Eirst Trust

Stock Index Performance						
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2013	5-yr.	
Dow Jones Industrial Avg. (17,098)	0.63%	4.84%	17.93%	29.65%	15.32%	
S&P 500 (2,003)	0.80%	9.88%	24.85%	32.38%	16.66%	
NASDAQ 100 (4,083)	0.76%	14.69%	33.78%	36.94%	21.38%	
S&P 500 Growth	0.62%	10.57%	27.05%	32.75%	17.64%	
S&P 500 Value	1.00%	9.14%	22.52%	31.97%	15.66%	
S&P MidCap 400 Growth	0.88%	5.60%	19.30%	32.68%	18.63%	
S&P MidCap 400 Value	0.94%	10.76%	23.66%	34.25%	18.22%	
S&P SmallCap 600 Growth	0.61%	-0.28%	14.77%	42.68%	19.02%	
S&P SmallCap 600 Value	0.70%	3.63%	18.92%	39.98%	17.70%	
MSCI EAFE	0.62%	2.56%	15.45%	22.78%	8.09%	
MSCI World (ex US)	0.67%	5.09%	17.20%	15.29%	7.98%	
MSCI World	0.77%	6.79%	20.42%	26.68%	12.18%	
MSCI Emerging Markets	0.49%	10.63%	21.11%	-2.60%	7.60%	

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 8/29/14.

S&P Sector Performance					
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2013	5-yr.
Consumer Discretionary	0.31%	3.73%	20.42%	43.08%	22.97%
Consumer Staples	0.64%	6.56%	17.69%	26.14%	16.16%
Energy	1.69%	11.66%	23.13%	25.05%	14.83%
Financials	1.06%	7.84%	21.65%	35.59%	11.45%
Health Care	1.41%	16.12%	31.53%	41.46%	19.80%
Industrials	-0.23%	3.99%	24.19%	40.64%	18.74%
Information Technology	0.30%	14.92%	33.23%	28.43%	16.98%
Materials	0.72%	10.57%	27.62%	25.60%	14.34%
Telecom Services	1.88%	7.03%	12.19%	11.47%	14.41%
Utilities	1.98%	16.11%	20.74%	13.21%	12.62%

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 8/29/14.

Bond Index Performance					
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2013	5-yr.
U.S. Treasury: Intermediate	0.22%	1.95%	2.23%	-1.34%	2.84%
GNMA 30 Year	0.25%	4.49%	5.58%	-2.17%	4.10%
U.S. Aggregate	0.36%	4.81%	5.66%	-2.02%	4.53%
U.S. Corporate High Yield	0.17%	5.70%	10.58%	7.44%	12.28%
U.S. Corporate Investment Grade	0.53%	7.14%	9.09%	-1.53%	7.16%
Municipal Bond: Long Bond (22+)	0.56%	12.37%	16.17%	-6.01%	7.31%
Global Aggregate	0.43%	4.56%	6.24%	-2.60%	3.74%

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 8/29/14.

Key Rates						
As of 8/29/14						
Fed Funds	0.00-0.25%	5-yr CD	1.34%			
LIBOR (1-month)	0.16%	2-yr T-Note	0.49%			
CPI - Headline	2.00%	5-yr T-Note	1.63%			
CPI - Core	1.90%	10-yr T-Note	2.34%			
Money Market Accts.	0.51%	30-yr T-Bond	3.08%			
Money Market Funds	0.01%	30-yr Mortgage	4.08%			
6-mo CD	0.34%	Prime Rate	3.25%			
1-yr CD	0.66%	Bond Buyer 40	4.40%			

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

Market Indicators	
As of 8/29/14	
TED Spread	20 bps
Investment Grade Spread (A2)	129 bps
ML High Yield Master II Index Spread	384 bps

Sources: Bloomberg and Merrill Lynch via Bloomberg.

Market Watch

Week of September 2nd

Weekly Fund Flows						
Estimated Flows to Long-Term Mutual Funds for the Week Ended 8/20/14						
	Current	Week	Previo	Previous		
Domestic Equity	\$738	Million	-\$1.070	Billion		
Foreign Equity	\$1.905	Billion	\$1.295	Billion		
Taxable Bond	\$4.178	Billion	\$519	Million		
Municipal Bond	\$814	Million	\$897	Million		
Change in Money Market Fund Assets for the Week Ended 8/27/14						
	Current	Current Week		ous		
Retail	-\$2.81	Billion	-\$0.95	Billion		
Institutional	\$13.61	Billion	\$7.65	Billion		
Source: Investment Company Institute.						

Factoids for the week of August 25 - 29, 2014

Monday, August 25, 2014

The Farmer's Almanac correctly forecasted last year's frigid winter season in the U.S., according to MarketWatch.com. The 198-year-old publication is predicting more of the same for this winter. The latest edition calls for colder-than-normal and wetter-than-usual weather for three-quarters of the U.S. east of the Rocky Mountains. The price of natural gas rose from \$3.55 per million British thermal units on 8/22/13 to a high of \$6.15 on 2/19/14. The ISE Revere Natural Gas Index, which consists of companies that derive a substantial portion of their revenues from the exploration and production of natural gas, posted a total return of 17.82% over that period. Natural gas closed at \$3.84 per million British thermal units on 8/22/14.

Tuesday, August 26, 2014

RealtyTrac reported that all-cash sales accounted for 37.9% of all sales of single family homes and condos in the U.S. in Q2'14, up from 35.7% in Q2'13, but down from a three-year high of 42.0% in Q1'14, according to S&P Dow Jones Indices. Institutional investors, which are defined as entities that purchase at least 10 properties in a calendar year, accounted for 4.7% of all sales in Q2'14, down from 5.8% in Q2'13 and 5.3% in Q1'14. It was the lowest level of institutional activity since Q1'12.

Wednesday, August 27, 2014

The U.S. negative equity rate stood at 17.0% of all homeowners with a mortgage in Q2'14, representing 8.7 million homeowners, according to Zillow. Negative equity has declined in each of the past nine quarters as home values have risen. The peak in negative equity was 31.4% (Q1'12). Among all U.S. homes with a mortgage, 28.2% of those ranked in the bottom one-third of home values were underwater in Q2'14, compared to 15.8% of homes in the middle tier and 9.2% in the top tier.

Thursday, August 28, 2014

There are currently 12,052 analyst ratings for S&P 500 stocks, which equates to 24 ratings per stock in the index, according to Bespoke Investment Group. Of those 12,052 ratings, 6,038 are Buy ratings, 747 are Sell ratings and 5,267 are Hold ratings. Bespoke noted that the current ratings breakdown (Buy/Sell/Hold) is close to the norm. The two most widely followed sectors are Technology and Energy. The sectors with the highest percentage of Buy ratings are Health Care (58.3%), Energy (55.7%), Technology (54.5%) and Industrials (51.9%).

Friday, August 29, 2014

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) announced that U.S. commercial banks reported aggregate net income of \$40.2 billion in Q2'14, up \$2.0 billion, or 5.24%, from the \$38.2 billion posted in Q2'13, according to its own release. Strong loan growth in Q2'14 (y-o-y) contributed to the bump in net interest income. Total loan and lease balances rose by 178.5 billion (y-o-y), or 2.3%, to \$8.1 trillion. It was the largest quarterly increase since Q4'2007. The number of institutions on the FDIC's list of "problem banks" stood at 354 in Q2'14. The post-crisis high for the list was 888 in Q1'11. Seven FDIC-insured institutions failed in Q2'14, down from 12 in Q2'13. Fourteen banks have failed year-to-date, down from 20 at this point a year ago.