First Trust

Stock Index Performance						
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2008	5-yr	
Dow Jones Industrial Avg. (9996)	1.33%	16.89%	15.11%	-31.92%	2.73%	
S&P 500 (1088)	1.52%	22.81%	18.00%	-36.99%	1.71%	
NASDAQ 100 (1739)	0.67%	44.37%	33.47%	-41.57%	4.51%	
S&P 500/Citigroup Growth	1.88%	26.37%	23.98%	-34.91%	2.53%	
S&P 500/Citigroup Value	1.13%	19.05%	11.73%	-39.19%	0.81%	
S&P MidCap 400/Citigroup Growth	1.17%	38.05%	33.74%	-37.58%	5.92%	
S&P MidCap 400/Citigroup Value	0.49%	28.79%	25.45%	-34.78%	4.73%	
S&P SmallCap600/Citigroup Growth	1.17%	25.23%	17.20%	-32.84%	4.25%	
S&P SmallCap600/Citigroup Value	0.17%	19.88%	13.31%	-29.50%	2.92%	
MSCI EAFE	1.46%	31.77%	34.45%	-43.07%	6.24%	
MSCI World (ex US)	1.55%	40.53%	41.82%	-43.26%	8.46%	
MSCI World	1.45%	28.20%	26.46%	-40.39%	3.97%	
MSCI Emerging Markets	2.13%	73.91%	71.74%	-53.49%	18.45%	

Source: Bloomberg. Returns are total returns. The *5-yr. return is an average annual.* One-week, YTD, 12-mo. and 5-yr. performance returns calculated through 10/16/09.

S&P Sector Performance						
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2008	5-yr	
Consumer Discretionary	1.64%	33.32%	34.28%	-33.49%	-0.70%	
Consumer Staples	1.67%	13.27%	14.12%	-15.44%	7.15%	
Energy	5.08%	17.66%	25.24%	-34.89%	11.81%	
Financials	-0.16%	23.45%	-1.54%	-55.23%	-8.94%	
Health Care	1.17%	11.64%	13.00%	-22.80%	2.98%	
Industrials	1.91%	17.34%	11.71%	-39.92%	0.25%	
Information Technology	0.72%	49.27%	33.70%	-43.14%	3.89%	
Materials	1.78%	43.56%	29.38%	-45.64%	5.75%	
Telecom Services	0.08%	-1.67%	10.34%	-30.47%	0.68%	
Utilities	1.42%	5.75%	13.73%	-28.99%	6.87%	

Source: Bloomberg. Returns are total returns. The 5-yr. return is an average annual. Oneweek, YTD, 12-mo. and 5-yr. performance returns calculated through 10/16/09.

Bond Index Performance					
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2008	5-yr
U.S. Treasury: Intermediate	-0.02%	-0.93%	5.02%	11.35%	4.70%
GNMA 30 Year	0.02%	5.26%	10.68%	7.87%	5.72%
U.S. Aggregate	0.09%	5.71%	12.59%	5.24%	5.01%
U.S. Corporate High Yield	0.80%	50.70%	46.17%	-26.16%	6.20%
U.S. Corporate Investment Grade	0.23%	16.86%	28.52%	-4.94%	4.41%
Municipal Bond: Long Bond (22+)	-1.14%	23.73%	32.43%	-14.68%	4.28%
Global Aggregate	-0.02%	8.29%	16.48%	4.79%	6.00%

Source: Barclays Capital. Returns are total returns. The *5-yr. return is an average annual.* One-week, YTD, 12-mo. and 5-yr. performance returns calculated through 10/16/09.

