## the Prudent Speculator

#### **MARKET COMMENTARY MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2018**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

North Korean Perspective – Kim Jong Un / Donald Trump Summit Appears to be a Go Keep Calm and Carry On – Trade Fears Will Eventually Pass
Tough Week – At Least Value Beat Growth
Don't Believe All That You Hear – Volatility Perspective
Econ News – U.S. Outlook Still Generally Upbeat
Sentiment – Plenty of Pessimism
Trade War Selloff – 25 Undervalued Bargains
Stock News – Update on INTC

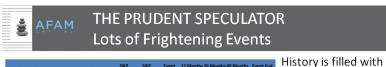
#### **Market Review**

My iPhone pinged Sunday with Breaking News from *The Wall Street Journal*: *North Korea has told the U.S. that Kim Jong Un is prepared to discuss denuclearization, clearing the way for a summit with Trump*. Obviously, agreeing to talk and actually disarming are two very different matters, and we respect that many have trepidation about what might result from a summit between the two very unorthodox leaders, but investors worried about last week's trade-related headlines should recall that it wasn't that long ago that Guam was under threat of an imminent North Korean missile launch amidst an escalating war of words...who can forget the "Dotard" and "Lil' Rocket Man" insults...that appeared to have the Korean Peninsula on the brink of war.



| Disconcerting North Korean<br>Events                       |            | Date   | S&P 500<br>Value | 6 Months<br>Later | 12 Months<br>Later | 36 Months<br>Later |      | Event<br>thru Present |
|--|------------|--------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------|-----------------------|
| Korean War Begins  | 6/15/1950  | Jun-50 | 18.93            | 2%                | 16%                | 25%                | 111% | 13658%                |
| Capture of USS Pueblo                                      | 1/15/1968  | Jan-68 | 96.42            | 6%                | 5%                 | -4%                | 23%  | 2601%                 |
| Yongbyon Nuclear Reactor Goes Operational                  | 6/30/1986  | Jun-86 | 250.84           | -3%               | 21%                | 27%                | 48%  | 938%                  |
| Test-Fires Medium-Range Rodong Ballistic Missile           | 6/30/1993  | Jun-93 | 450.53           | 4%                | -1%                | 49%                | 152% | 478%                  |
| Troops Enter the Demiliatarized Zone                       | 4/15/1996  | Apr-96 | 642.49           | 9%                | 17%                | 106%               | 84%  | 305%                  |
| Submarine Battle near Gangneung South Korea                | 9/15/1996  | Sep-96 | 680.54           | 17%               | 35%                | 94%                | 61%  | 283%                  |
| Fires Multistage Long-Range Rocket Over Japan              | 8/15/1998  | Aug-98 | 1,062.75         | 16%               | 25%                | 11%                | -7%  | 145%                  |
| George W. Bush Labels North Korea an Axis of Evil          | 1/15/2002  | Jan-02 | 1,146.19         | -20%              | -20%               | 3%                 | 25%  | 127%                  |
| Yellow Sea Gun Battle with South Korea                     | 6/15/2002  | Jun-02 | 1,007.27         | -12%              | -2%                | 20%                | 52%  | 159%                  |
| Withdraws from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty        | 1/15/2003  | Jan-03 | 918.22           | 9%                | 23%                | 40%                | 50%  | 184%                  |
| Admits that is has Nuclear Weapons for "Self Defense"      | 2/15/2005  | Feb-05 | 1,210.13         | 2%                | 6%                 | 12%                | -11% | 115%                  |
| Fires 7 Missiles, Including Long-Range Taepodong-2         | 7/15/2006  | Jul-06 | 1,236.20         | 16%               | 26%                | -25%               | 6%   | 111%                  |
| First Nuclear Weapons Test at Underground Facility         | 10/15/2006 | Oct-06 | 1,365.62         | 6%                | 13%                | -20%               | -10% | 91%                   |
| Scraps All Military and Political Deals with South Korea   | 1/15/2009  | Jan-09 | 843.74           | 11%               | 35%                | 53%                | 119% | 209%                  |
| Sinks South Korean Warship Cheonan                         | 1/15/2010  | Mar-10 | 1,136.03         | -3%               | 14%                | 30%                | 75%  | 129%                  |
| Claims it has Missiles that Can Hit the U.S. Mainland      | 10/15/2012 | Oct-12 | 1,440.13         | 8%                | 18%                | 41%                | 77%  | 81%                   |
| Fires Two Medium-Range Rodong Ballistic Missiles           | 3/15/2014  | Mar-14 | 1,841.13         | 8%                | 12%                | 30%                |      | 41%                   |
| Announces First Hydrogen Bomb Test                         | 1/15/2016  | Jan-16 | 1,880.33         | 15%               | 21%                |                    |      | 39%                   |
| Kim Jong-Un's Half Brother Murdered in Malaysia            | 2/15/2017  | Feb-17 | 2,349.25         | 5%                | 16%                |                    |      | 11%                   |
| North Korean threat to fire ballistic missiles near Guam   | 8/8/2017   | Aug-17 | 2,473.92         | 4%                |                    |                    |      | 5%                    |
| Price Changes Only - Does Not Include Dividends            |            |        | Averages:        | 5%                | 15%                | 29%                | 53%  | 986%                  |
| As of 4.6.18. Source: Al Frank using Bloomberg and BBC.com |            |        |                  |                   |                    |                    |      |                       |

