**January 17, 2014**

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# Communist Paper Bashes Nu Skin

人民日报
RENMIN RIBAO
全国政协十一届三次会议闭幕

Just when I thought that I had seen everything in this industry, one of my stocks gets clobbered by a negative article in a state run, Communist newspaper. This is why I never make any one position more than 3-4% of my overall portfolio. You just never know.

I have seen a red-hot fertilizer stock get crushed when a worker on a cigarette break accidently blew the place up.

I have seen technology stocks that have been crushed by new and better technology.

I have seen my share of Biotech stocks get clobbered by news that patients taking the placebo fared better than those taking the drug candidate.

I have seen chemical spills in Bo-Paul.

I have seen oil spills in the Gulf of Mexico.

I have seen planes go down with the CEO on board.

I have seen accounting scandals.

I have seen analyst's downgrades

And of course I have seen more than my share of dire warnings and forecasts about future earnings.

For this reason, many investors choose not to own stocks- *Too risky they say.*

And then on the other hand…

I have owned stocks that created new technologies that have been game changers. Anyone remember Novell, Iomega, or Apple in its heyday?

I have owned drug stocks that have had new blockbuster drugs approved that have helped thousands or even millions of lives.

Local company Illumina (ILMN) has brought the cost of high-speed gene sequencing down from one billion dollars to one thousand dollars. This speeds up the race for a cure for cancer considerably!

I wrote about Illumina several years ago in my book *Best Stocks Now*.

Book number two is almost finished.

I have owned relatively unknown stocks like Tractor Supply that end up getting added to the S&P 500.

I own stocks like Visa (V) that end up getting added to the Dow Jones Industrial Average.

For this reason many, many people choose own to stocks.

But events like Nu Skin can and will come along from time to time.

From the sidelines, I watched a company in a similar business like Nu Skin called Herbalife (HLF) get slaughtered back in December of 2012.

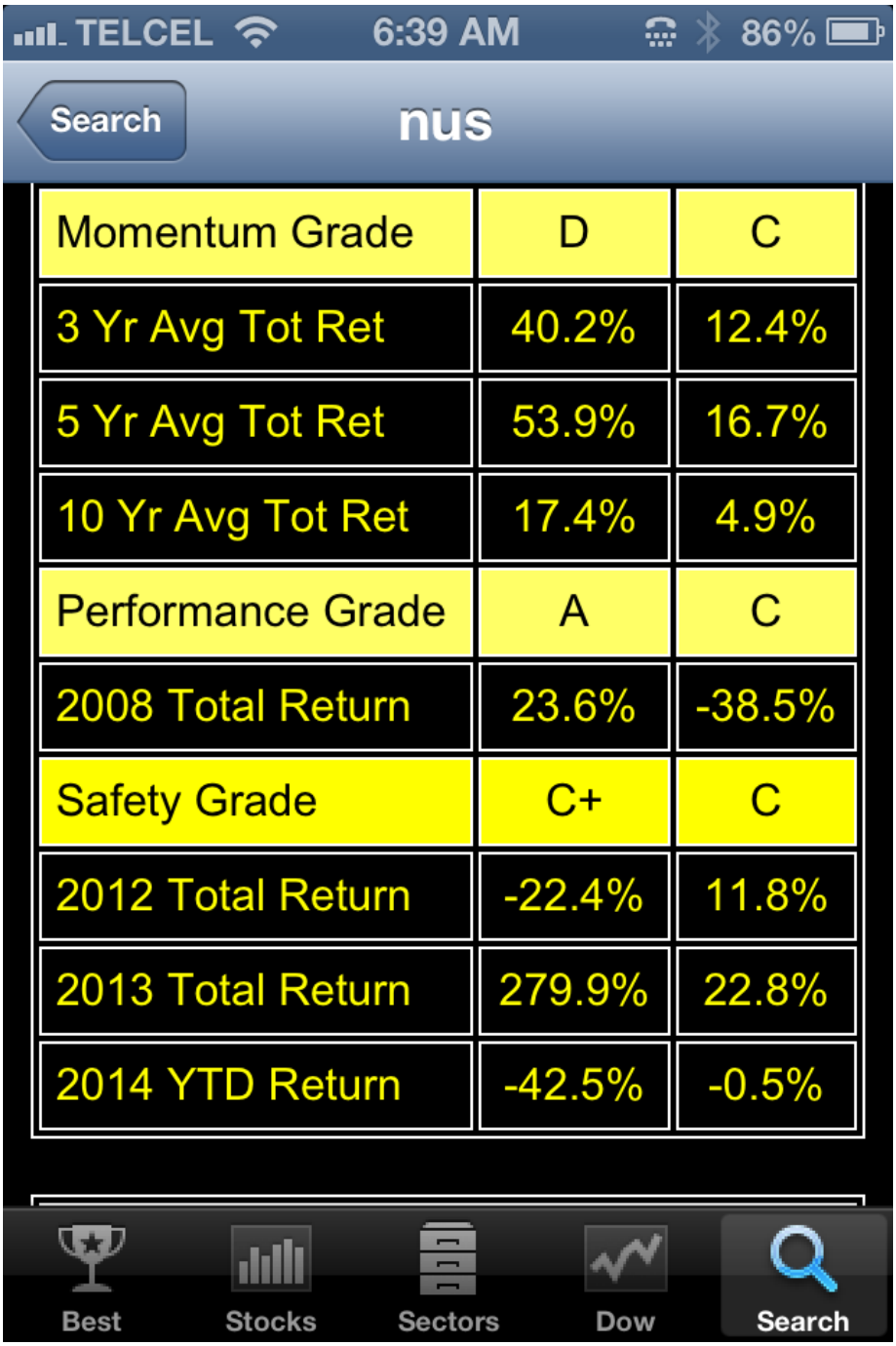
Well-known activist investor, Bill Ackman had published a short thesis on why he thought the shares would go to zero.

