue Bonds	3.84	4.92
Taxable Equivalent	5.49	7.03

THE BUSINESSWEEK FIFTY



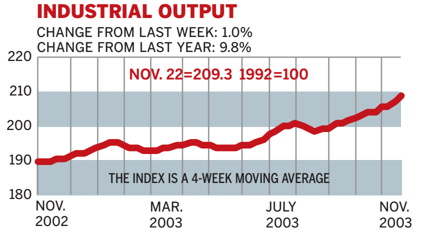
The BusinessWeek 50 ended the week unchanged. Winners included health and pharmaceutical companies like Merck, up 6.4% as the company projected robust earnings next year. Cardinal Health also gained ground, up 3.2%. Despite the relatively strong retail sales over the holiday weekend, retailers like Wal-Mart, Best Buy and Kohl's sunk, largely due to profit taking.

COMPANY PERFORMANCE

RANK	COMPANY	WEEK % CHANGE	SINCE 3/1/03 % CHANGE
1	Forest Laboratories	2.2	12.1
2	WellPoint Health Networks	2.7	40.3
3	UnitedHealth Group	1.4	31.5
4	Johnson & Johnson	–1.0	–6.2
5	Progressive	0.1	51.3
6	AmerisourceBergen	3.1	18.2
7	Lowe's	–1.8	45.3
8	Pfizer	0.4	13.8
9	Dell Computer	1.5	29.6
10	St. Jude Medical	1.4	35.4
11	Cardinal Health	3.2	10.3
12	Bed Bath & Beyond	0.8	28.2
13	Washington Mutual	–3.2	28.1
14	United Parcel Service	0.3	26.9
15	Microsoft	0.9	8.3
16	Freddie Mac	1.7	1.2
17	Electronic Arts	–6.9	60.1
18	International Game Technology	1.3	75.5
19	Pulte Homes	0.1	87.2
20	Merck	6.4	–12.7
21	Medtronic	2.8	3.7
22	PepsiCo	–0.5	24.5
23	Wells Fargo	–1.1	25.1
24	McKesson	4.2	13.2
25	Stryker	2.0	25.8
26	U.S. Bancorp	0.8	33.6
27	H&R Block	–0.7	30.8
28	Sysco	0.7	34.2
29	Procter & Gamble	1.0	18.3
30	eBay	–0.6	40.9
31	Biomet	0.7	19.6
32	Exelon	0.8	27.0
33	Kohl's	–5.8	–7.4
34	Wachovia	–0.2	29.4
35	3M	2.2	29.2
36	Harley-Davidson	–0.9	17.5
37	Walgreen	–0.5	30.0
38	Altria Group	–0.8	33.1
39	Mattel	–2.9	–8.3
40	AFLAC	0.1	14.3
41	Abbott Laboratories	1.5	27.1
42	First Data	1.0	10.7
43	Dominion Resources	0.1	11.9
44	Coca-Cola	1.5	17.9
45	Wrigley (Wm.) Jr.	1.3	4.4
46	Wal-Mart Stores	–5.4	9.6
47	Quest Diagnostics	0.5	38.5
48	General Dynamics	3.7	40.8
49	Northrop Grumman	–1.1	6.0
50	Best Buy	–6.0	97.5

Data: Reuters

BW PRODUCTION INDEX



The production index continued its upward trend. Before calculation of the four-week moving average, the index reached 213.9, from 209.8. After seasonal adjustments, only one component failed to rise. Truck and auto assemblies showed big increases, with lumber also sharply higher. Smaller gains were registered in steel, crude-oil refining, and coal. The stronger economy is also making for increased rail-freight traffic, especially for agricultural goods. Only electric-power production declined.

ONLINE RESOURCES

BW50 Track the index and the companies in it all day long. Plus: our exclusive Info Tech 100 index.

BUSINESSWEEK INVESTING Real-time market coverage and investment tools in partnership with Standard & Poor's.

MUTUAL FUNDS Search for funds, view BW ratings, and read Q&As with fund managers.

COLUMNS Hot stocks, takeover plays, and the latest strategies for managing your money.

BusinessWeek online

For the BW50, more investment data, and the components of the production index visit **www.businessweek.com/magazine/extra.htm**

THE WEEK AHEAD

FOMC MEETING *Tuesday, Dec. 9, 9 a.m. EST* » The Federal Reserve Board's Open Market Committee meets to set monetary policy. Economists surveyed by MMS International were almost unanimous in forecasting the Fed will keep interest rates at 1%.

BUSINESS INVENTORIES *Thursday, Dec. 11, 8:30 a.m. EST* » October inventories most likely grew 0.2%, after a 0.3% gain in September. That's based on the median forecast of economists surveyed by MMS International.

RETAIL SALES *Thursday, Dec. 11, 8:30 a.m. EST* » November retail sales probably increased 0.4%, following a 0.3% drop in October because of tepid auto sales. Minus vehicles, November sales very likely grew 0.3% after rising 0.2% the month before.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE *Friday, Dec. 12, 8:30 a.m. EST* » The foreign trade deficit very likely fell to $40.8 billion during October, after a September deficit of $41.3 billion. Exports likely rose at a faster pace than imports did.

PRODUCER PRICE INDEX *Friday, Dec. 12, 8:30 a.m. EST* » Producer prices probably grew 0.2% in November, even after excluding volatile items such as food and energy. In October, higher auto prices caused the PPI to jump 0.8%, with core producer prices increasing 0.5%.

The *BusinessWeek* production index improved to 209.3 for the week ended Nov. 22, an increase of 9.8% from the previous year. Before calculation of the four-week moving average, the index climbed to 213.9.

BusinessWeek online

For the BW50, more investment data, and the components of the production index visit **www.businessweek.com/magazine/extra.htm**