Of course, while there are never any guarantees that cooler heads will always prevail or that every frightening event will be one in which investors wish they had been buying rather than selling, time has healed and then some all major wounds thus far, both pre-Financial Crisis...



| Event                              | Reac        | tion Dates | <b>Start Value</b> | <b>End Value</b> | Gain/Loss | Later | Later | Later | thru Present |
|------------------------------------|-------------|------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|
| Pearl Harbor                       | 12/6/1941   | 12/10/1941 | 9.32               | 8.68             | -7%       | 8%    | 51%   | 76%   | 298029       |
| Truman Upset Victory               | 11/2/1948   | 11/10/1948 | 16.70              | 15.00            | -10%      | 8%    | 52%   | 62%   | 169679       |
| Korean War                         | 6/23/1950   | 7/13/1950  | 19.14              | 16.69            | -13%      | 32%   | 45%   | 153%  | 14903%       |
| Eisenhower Heart Attack            | 9/23/1955   | 9/26/1955  | 45.63              | 42.61            | -7%       | 8%    | 17%   | 25%   | 58649        |
| Sputnik                            | 10/3/1957   | 10/22/1957 | 43.14              | 38.98            | -10%      | 31%   | 37%   | 41%   | 63449        |
| Cuban Missile Crisis               | 8/23/1962   | 10/23/1962 | 59.70              | 53.49            | -10%      | 36%   | 72%   | 78%   | 45749        |
| JFK Assassination                  | 11/21/1963  | 11/22/1963 | 71.62              | 69.61            | -3%       | 24%   | 14%   | 53%   | 3505%        |
| Kent State Shootings               | 5/4/1970    | 5/14/1970  | 79.00              | 75.44            | -5%       | 35%   | 40%   | 22%   | 34439        |
| Arab Oil Embargo                   | 10/18/1973  | 12/5/1973  | 110.01             | 92.16            | -16%      | -28%  | 12%   | 6%    | 26129        |
| Nixon Resigns                      | 8/9/1974    | 8/29/1974  | 80.86              | 69.99            | -13%      | 24%   | 38%   | 56%   | 36929        |
| U.S.S.R. in Afghanistan            | 12/24/1979  | 1/3/1980   | 107.66             | 105.22           | -2%       | 30%   | 31%   | 56%   | 22889        |
| Hunt Silver Crisis                 | 2/13/1980   | 3/27/1980  | 118.44             | 98.22            | -17%      | 37%   | 55%   | 83%   | 24369        |
| Falkland Islands War               | 4/1/1982    | 5/7/1982   | 113.79             | 119.47           | 5%        | 39%   | 51%   | 147%  | 21039        |
| U.S. Invades Grenada               | 10/24/1983  | 11/7/1983  | 165.99             | 161.91           | -2%       | 4%    | 52%   | 69%   | 1466%        |
| U.S. Bombs Libya                   | 4/15/1986   | 4/21/1986  | 237.73             | 244.74           | 3%        | 20%   | 27%   | 57%   | 975%         |
| Crash of '87                       | 10/2/1987   | 10/19/1987 | 328.07             | 224.84           | -31%      | 23%   | 39%   | 85%   | 9499         |
| Gulf War Ultimatum                 | 12/24/1990  | 1/16/1991  | 329.90             | 316.17           | -4%       | 32%   | 50%   | 92%   | 693%         |
| Gorbachev Coup                     | 8/16/1991   | 8/19/1991  | 385.58             | 376.47           | -2%       | 11%   | 23%   | 77%   | 5619         |
| ERM U.K. Currency Crisis           | 9/14/1992   | 10/16/1992 | 425.27             | 411.73           | -3%       | 14%   | 42%   | 132%  | 528%         |
| World Trade Center Bombing         | 2/26/1993   | 2/27/1993  | 443.38             | 443.38           | 0%        | 5%    | 46%   | 137%  | 4849         |
| Russia Mexico Orange County        | 10/11/1994  | 12/20/1994 | 465.79             | 457.10           | -2%       | 33%   | 107%  | 210%  | 4669         |
| Oklahoma City Bombing              | 4/19/1995   | 4/20/1999  | 504.92             | 505.29           | 0%        | 28%   | 122%  | 184%  | 408%         |
| Asian Stock Market Crisis          | 10/7/1997   | 10/27/1997 | 983.12             | 876.99           | -11%      | 21%   | 57%   | 2%    | 1859         |
| Russian LTCM Crisis                | 8/18/1998   | 10/8/1998  | 1,101.20           | 959.44           | -13%      | 39%   | 11%   | 8%    | 159%         |
| Clinton Impeachment Proceedings    | 12/19/1998  | 2/12/1999  | 1,188.03           | 1,230.13         | 4%        | 13%   | -10%  | -6%   | 1109         |
| USS Cole Yemen Bombings            | 10/11/2000  | 10/18/2000 | 1,364.59           | 1,342.13         | -2%       | -20%  | -23%  | -12%  | 869          |
| September 11 Attacks               | 9/10/2001   | 9/21/2001  | 1,092.54           | 965.80           | -12%      | -12%  | 17%   | 36%   | 1569         |
| Iraq War                           | 3/19/2003   | 5/1/2003   | 874.02             | 916.30           | 5%        | 21%   | 42%   | 54%   | 180%         |
| Madrid Terrorist Attacks           | 3/10/2004   | 3/24/2004  | 1,123.89           | 1,091.33         | -3%       | 7%    | 32%   | -26%  | 1319         |
| London Train Bombing               | 7/6/2005    | 7/7/2009   | 1,194.94           | 1,197.87         | 0%        | 6%    | 5%    | -11%  | 1139         |
| 2008 Market Crash                  | 9/15/2008   | 3/9/2009   | 1,192.70           | 676.53           | -43%      | 69%   | 103%  | 178%  | 2449         |
| Price Changes Only - Does Not Incl | uda Dhildan | de         |                    | Averages:        | -7%       | 19%   | 41%   | 68%   | 3433%        |