Bill Ackman also took out a very large short position on the stock. He was betting that the shares would go down.

He looked like a genius, as he was right for several weeks. Then the worm began to turn. Billionaires like Carl Icahn began buying the shares, betting that they would go up.

Ackman's short position in the stock was clobbered. As you can see from the chart below, Herbalife was one of the biggest winners in the market in 2013. It was up a whopping 144%!

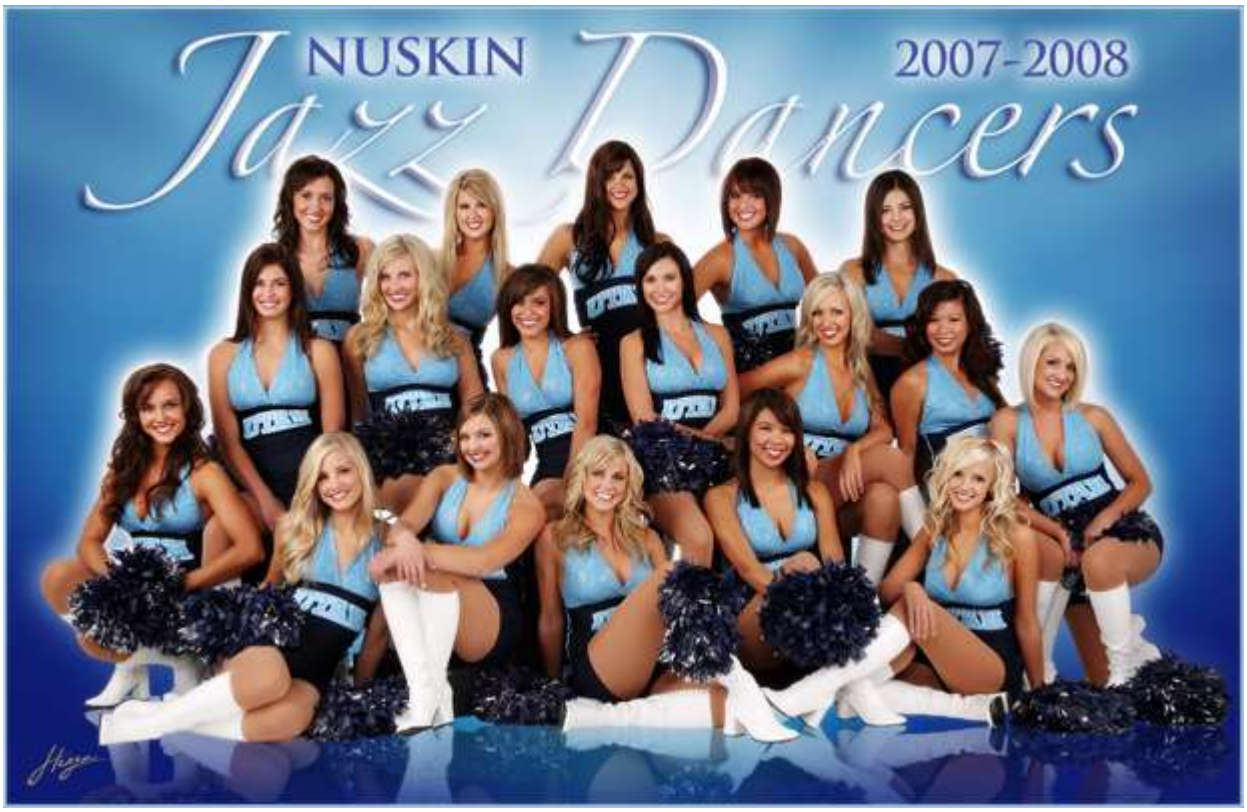
Nu Skin was also one of the biggest winners in the market last year.