Key Rates						
As of 10/16						
Fed Funds	0.00-0.25%	5-yr CD	2.94%			
LIBOR (1-month)	0.25%	2-yr T-Note	0.95%			
CPI - Headline	-1.30%	5-yr T-Note	2.34%			
CPI - Core	1.50%	10-yr T-Note	3.40%			
Money Market Accts.	1.08%	30-yr T-Bond	4.23%			
Money Market Funds	0.05%	30-yr Mortgage	5.07%			
6-mo. CD	1.28%	Prime Rate	3.25%			
1-yr CD	1.70%	Bond Buyer 40	5.14%			

Sources: Bankrate.com, iMoneyNet.com and Bloomberg.

Market Indicators			
As of 10/16			
TED Spread	21 bps		
Investment Grade Spread (A2)	234 bps		
ML High Yield Master II Index Spread	770 bps		

Sources: Bloomberg and Merrill Lynch via Bloomberg.

Market Watch

Week of October 19th

Weekly Fund Flows for the Week Ended 10/07/09							
Estimated Flows to Long-Term Mutual Funds							
	Current	Week	Previous				
Domestic Equity	-\$4.950	Billion	-\$3.812	Billion			
Foreign Equity	\$583	Million	-\$347	Million			
Taxable Bond	\$12.482	Billion	\$6.851	Billion			
Municipal Bond	\$2.726	Billion	\$2.196	Billion			
Change in Money Market Fund Assets							
	Current	Current Week		ous			
Retail	-\$6.71	Billion	-\$2.91	Billion			
Institutional	-\$35.53	Billion	\$19.63	Billion			

Source: Investment Company Institute

Factoids for the week of October 12th – 16th

Monday, October 12, 2009

The FTSE NAREIT All REIT Index just posted its highest quarterly total return ever gaining 31.52% in Q3, according to REIT.com. The index, however, stands 53.8% below its all-time high on February 7, 2007. The rebound in REIT prices appears to be based more on the improvement in the overall economy rather than on the fundamentals in the REIT sector. With respect to investor sentiment, fundraising by private equity firms for real estate investment worldwide totaled \$4.9 billion in Q3, the lowest take in six years, according to research firm Preqin. These same firms raised \$40.0 billion in Q3'08. Preqin reported that activity in 46 private equity real estate funds has been suspended.

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

A survey by the Employee Benefit Research Institute found that 42% of workers think they will need about \$500,000 in retirement savings to live comfortably once they stop working, according to MSNBC.MSN.com. The survey also revealed, however, that only 26% of workers over the age of 55 have set aside more than \$250,000 towards their retirement. With unemployment approaching 10% in the U.S., many workers in their early to mid 60s, who have lost their jobs, are opting for early retirement benefits (2.57 million) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2009, rose 22% over the 2008 fiscal year – well above the anticipated 15% increase, according to Mark Hinkle, a spokesperson with the Social Security Administration.

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Over the past three years there has been a noticeable increase in the amount of electricity from wood-burning plants, according to USA TODAY. One megawatt can power up to 900 homes, according to RISI, a provider of information for the global forest products industry. In 2009, RISI estimates that an additional 310 megawatts of power will come from these plants, up from the 8 megawatts added in 2007. All-in-all, wood-burning power plants were capable of producing close to 6,700 megawatts in 2008, which is enough to power about 6 million homes. Currently, many plants burn bark, twigs and other waste wood.

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Thirty-seven IPOs have priced so far in 2009, down 12% from the 42 launched by this point a year ago, according to Renaissance Capital's IPOHome.com. Twenty-three of the 37 were priced in the second half of 2009. The 37 IPOs raised \$18.8 billion. The most active year this decade was the 406 IPOs (\$96.9 billion) launched in 2000. There have been 61 IPO filings, down 58.2% from the 146 filings at this point a year ago. Forty-six of them came after June.

Friday, October 16, 2009

Since 1927, the median gain for all bull markets (S&P 500) has been 68%, and the median length has been 308 calendar days, according to Bespoke Investment Group. Eight of the bull markets lasted longer than 1,000 calendar days. The current bull, which began on March 9, has registered a gain of 61.4% over 219 calendar days.