plenty of
disconcerting
events, including a
Presidential
Resignation and an
Impeachment, but
those who have
stayed the course,
sticking with their
long-term
investment plans,
have nearly always
been rewarded in
the fullness of time.

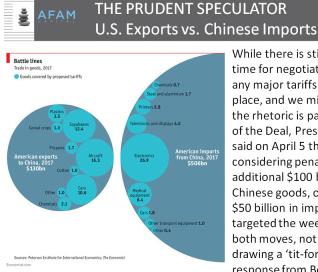
...and post-Financial Crisis, noting that the three charts referenced here show only price appreciation. The inclusion of dividends and their reinvestment would result in far larger gains.



Memories tend to fade over time, but since the end of the nasty Financial Crisis Bear Market in March 2009, there have been more than a few frightening events, yet stocks have still managed to move higher.

|                               |                  | S&P              | 3 Months | 6 Months | 12 Months | 36 Months | <b>60 Months</b> | Event        |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|--------------|
| Event                         | Date             | <b>End Value</b> | Later    | Later    | Later     | Later     | Later            | thru Present |
| Flash Crash                   | 5/6/2010         | 1,128.15         | -1%      | 9%       | 19%       | 43%       | 84%              | 131%         |
| Japan Tsunami                 | 3/11/2011        | 1,304.28         | -3%      | -12%     | 5%        | 43%       | 55%              | 100%         |
| S&P Downgrade                 | 8/6/2011         | 1,199.38         | 4%       | 12%      | 16%       | 60%       | 82%              | 117%         |
| Hurricane Sandy               | 10/22/2012       | 1,433.82         | 4%       | 9%       | 22%       | 43%       | 80%              | 82%          |
| Fiscal Cliff                  | 1/1/2013         | 1,426.19         | 10%      | 13%      | 30%       | 43%       |                  | 83%          |
| Taper Tantrum                 | 5/22/2013        | 1,655.35         | 0%       | 9%       | 14%       | 24%       |                  | 57%          |
| Russia and Ukraine            | 2/20/2014        | 1,839.78         | 2%       | 8%       | 15%       | 28%       |                  | 42%          |
| Ebola Scare                   | 9/4/2014         | 1,997.65         | 4%       | 5%       | -4%       | 24%       |                  | 30%          |
| Charlie Hebdo                 | 1/7/2015         | 2,025.90         | 2%       | 3%       | -4%       |           |                  | 29%          |
| Greek Default                 | 6/30/2015        | 2,063.11         | -7%      | 0%       | 2%        |           |                  | 26%          |
| China Devalues Yuan           | 8/10/2015        | 2,104.18         | -1%      | -12%     | 3%        |           |                  | 24%          |
| Paris Bataclan                | 12/13/2015       | 2,012.37         | 0%       | 3%       | 13%       |           |                  | 29%          |
| U.S. Interest Rate Hike       | 12/16/2015       | 2,073.07         | -2%      | 0%       | 9%        |           |                  | 26%          |
| China GDP Slowing             | 1/19/2016        | 1,881.33         | 12%      | 15%      | 20%       |           |                  | 38%          |
| Brexit                        | 6/23/2016        | 2,113.32         | 2%       | 7%       | 15%       |           |                  | 23%          |
| Trump Victory                 | 11/8/2016        | 2,139.56         | 7%       | 12%      | 21%       |           |                  | 22%          |
| Price Changes Only            |                  |                  |          |          |           |           |                  |              |
| Does Not Include Dividends    |                  | Averages:        | 2%       | 5%       | 12%       | 39%       | 75%              | 54%          |
| Source: Al Frank using Bloomh | era As of 4 6 18 |                  |          |          |           |           |                  |              |