It was up a whopping 279.9%!

It was even up 23.6% in 2008. I guess as people lost their jobs they found solace in multi-level marketing. Lots of Chinese see it as a way to owning your own business. 50% of Nu Skin's business is in China.

I must admit that I have never been approached by a Nu Skin distributor. Oh, oh, I just painted an "X" on my back.




Rah! Rah! No wonder sales are booming. Where do I get a jar of that stuff?

But when a negative article comes out, even in a Communist backed newspaper-the stock wrinkles.

And the stock plunges in my ranking system. Was there a warning? No. Should I have sold it the first day the news hit? Probably. Is hindsight 20:20? Always!

Again, this is why I never make any one position more than 3-4% of my overall portfolio. Fortunately, I had a lot of great stocks this past week to make up for this one miss. More on that later.

During this past week, we saw several triple digit days. Both to the downside and to the upside. The end results were as follows:

| Asset Class | Fri. 1/10/13 Close | Fri. 1/17/13 Close | Week Change | Change |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S&P500 | 1842.37 | 1838.70 | -3.67 | -0.20% |
| Forward PE ratio | 18.94 | 19.14 | 0.20 | 1.06% |
| DJIA | 16,437.05 | 16,458.56 | 21.51 | 0.13% |
| NASD | 4174.67 | 4197.58 | 22.91 | 0.55% |
| S&P600 (Small) | 659.80 | 659.81 | 0.01 | 0.00% |
| S&P400 (Mid-Cap) | 1340.02 | 1352.06 | 12.04 | 0.90% |
| Tot.Wld Stock Index (VT) | 59.07 | 58.94 | -0.13 | -0.22% |
| Emg. Mkts (VWO) | 39.87 | 39.44 | -0.43 | -1.08% |
| Em Mkt Sm. Cap (DGS) | 45.59 | 45.08 | -0.51 | -1.12% |
| Europe (EFA) | 66.81 | 66.80 | -0.01 | -0.01% |
| China (FXI) | 36.42 | 35.80 | -0.62 | -1.70% |
| Latin America (ILF) | 35.60 | 35.04 | -0.56 | -1.57% |
| 20 Yr.+ U.S Treas. (TLT) | 104.41 | 105.48 | 1.07 | 1.02% |
| 7-10 Yr. U.S Treas. (IEF) | 100.62 | 100.96 | 0.34 | 0.34% |
| U.S. 10yr. Tr. | 2.86% | 2.83% | -0.03% | 1.05% |
| Greece 10yr. Bond | 7.72% | 7.77% | 0.05% | -0.65% |
| Italy 10yr. Bond | 3.89% | 3.87% | -0.02% | 0.51% |
| Spain 10yr. Bond | 3.80% | 3.77% | -0.03% | 0.79% |
| Oil | 92.79 | 94.29 | 1.50 | 1.62% |
| Gold | 1246.40 | 1248.00 | 1.60 | 0.13% |

