IFirst Trust

Stock Index Performance					
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2017	5-yr.
Dow Jones Industrial Avg. (25,521)	-4.11%	3.34%	31.42%	28.11%	15.53%
S&P 500 (2,762)	-3.82%	3.44%	23.53%	21.82%	15.15%
NASDAQ 100 (6,760)	-3.73%	5.73%	32.81%	32.99%	21.08%
S&P 500 Growth	-3.65%	4.85%	29.31%	27.43%	16.95%
S&P 500 Value	-4.00%	1.97%	16.98%	15.35%	12.98%
S&P MidCap 400 Growth	-3.60%	2.72%	21.00%	19.91%	13.78%
S&P MidCap 400 Value	-4.13%	-0.86%	9.93%	12.30%	12.80%
S&P SmallCap 600 Growth	-3.24%	2.15%	17.84%	14.71%	15.20%
S&P SmallCap 600 Value	-4.12%	-0.51%	12.75%	11.43%	13.86%
MSCI EAFE	-2.75%	3.61%	25.58%	25.03%	7.42%
MSCI World (ex US)	-2.97%	3.90%	27.20%	27.19%	6.64%
MSCI World	-3.41%	3.31%	23.27%	22.40%	11.07%
MSCI Emerging Markets	-3.30%	6.31%	37.46%	37.28%	5.26%
S&P GSCI	-1.46%	3.43%	9.70%	5.77%	-12.40%

Source: Bloomberg. Returns are total returns. 5-yr. return is an average annual. One-week, YTD, 12-mo. and 5-yr. performance returns calculated through 2/2/18. An index cannot be purchased directly by investors. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

S&P Sector Performance					
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2017	5-yr.
Consumer Discretionary	-3.08%	7.18%	26.76%	22.98%	17.81%
Consumer Staples	-3.76%	-0.66%	10.67%	13.49%	11.66%
Energy	-6.40%	0.63%	3.49%	-1.01%	1.21%
Financials	-2.68%	5.24%	28.61%	22.14%	17.66%
Health Care	-5.00%	5.31%	24.60%	22.08%	16.93%
Industrials	-3.26%	2.99%	23.39%	21.01%	15.83%
Information Technology	-4.11%	4.41%	37.76%	38.83%	21.31%
Materials	-5.64%	0.03%	18.35%	23.84%	11.08%
Real Estate	-2.45%	-4.70%	5.61%	10.85%	5.41%
Telecom Services	-1.28%	0.39%	3.68%	-1.25%	6.67%
Utilities	-2.27%	-5.28%	5.69%	12.11%	10.29%

Source: Bloomberg. Returns are total returns. 5-yr. return is an average annual. One-week, YTD, 12-mo. and 5-yr. performance returns calculated through 2/2/18. An index cannot be purchased directly by investors. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Bond Index Performance					
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2017	5-yr.
U.S. Treasury: Intermediate	-0.46%	-1.27%	-0.31%	1.14%	0.75%
GNMA 30 Year	-0.89%	-1.72%	0.33%	1.87%	1.48%
U.S. Aggregate	-0.88%	-1.82%	1.53%	3.54%	1.88%
U.S. Corporate High Yield	-0.68%	0.20%	5.97%	7.51%	5.52%
U.S. Corporate Investment Grade	-0.97%	-1.75%	4.33%	6.42%	3.34%
Municipal Bond: Long Bond (22+)	-1.18%	-2.28%	5.13%	8.19%	3.68%
Global Aggregate	-0.91%	0.45%	6.67%	7.40%	1.09%

Source: Bloomberg Barclays. Returns are total returns. 5-yr. return is an average annual. One-week, YTD, 12-mo. and 5-yr. performance returns calculated through 2/2/18. An index cannot be purchased directly by investors. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Key Rates						
Fed Funds	1.25-1.50%	5-yr CD	2.30%			
LIBOR (1-month)	1.57%	2-yr T-Note	2.13%			
CPI - Headline	2.10%	5-yr T-Note	2.57%			
CPI - Core	1.80%	10-yr T-Note	2.83%			
Money Market Accts.	0.82%	30-yr T-Bond	3.09%			
Prime Money Funds	0.98%	30-yr Mortgage Refinance	4.26%			
1-yr CD	1.83%	Prime Rate	4.50%			
3-yr CD	1.99%	Bond Buyer 40	4.00%			

Sources: Bankrate.com, Barron's and Bloomberg. The rate shown for Prime Money Funds is as of 1/31/18. All other rates are as of 2/2/18.