No doubt, we recognize that the latest Wall Street bogeyman, a possible Trade War with China, has provided plenty of near-term investor consternation. Thus far, neither the U.S. nor the Middle Kingdom has shown any sign of backing down, with new White House chief economic adviser Larry Kudlow saying on Sunday, "Look, we have had to go in and fire a shot across the bow. China's behavior, it's 20 years now, it's more than unfair trade practices. It's illegal trading practices." Mr. Kudlow added, "So, the President is trying to get their attention again. This process may include tariffs. I can't rule that out. It may rest eventually on negotiations."



While there is still plenty of time for negotiation before any major tariffs go into place, and we might argue the rhetoric is part of the Art of the Deal, President Trump said on April 5 that he was considering penalties on an additional \$100 billion of Chinese goods, on top of the \$50 billion in imports targeted the week prior, with both moves, not surprisingly, drawing a 'tit-for-tat' response from Beijing.

Certainly, there is plenty of ball to be played before significant tariffs would go into effect, so it is not surprising to hear tough talk from both sides, with President Trump reiterating his position this weekend, "The United States hasn't had a Trade Surplus with China in 40 years. They must end unfair trade, take down barriers and charge only Reciprocal Tariffs. The U.S. is losing \$500 Billion a year, and has been losing Billions of Dollars for decades. Cannot continue!"

While we think that there will be eventual serious negotiations and a full-scale Trade War will be averted (Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin said exactly that on CBS's "Face the Nation" this weekend), the President admitted "I'm not saying there won't be a bit of pain...So we may take a hit, and you know what, ultimately were going to be much stronger for it, but it's something we ought to do."

To be sure, short-term-oriented investors are not usually interested in any near-term pain, so the knee-jerk reaction to supposed market uncertainty is to sell, even as there is never any certainty in regard to business, the economy or politics, and even as equities have proved highly rewarding in the fullness of time for those who remember that the secret to success in stocks is not to get scared out of them.

Indeed, the major market averages fell again last week, with the S&P 500 and Russell 3000 indexes dropping 1.35% and 1.33%, respectively. Happily, for the third straight week, Value managed to outperform Growth, with the Russell 3000 Value index losing "only" 1.12%, compared to a 1.53% setback for the Russell 3000 Growth index.

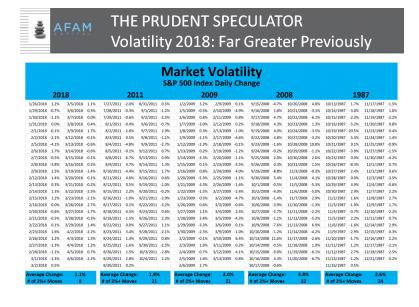
# THE PRUDENT SPECULATOR Value vs. Growth

|                  | Returns Race |               |                |             |                              |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Since<br>3.16.18 | 2018<br>YTD  | 2017          | 2016           | Bloomberg   |                              |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Return %         | Return %     | Return %      | Return %       | Symbol      | Index                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -4.03            | -2.62        | 28.11         | 16.50          | INDU Index  | Dow Jones Industrial Average |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -7.53            | 0.47         | 29.73         | 8.97           | CCMP Index  | NASDAQ Composite Index       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -5.22            | -2.04        | 21.68         | 12.04          | RIY Index   | Russell 1000 Index           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -4.50            | -1.11        | 14.63         | 21.28          | RTY Index   | Russell 2000 Index           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -5.17            | -1.97        | 21.12         | 12.72          | RAY Index   | Russell 3000 Index           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -5.30            | -2.10        | 21.82         | 11.95          | SPX Index   | S&P 500 Index                |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -5.24            | -2.68        | 18.65         | 10.67          | W5000 Index | Wilshire 5000 Total Market   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -6.17            | -0.14        | 30.21         | 7.07           | RLG Index   | Russell 1000 Growth Index    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -4.20            | -3.97        | 13.64         | 17.33          | RLV Index   | Russell 1000 Value Index     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -5.16            | 0.77         | 22.14         | 11.28          | RUO Index   | Russell 2000 Growth Index    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -3.73            | -3.14        | 7.82          | 31.72          | RUJ Index   | Russell 2000 Value Index     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -6.09            | -0.07        | 29.58         | 7.38           | RAG Index   | Russell 3000 Growth Index    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -4.16            | -3.91        | 13.17         | 18.38          | RAV Index   | Russell 3000 Value Index     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -6.54            | 0.20         | 27.43         | 6.89           | SGX Index   | S&P 500 Growth Index         |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -3.87            | -4.51        | 15.35         | 17.39          | SVX Index   | S&P 500 Value Index          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -7.04            | 2.38         | 26.76         | 4.22           | SPXPG Index | S&P 500 Pure Growth Index    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -3.79            | -2.55        | 17.73         | 19.62          | SPXPV Index | S&P 500 Pure Value Index     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                  |              | Source: Bloon | nberg. As of 4 | .6.18       |                              |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