Overall, very little movement in the market last week. Again, I really believe that this year will be a stockpicker's market.

The average forward PE ratio of the 3700 stocks that I follow is currently:

# 19.14

This is the highest that it has been during this current Bull Cycle.

This past week, Goldman Sachs stated that the market is now expensive by any measure. It is an article that is definitely worth reading.

As you know, I take valuation very seriously.

In addition to this, Goldman was one of the firms that was bullish last year. You can read last year's prediction here.

Valuations are one of the reasons that I have started 2014 with a yellow flag flying. This year will not be as easy as last year.

We have yet to hear from the FED, however. The January effect is still neutral:

| Asset Class | 12/31/13 Close | Fri. 1/17/13 Close | 2012 Final | 2013 Final | 2014 YTD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S&P500 | 1831.77 | 1838.70 | 13.41% | 29.18% | 0.38% |
| Forward PE ratio | 18.58 | 19.14 | 14.78 | 12.67% | 3.01% |
| DJIA | 16576.66 | 16458.56 | 7.06% | 26.50% | -0.71% |
| NASD | 4160.77 | 4197.58 | 15.66% | 37.80% | 0.88% |
| S&P600 (Small) | 665.54 | 659.81 | 14.82% | 39.65% | -0.86% |
| S&P400 (Mid-Cap) | 1342.53 | 1352.06 | 16.07% | 31.57% | 0.71% |
| Tot World Stock Index (VT) | 59.40 | 58.94 | 16.07% | 20.19% | -0.77% |
| Emg. Mkts (VWO) | 41.14 | 39.44 | 16.54% | -7.61% | -4.13% |
| Em Mkt Sm. Cap (DGS) | 46.09 | 45.08 | 19.59% | -6.78% | -2.19% |
| Europe (EFA) | 67.10 | 66.80 | 14.80% | 18.01% | -0.45% |
| China (FXI) | 38.37 | 35.80 | 16.00% | -5.14% | -6.70% |
| Latin America (ILF) | 37.04 | 35.04 | 1.70% | -15.51% | -5.40% |
| 20 Yr.+ U.S Treas. (TLT) | 101.86 | 105.48 | 1.70% | -15.94% | 3.55% |
| 7-10 Yr. U.S Treas. (IEF) | 99.24 | 100.96 | 2.50% | -7.24% | 1.73% |
| U.S. 10yr. Tr. | 2.98% | 2.83% | 0.15% | -49.25% | 5.03% |
| Spain 10yr. Bond | 4.14% | 3.77% | 5.17% | 8.21% | 8.94% |
| Oil | 94.18 | 94.29 | 5.21% | -2.07% | 0.12% |
| Gold | 1237.40 | 1248.00 | 6.14% | -26.34% | 0.86% |

As you can see, the S&P 500 is just barely positive for the year. The Nasdaq still leads the pack. Bonds are recovering somewhat, while China and Latin America trail.

Stocks have paused for now. Asset allocators are busy decreasing their stock exposure and increasing their bond exposure. Earnings season is now in full swing. Economic reports have been so-so, and Yellen remains mum.

**One-year chart of the S&P 500**

While stocks have stalled, bond have at least stabilized:

Here is what my app is telling me for now. Here is my current ranking of 34 asset classes.

op 8 (3 wks. ago)

Top 8 (2 wks. ago)

***Top 8 (This week)***

The smaller the better continues to be the rule. Domestic, domestic, domestic, is the location, location, location.