Market Indicators				
As of 2/2/18				
TED Spread	31 bps			
Investment Grade Spread (A2)	100 bps			
ML High Yield Master II Index Spread	336 bps			
Source: Bloomberg.				

Weekly Fund Flows Estimated Flows to Long-Term Mutual Funds for the Week Ended 1/24/18 Current Week

	Current	Week	Previous			
Domestic Equity	-\$5.118	Billion	-\$2.696 Billion			
Foreign Equity	\$3.956	Billion	\$5.182 Billion			
Taxable Bond	\$11.749	Billion	\$7.297 Billion			
Municipal Bond	\$2.392	Billion	\$2.286 Billion			
Change in Money Market Fund Assets for the Week Ended 1/31/18						
	Current	Week	Previous			
Retail	-\$4.33	Billion	-\$1.68 Billion			
Institutional	-\$21.05	Billion	\$10.06 Billion			

Source: Investment Company Institute.

Factoids for the week of January 29, 2018

Monday, January 29, 2018

Data from the Identity Theft Resource Center (ITRC) indicates that there were a record high 1,579 data breaches recorded in the U.S. in 2017, up 45% from the 1,091 breaches registered in 2016, according to 24/7 Wall St. A total of 178.96 million records were exposed. The highest number of breaches occurred in the business sector (870), followed by the medical/health care sector (374) and banking/credit/financial sector (134). ITRC data shows that nearly 60% of the breaches were attributable to hacking attacks. Phishing and ransomware/malware attacks came in at around 21% and 12%, respectively.

Tuesday, January 30, 2018

Tuesday, January 30, 2018 Strategas searched for the 10 biggest January price-only gains (dividends not included) for the S&P 500 Index since 1950, and found the returns ranged from 5.8% (1980) to 13.2% (1987), according to CNBC. In all 10 instances, the strong performance in January was followed by a full year gain. The average return was 22.3%. In all 10 instances, the S&P 500 Index experienced intra-year selloffs ranging from 4% (1961) to 34% (1987). The average correction was 11.8%. With just two trading days left in January 2018 the S&P 500 Index is up 6.7%. 2018, the S&P 500 Index is up 6.7%.

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

The National Retail Federation (NRF) estimates that American adults will spend \$15.3 billion on Super Bowl festivities this weekend, up 8.5% from the \$14.1 billion spent last year, according to its own release. It estimates that 188.5 million people will watch the game, roughly the same as last year. Fans are expected to spend the most on food and beverages.

Thursday, February 1, 2018

In November, U.S. crude oil production topped 10 million barrels a day for the first time in 48 years, according to Reuters. Output averaged 10.038 million barrels per day, nearly matching the 10.044 million barrels produced daily in November 1970. The U.S. Department of Energy sees U.S. shale and other producers adding more than one million barrels a day this year alone. The U.S. is the world's third largest oil producer, behind Russia and Saudi Arabia. Russia currently produces around 11 million barrels per day.

Friday, February 2, 2018

In January, the dividend-payers (417) in the S&P 500 Index (equal weight) posted a total return of 3.85% vs. 7.81% for the non-payers (88), according to S&P Dow Jones Indices. There are currently 505 stocks in the index. For the 12month period ended January 2018, payers were up 21.01%, vs. a gain of 20.62% for the non-payers. The number of dividend increases in January totaled 25, down from 34 a year ago. No dividends were cut in January, compared to one a year ago.

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Market Watch Week of February 5th