After winning the returns race in 2016, Value has struggled versus Growth, though the last three weeks have been a different story. Of course, generating less red ink, and still losing 4% or so, is nothing to write home about, but history shows that Value has outperformed Growth by a score of 13.4% to 9.5% per annum since 1927.

The daily gyrations the past five trading sessions were elevated, with the Dow Jones Industrial Average skidding 459 points on Monday, rebounding 389 points on Tuesday, jumping 231 points and 241 points on Wednesday and Thursday, respectively, and plunging 572 points on Friday. Not surprisingly, the volatility brought out plenty of superlatives from market pundits, with legendary Vanguard founder John Bogle proclaiming, "I have never seen a market this volatile to this extent in my career. Now that's only 66 years, so I shouldn't make too much about it, but you're right: I've seen two 50-percent declines, I've seen a 25-percent decline in one day and I've never seen anything like this before."

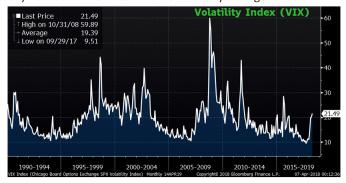
Alas, Mr. Bogle seems to have misremembered his market history as stocks were far more volatile (in terms of the magnitude of the average daily moves and the number of days with 2%+ changes) than the current 49-day (since the January 26, 2018 peak) stretch back in 2011, 2009, 2008 and 1987, to name a few of the obvious periods.



And the widely followed Volatility Index (VIX) also confirms that the current investing climate is a long way from being extreme.



Believe it or not, despite some prominent market pundits suggesting otherwise, given the big moves of late in the equity markets, the Chicago Board Options Exchange S&P 500 Volatility Index (VIX) is actually not too far from its historical monthly average.



That is not to minimize the red ink that has been endured of late, but the decline is hardly out of the ordinary, given that a 10% correction has occurred more than once a year on average.



Selloffs, downturns, pullbacks, corrections and even Bear Markets are events that equity investors always have had to endure on their way to the best long-term performance of any of the financial asset classes.

|                   |                  | Adv               | ancing    | Markets                 |                     |                 | LONG-1   | TERM RETURN   | IS                           |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--|---|------------------------------|
| Minimum<br>Rise % | Average<br>Gain  | Average<br># Days | Count     | Frequency<br>(in Years) | Last Start          | Last End        |  |   |                              |
| 20.0%             | 107.6%           | 907               | 26        | 3.5                     | 3/9/2009            | 1/26/2018       |  | Annualized Return   | Standard Deviation           |
| 17.5%             | 67.4%            | 579               | 37        | 2.4                     | 10/3/2011           | 1/26/2018       |  |   |                              |
| 15.0%             | 67.1%            | 562               | 43        | 2.1                     | 10/3/2011           | 1/26/2018       | Value Stocks                                       | 13.4%   | 26.0%                        |
| 12.5%             | 44.0%            | 331               | 70        | 1.3                     | 2/11/2016           | 1/26/2018       | Growth Stocks                                      | 9.5%  | 21.4%                        |
| 10.0%             | 35.2%            | 249               | 103       | 0.9                     | 2/11/2016           | 1/26/2018       |  |   |                              |
| 7.5%              | 23.3%            | 146               | 153       | 0.6                     | 2/8/2018            | 3/9/2018        | Dividend Paying Stocks                             | 10.6%   | 18.1%                        |
| 5.0%              | 14.7%            | 72                | 295       | 0.3                     | 2/8/2018            | 3/9/2018        | Non-Dividend Paying Stocks                         | 8.8%  | 29.6%                        |
|                   |                  | Dec               | clinina   | Markets                 |                     |                 | Long-Term Corporate Bonds                          | 6.0%  | 7.5%                         |
| Minimum           | Average          | Average           |           | Frequency               |                     |                 | Long-Term Gov't Bonds                              | 5.4%  | 8.5%                         |
| Decline %         | Loss             | #Days             | Count     | (in Years)              | Last Start          | Last End        | Intermediate Gov't Bonds                           | 5.1%  | 4.4%                         |
| -20.0%            | -34.3%           | 371               | 25        | 3.5                     | 1/6/2009            | 3/9/2009        | T P.III-   | 2.40/   | 0.9%                         |
| -17.5%            | -30.6%           | 225               | 36        | 2.5                     | 4/29/2011           | 10/3/2011       | Treasury Bills                                     | 3.4%  | 0.9%                         |
| -15.0%            | -28.5%           | 195               | 42        | 2.1                     | 4/29/2011           | 10/3/2011       | Inflation  | 3.0%  | 1.8%                         |
| -12.5%<br>-10.0%  | -22.7%<br>-19.2% | 140               | 69<br>103 | 1.3                     | 5/21/2015           | 2/11/2016       | From 06.30,27 through 02.28.18. Growth stocks      | = 50% small growth and 50% las                                    | na growth returns rebalanced |
| -7.5%             | -15.4%           | 65                | 152       | 0.9                     | 1/26/2018           | 2/8/2018        | monthly. Value stocks = 50% small value and 509    |   |                              |
|                   | -10.9%           | 37                | 295       | 0.6                     | 3/9/2018            | 4/2/2018        | top of dividend payers, 40% of middle dividend pa  |   |                              |
|                   | -10.576          | - 31              | 250       | 0.4                     | 3/3/2010            | 4/2/2010        | Non-dividend payers = stocks that do not pay a div |   |                              |
| -5.0%             |                  |                   | n Ma dati | part a Declinion        | Market as an instar | one when stocks | Associates SBBI US LT Corp Total Return index. L   | ong term government bonds repre-<br>term government bonds represe |                              |