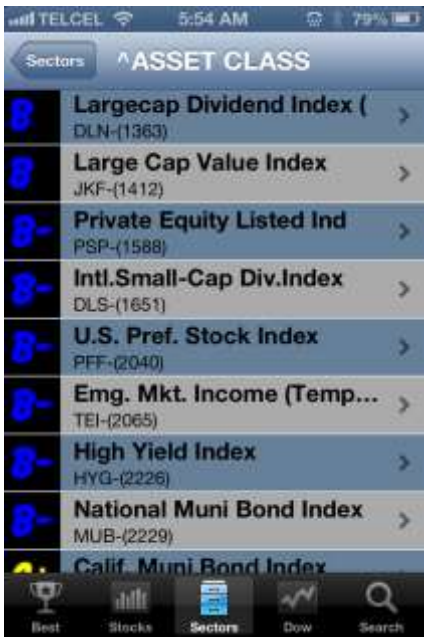
I have had good luck with the Micro-cap mutual fund that I own.

We next check Asset Classes 9-16 again this week to see if anything interesting is going on there.

(9-16)Three weeks ago

(9-16) Last week

**(9-16) This week**




Even asset classes nine and ten are still stock related. This means that the top ten asset classes are STILL ALL DOMESTIC STOCK related.

Here are the CURRENT bottom eight ranked asset classes:

Bottom 8 two weeks ago

Bottom 8 last week

**Bottom 8 this week**

Being short the market has been the absolute worst place that you could be. It still is. Gold, bonds, and commodities, still DO NOT belong in an asset allocation. IMO.

We next look at the best indexes in the world right now.

BEST two weeks ago

BEST last week

**BEST this week**

The INVERSE VIX (XIV) is still on top. This is a bullish indicator. The Nasdaq remain strong.

**<u>One-year chart of the Nasdaq</u>**

The Dow has paused just like the S&P has.

**One-year chart of the DOW**

Here are the current **worst** ranked indexes around the world.

Worst Indexes 2 weeks ago

Worst Indexes last week

Worst Indexes this week

The VIX is still at the bottom of the pile. THIS IS ALSO A BULLISH INDICATOR. And even though bonds have stabilized they still are at or near the bottom of the leader board.

Now on to the sectors in the market. Best Asset Classes Now-BACN™. Best Sectors Now. Best Stocks Now™. I track sixty sectors on a daily basis.

*Top 8 three weeks ago*

*Top 8 two weeks ago*

***Top 8 this week***

The leading sectors in 2014 looks almost the same as 2013! Why is aerospace so strong?

Go figure…

Let's next check sector rankings 9-16 to see if anything interesting is going on there:

#9-16 (3 weeks ago)

#9-16 (2 weeks ago)

#9-16 (this week)

Nothing really catches my eye in this second tier of leaders right now.

Here are this week's worst ranked sectors.

***Bottom 8 Two Weeks Ago***

***Bottom 8 Last Week***

***Bottom 8 This Week***

Emerging markets and commodity linked sectors continue to do poorly.

I have heard a lot of contrarians recommending the gold miners. They are still ranked at number 3,116 out of 3,775, howver. I will hold off for now.

How does your asset allocation look right now? Do you still own any of the laggards?

The four year, ten month old BULL MARKET is still intact. I am not a buy and holder. I am a market timer. I have kept you **IN** all throughout this current bull. It will come to an end at some point in time, however. The market still looks a bit extended and pricey to me right now. I am going to keep the yellow caution flag up for now-at least until we hear from Yellen! I do remain about 80% invested, however.

Please follow me on Twitter @BillGunderson throughout the week for any changes in my current stance on the market or individual stocks. My tweets are also found on my ***BEST STOCKS NOW*** app every day, and on the homepage of my website: http://www.pwstreet.com

**Bill Gunderson's Model Portfolio for Investors seeking *Aggressive/Moderate* Growth.**

This is my most aggressive portfolio. It is designed for investors with long-term time horizons, seeking maximum growth. This portfolio is made up mainly of small and mid-cap stocks with superior growth potential. This portfolio was up **39.5%** in 2013 after all expenses.