We don't want to sound cavalier, but we like what Jamie Dimon, CEO of **JPMorgan Chase** (JPM – \$109.09) had to say last week in the financial giant's Annual Letter to Shareholders:

We are always prepared for volatility and rapidly moving markets – they should surprise no one. I am a little perplexed when people are surprised by large market moves. Oftentimes, it takes only an unexpected supply/demand imbalance of a few percent and changing sentiment to dramatically move markets. We have seen that condition occur recently in oil, but I have also

seen it multiple times in my career in cotton, corn, aluminum, soybeans, chicken, beef, copper, iron — you get the point. Each industry or commodity has continually changing supply and demand, different investment horizons to add or subtract supply, varying marginal and fixed costs, and different inventory and supply lines. In all cases, extreme volatility can be created by slightly changing factors...It is fundamentally the same for stocks, bonds, and interest rates and currencies. Changing expectations, whether around inflation, growth or recession (yes, there will be another recession — we just don't know when), supply and demand, sentiment and other factors, can cause drastic volatility.

And speaking of recession, we do find it interesting that a few economists are warning that a big downturn is around the corner, especially given Friday's comments from Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell on Recent Developments and the State of the Economy...

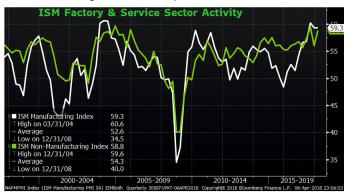
After what at times has been a slow recovery from the financial crisis and the Great Recession, growth has picked up. Unemployment has fallen from 10 percent at its peak in October 2009 to 4.1 percent, the lowest level in nearly two decades. Seventeen million jobs have been created in this expansion, and the monthly pace of job growth remains more than sufficient to employ new entrants to the labor force. The labor market has been strong, and my colleagues and I on the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) expect it to remain strong. Inflation has continued to run below the FOMC's 2 percent objective but we expect it to move up in coming months and to stabilize around 2 percent over the medium term.

Beyond the labor market, there are other signs of economic strength. Steady income gains, rising household wealth, and elevated consumer confidence continue to support consumer spending, which accounts for about two thirds of economic output. Business investment improved markedly last year following two subpar years, and both business surveys and profit expectations point to further gains ahead. Fiscal stimulus and continued accommodative financial conditions are supporting both household spending and business investment, while strong global growth has boosted U.S. exports.

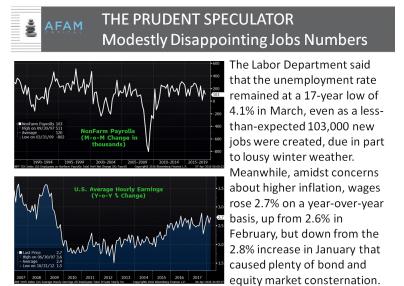
Of course, the Fed is always data dependent and a Trade War would have to weigh on the thinking, but recent economic data has generally been supportive of a positive outlook,...



Both the Institute for Supply Management's Manufacturing and Non-Manufacturing indexes now stand near all-time highs, suggesting that domestic economic growth is healthy.

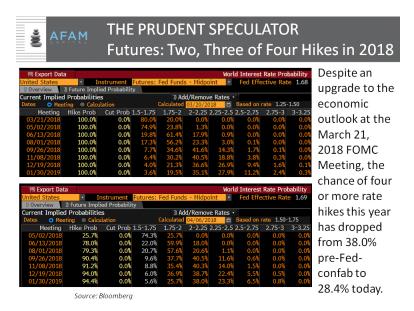


...even as the latest read on the labor market was not as upbeat as expected,...



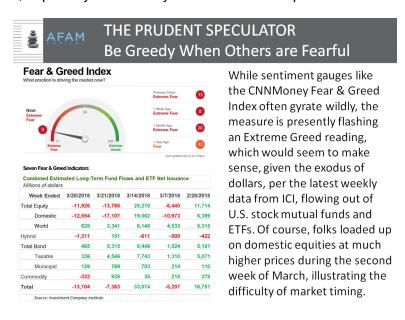
...and the likelihood of three more rate hikes this year in the Federal Funds rate has come down somewhat,...

#### the Prudent Speculator



...which isn't a bad thing given that the market swoon in February was caused in large part by the fear that interest rates would rise too quickly.

And with rates remaining low by historical standards and the outlook for corporate profit growth continuing to be robust, especially given the benefits of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, we can't help but maintain our long-term optimism for the prospects of our broadly diversified portfolios of undervalued stocks, especially as so many investors are now pessimistic!



#### **Stock Updates**

We will be making our newsletter portfolio purchases for April today. In addition to the names highlighted in *TPS 618*, those looking to take advantage of the 2018 pullback might want to consider the undervalued stocks that were hit hardest last week.



| Symbol | Common Stock              | Latest<br>WTD<br>TR % | 2018<br>YTD<br>TR % | 4.6.18<br>Price | Target<br>Price | ariff Talk Shop          | P/E  |     | P/TBVE | EV/<br>BITDA | FCF<br>Yld | Debt/<br>TE (%) | Div<br>Yld | Mkt<br>Cap |
|--------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|------|-----|--------|--------------|------------|-----------------|------------|------------|
| ABT    | Abbott Labs               | -3.9                  | 1.4                 | \$57.57         | \$68.19         | Health Care Equipment    | 23.0 | 3.7 | nmf    | 21.0         | 4.4        | nmf             | 1.9%       | 100,53     |
| ARII   | American Railcar          | -3.0                  | -11.9               | \$36.30         | \$52.98         | Capital Goods            | 19.8 | 1.5 | 1.1    | 8.2          | -5.7       | 79%             | 4.4%       | 69         |
| AVX    | AVX Corp                  | -2.8                  | -6.4                | \$16.08         | \$20.05         | Technology Hardware      | 19.8 | 1.9 | 1.4    | 7.5          | 4.1        | 0%              | 2.9%       | 2,70       |
| BIIB   | Biogen                    | -5.9                  | -19.1               | \$257.65        | \$445.68        | Pharmaceuticals, Biotech | 11.8 | 4.4 | 13.3   | 8.4          | 6.8        | 145%            | 0.0%       | 54,50      |
| CAT    | Caterpillar               | -3.0                  | -8.8                | \$142.99        | \$174.30        | Capital Goods            | 20.8 | 1.9 | 15.9   | 11.8         | 4.0        | 443%            | 2.2%       | 85,45      |
| CMI    | Cummins Inc               | -2.6                  | -10.0               | \$157.90        | \$195.56        | Capital Goods            | 14.9 | 1.3 | 5.0    | 9.3          | 6.7        | 31%             | 2.7%       | 26,06      |
| csco   | Cisco Systems             | -4.3                  | 8.0                 | \$40.73         | \$48.65         | Technology Hardware      | 16.6 | 4.1 | 10.3   | 11.3         | 6.8        | 134%            | 3.2%       | 196,21     |
| DAL    | Delta Air Lines           | -3.2                  | -4.7                | \$53.05         | \$75.16         | Transportation           | 10.7 | 0.9 | nmf    | 5.2          | 3.3        | nmf             | 2.3%       | 37,50      |
| DE     | Deere & Co                | -6.4                  | -6.7                | \$145.39        | \$177.28        | Capital Goods            | 21.3 | 1.5 | 5.9    | 8.4          | -2.0       | 330%            | 1.7%       | 47,07      |
| ETN    | Eaton Corp PLC            | -4.9                  | -3.1                | \$75.97         | \$92.10         | Capital Goods            | 16.3 | 1.6 | nmf    | 11.7         | 6.4        | nmf             | 3.2%       | 33,2       |
| GILD   | Gilead Sciences           | -2.6                  | 3.2                 | \$73.41         | \$127.45        | Pharmaceuticals, Biotech | 8.3  | 3.7 | nmf    | 6.0          | 11.8       | nmf             | 3.1%       | 95,7       |
| GLW    | Corning                   | -4.8                  | -16.5               | \$26.55         | \$41.75         | Technology Hardware      | 15.3 | 2.2 | 2.1    | 9.2          | 0.9        | 44%             | 2.3%       | 22,5       |
| INTC   | Intel                     | -6.3                  | 6.4                 | \$48.79         | \$55.20         | Semiconductors           | 14.1 | 3.6 | 7.0    | 9.1          | 4.5        | 76%             | 2.5%       | 228,2      |
| IBL    | Jabil Inc                 | -2.7                  | 6.8                 | \$27.95         | \$43.86         | Technology Hardware      | 11.6 | 0.2 | 3.5    | 5.1          | 5.3        | 161%            | 1.1%       | 4,7        |
| MAN    | ManpowerGroup             | -3.8                  | -12.2               | \$110.78        | \$145.25        | Professsional Services   | 15.9 | 0.3 | 6.4    | 8.8          | 4.7        | 42%             | 1.7%       | 7,3        |
| MDT    | Medtronic PLC             | -3.2                  | -3.3                | \$77.64         | \$101.22        | Health Care Equipment    | 16.6 | 3.5 | nmf    | 13.2         | 4.1        | nmf             | 2.4%       | 105,23     |
| NSC    | Norfolk Southern          | -4.7                  | -10.3               | \$129.36        | \$166.23        | Transportation           | 19.9 | 3.5 | 2.2    | 9.9          | 4.1        | 56%             | 2.2%       | 36,6       |
| осом   | Qualcomm                  | -4.1                  | -16.3               | \$53.12         | \$73.87         | Semiconductors           | 13.1 | 3.5 | 5.7    | 18.3         | 5.5        | 141%            | 4.7%       | 78,6       |
| STX    | Seagate Tech              | -3.2                  | 36.7                | \$56.62         | \$66.12         | Technology Hardware      | 13.5 | 1.5 | nmf    | 10.1         | 8.3        | nmf             | 4.5%       | 16,12      |
| TRN    | <b>Trinity Industries</b> | -3.0                  | -15.2               | \$31.65         | \$40.23         | Capital Goods            | 21.2 | 1.3 | 1.3    | 8.6          | 1.0        | 87%             | 1.6%       | 4,75       |
| TSN    | Tyson Foods               | -4.2                  | -13.2               | \$70.11         | \$89.81         | Food                     | 12.7 | 0.7 | nmf    | 10.1         | 5.6        | nmf             | 1.7%       | 28,0       |
| WBA    | Walgreens Boots           | -3.1                  | -12.1               | \$63.47         | \$116.19        | Food & Staples Retailing | 11.2 | 0.5 | nmf    | 10.4         | 8.6        | nmf             | 2.5%       | 62,9       |
| WHR    | Whirlpool                 | -3.0                  | -11.3               | \$148.52        | \$230.49        | Consumer Durables        | 10.8 | 0.5 | nmf    | 8.6          | 5.6        | nmf             | 3.0%       | 10,49      |
| WSM    | Williams-Sonoma           | -4.7                  | -2.0                | \$50.30         | \$74.01         | Retailing                | 13.8 | 0.8 | 3.5    | 6.4          | 7.4        | 25%             | 3.4%       | 4,1        |
| ZBH    | Zimmer Biomet             | -3.5                  | -12.6               | \$105.18        | \$170.60        | Health Care Equipment    | 13.1 | 2.7 | nmf    | 16.6         | 5.1        | nmf             | 0.9%       | 21.3       |