This portfolio is up 1.97% YTD. I sold

THIS SECTION IS FOR CLIENTS AND SUBSCRIBERS ONLY

## Bill Gunderson's Model Portfolio for Conservative Growth Investors:

This model is made up of mostly large and mid-cap companies that I consider suitable for investors who have a **conservative growth risk profile**. Time horizon of at least 3-5 years would be appropriate. Large cap stocks underperformed small caps in 2013.

This portfolio was up **23.85%** in 2013. This net of an annual mgt. fee of 2.0% and all $7 trades. I sold

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# Bill Gunderson's INCOME/GROWTH Model Portfolio

This portfolio is for investors seeking Income along with the possibility of Growth. This is a good mix for retirees who are seeking a CD alternative-albeit with greater risk. This portfolio currently has an average yield of **4.2%.**

This portfolio was up **21.75%** in 2013. It is now up **29.02%** since its August 5, 2011 inception. This works out to an annualized rate of **11.30%. Bonds anyone?** The average BOND fund was NEGATIVE in2013! I sold

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# 401-K Section (How is your 401k) portfolio doing?

Everyone has different choices to them in their 401-ks. The choices basically fall into several broad categories however: Large Cap, Mid-Cap, Small-Cap, Govt. Bond, Corp. Bond, Inflation Protected Bond, International, Emerging Market, and maybes sectors like technology, natural resources, etc.

I have added a number of mutual funds to my ***Best Stocks Now*** database that are representative of the various categories of funds that are available in most 401k plans. I grade them on a daily basis.

If you have a wide selection of mutual funds in your plan, here is my current recommendation. This portfolio was up **31.33%** in 2013 (net of all fees and trading costs). It is up 2.09% so far this year. I added

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**To view this past week's show archives click here**

# 401(k) Section (VERY BASIC)

Many folks have a very limited selection of choices in your 401-k.

THIS SECTION IS FOR CLIENTS AND SUBSCRIBERS ONLY

# Bill Gunderson's ETF Model Portfolio

This portfolio is for investors seeking growth. This portfolio was up **27.07%** in 2013. I made no changes this past week. This portfolio is up 2.44% YTD.

THIS SECTION IS FOR CLIENTS AND SUBSCRIBERS ONLY

# Current leveraged index/sector rankings

2 Wks ago

Last week

This week

2 Wks ago

Last week

This week

2 Wks ago

Last week

This week

## Bill Gunderson's Leveraged ETF Model Portfolio:

This model is brand new. It is obviously my most aggressive one. It is not for the faint of heart. I am not real anxious to put money into leveraged etf's right now.

THIS SECTION IS FOR CLIENTS AND SUBSCRIBERS ONLY

## Bill Gunderson's Grandchildren College Fund Model Portfolio:

This model is brand new. It begins with $1,000.

THIS SECTION IS FOR CLIENTS AND SUBSCRIBERS ONLY

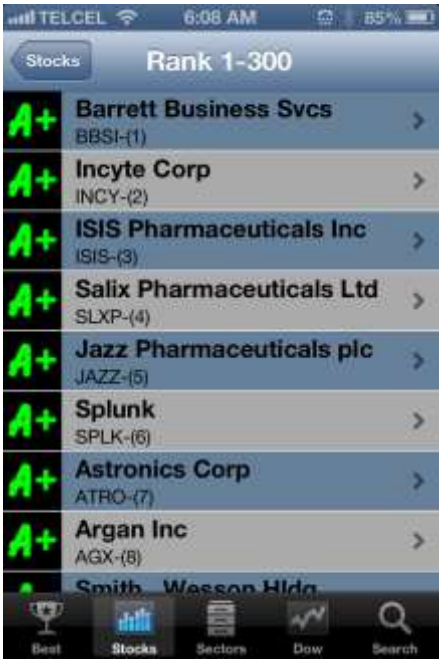
Two Weeks Ago

Last Week

This Week

Melissa Furrows First Smile. (I told her about her new college fund) Born Nov. 21, 2013.

## This week's top 300 list.




THE TOP 300 IS FOR CLIENTS AND SUBSCRIBERS ONLY, BUT HERE ARE 250-300

**Bill Gunderson's**
**Best Stocks Now**
**Top 300 as of 1/17/2014**

| | | | One Year Ago Rank | Six Mos. Ago Rank | Three Mos. Ago Rank | Two Mos. Ago Rank | Six Wks. Ago Rank | One Mo. Ago Rank | Two Wks. Ago Rank | One Wk. Ago Rank | Yest. Rank | **Current Rank** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A- | SAVE | Spirit Airlines | 363 | 1214 | 1548 | 209 | 90 | 155 | 148 | 215 | 135 | **251** |
| A- | PSIX | Power Solutions | 0 | 0 | 75 | 108 | 172 | 36 | 41 | 73 | 102 | **252** |
| A- | AGYS | Agilysys Inc | 2805 | 1733 | 1502 | 587 | 426 | 311 | 319 | 201 | 209 | **253** |
| A- | CHTP | Chelsea Therapeutics | 1836 | 2244 | 959 | 538 | 243 | 208 | 1302 | 3225 | 292 | **254** |
| A- | MHK | Mohawk Ind Inc | 83 | 639 | 250 | 306 | 333 | 234 | 208 | 315 | 293 | **255** |
| A- | NVO | Novo Nordisk A/S | 72 | 506 | 903 | 596 | 679 | 750 | 617 | 135 | 229 | **256** |
| A- | WHR | Whirlpool Corp | 414 | 496 | 183 | 285 | 335 | 343 | 226 | 260 | 311 | **257** |
| A- | MANH | Manhattan Assoc Inc | 862 | 621 | 162 | 315 | 272 | 411 | 409 | 236 | 278 | **258** |
| A- | PATK | Patrick Industries | 786 | 1012 | 254 | 449 | 607 | 856 | 543 | 436 | 486 | **259** |
| A- | WDC | Western Digital Corp | 596 | 837 | 952 | 539 | 222 | 212 | 214 | 204 | 249 | **260** |
| A- | ACQ.TC | Autocandada | 0 | 0 | 447 | 95 | 191 | 177 | 356 | 142 | 142 | **261** |
| A- | AEIS | Advanced Energy Inds | 1377 | 1790 | 608 | 801 | 628 | 852 | 396 | 242 | 251 | **262** |
| A- | COG | Cabot Oil & Gas Corp | 51 | 252 | 1068 | 490 | 368 | 226 | 128 | 284 | 302 | **263** |
| A- | IEX | IDEX Corp | 124 | 79 | 55 | 174 | 146 | 202 | 224 | 233 | 194 | **264** |
| A- | JAH | Jarden Corp | 425 | 1510 | 340 | 406 | 344 | 140 | 137 | 258 | 254 | **265** |
| A- | PCP | Precision Castparts Cp | 799 | 1323 | 431 | 448 | 319 | 228 | 281 | 306 | 269 | **266** |
| A- | PDFS | PDF Solutions Inc | 802 | 164 | 466 | 496 | 312 | 141 | 130 | 287 | 256 | **267** |
| A- | SNAK | Inventure Foods Inc. | 0 | 774 | 1158 | 112 | 99 | 191 | 149 | 160 | 189 | **268** |
| A- | ARII | American Railcar | 107 | 76 | 160 | 487 | 354 | 224 | 235 | 516 | 332 | **269** |
| A- | PRAN | Prana Biotechnology | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 133 | 160 | 207 | 390 | 369 | **270** |
| A- | CIR | CIRCOR Intl Inc | 2256 | 1073 | 54 | 109 | 152 | 242 | 244 | 325 | 277 | **271** |
| A- | CP | Canadian Pacific Railway | 40 | 166 | 9 | 33 | 126 | 195 | 266 | 248 | 309 | **272** |
| A- | HAR | Harman Intl Ind | 1805 | 1345 | 275 | 328 | 220 | 282 | 301 | 250 | 310 | **273** |
| A- | TASR | Taser Intl Inc | 228 | 393 | 58 | 224 | 413 | 619 | 574 | 210 | 243 | **274** |
| A- | YNDX | Yandex N V Class A | 1035 | 84 | 615 | 379 | 388 | 621 | 268 | 180 | 314 | **275** |
| A- | HCLP | Hi-Crush Partners L P | | 1294 | 204 | 160 | 244 | 172 | 170 | 300 | 356 | **277** |
| A- | XUE | Xueda Educ. | 0 | 970 | 477 | 111 | 316 | 122 | 30 | 143 | 360 | **279** |
| A- | PII | Polaris Industries Inc | 169 | 68 | 208 | 70 | 110 | 25 | 23 | 105 | 202 | **280** |
| A- | PKG | Packaging Corp of America | 895 | 133 | 143 | 217 | 295 | 260 | 138 | 229 | 203 | **281** |
| A- | AIRM | Air Methods Corp | 13 | 265 | 102 | 96 | 112 | 154 | 110 | 261 | 255 | **282** |
| A- | ECPG | Encore Capital | 133 | 2 | 397 | 207 | 379 | 197 | 248 | 268 | 323 | **283** |
| A- | REGN | Regeneron Pharmaceuticals | 221 | 117 | 267 | 458 | 337 | 642 | 693 | 495 | 331 | **284** |
| A- | SMRT | Stein Mart Inc | 636 | 349 | 210 | 483 | 725 | 525 | 542 | 270 | 286 | **285** |
| A- | MPWR | Monolithic Power Systems | 1064 | 570 | 126 | 244 | 282 | 279 | 274 | 350 | 253 | **286** |
| A- | EPAY | Bottomline Technologies | 579 | 413 | 236 | 193 | 245 | 289 | 253 | 318 | 367 | **287** |
| A- | OILT | Oiltanking Ptnrs. | 1254 | 480 | 50 | 194 | 49 | 90 | 158 | 169 | 233 | **288** |
| A- | BITA | Bitauto Hldgs. | 75 | 1243 | 1825 | 82 | 489 | 788 | 487 | 312 | 191 | **289** |
| A- | EGOV | NIC Inc | 152 | 97 | 259 | 120 | 247 | 285 | 422 | 279 | 312 | **290** |
| A- | AAON | A A O N Inc | 1159 | 591 | 433 | 176 | 175 | 219 | 206 | 269 | 357 | **291** |
| A- | AIMC | Altra Holdings | 194 | 464 | 146 | 454 | 136 | 80 | 99 | 154 | 198 | **292** |
| A- | BX | Blackstone Group | 376 | 57 | 121 | 143 | 91 | 145 | 186 | 227 | 275 | **293** |
| A- | PKOH | Park Ohio Holding Corp | 830 | 623 | 859 | 512 | 239 | 269 | 286 | 343 | 230 | **294** |
| A- | RENT | Rentrak Corp | 1032 | 457 | 67 | 101 | 142 | 350 | 484 | 243 | 257 | **295** |
| A- | KKR | K K & R Co. | 0 | 0 | 95 | 355 | 93 | 211 | 127 | 200 | 290 | **299** |
| A- | MDCO | Medicines Co | 650 | 999 | 119 | 165 | 156 | 200 | 249 | 329 | 220 | **300** |

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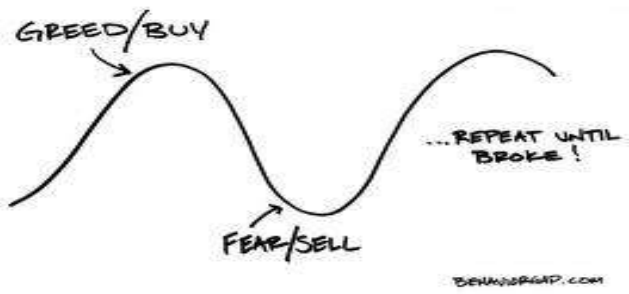

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