One of those companies was in the news last week and Chris Quigley takes a look...Chip giant **Intel** (INTC – \$48.79) plunged as much as 9% last Monday, after a Bloomberg report surfaced that **Apple** (AAPL – \$168.38) may switch away from Intel chips in its Mac products beginning in 2020. Intel chips have not been in Apple products forever, first appearing in MacBook laptops and in Mac desktops beginning in 2006. Nor are they a giant portion of Intel's business: Apple currently makes up 4% of Intel's total revenue and less than 1% of profit, according to Stifel Nicolaus & Co analyst Kevin Cassidy.

We think that the market's reaction to the report, which was still unconfirmed by both Intel and Apple at the time of this Market Commentary's publishing, was unnecessarily panicked. For Apple, a processor and architecture transition has happened on more than one occasion. The Apple II used a MOS Technology 6502 processor, while its replacement, the Macintosh, was released with Motorola 68000 models. Even after Apple changed to PowerPC processors, it struggled to regain market share lost to Windows-based PCs until it released models with Intel Core family processors in 2006. Macs with Intel processors have been solid and generally well-regarded, but given Apple's penchant for taking design in-house, we were hardly shocked when we saw the Bloomberg news. In all instances, Apple had been working on replacement processors and code for many years, each time making big jumps in ability which translated to a better product to fight against other PC manufacturers. For Intel, it represents a small loss (as a percentage) and is surely something the company will have seen coming, if/when Apple chooses to go in a different direction.

We think that the sell-off for Intel was overdone and should not have been such a big deal, at least from a stock price standpoint, though we did pare our Target Price for INTC to \$55, owing mainly to the fact that it is larger holding in our portfolios and we might consider trimming our position were the shares to rebound smartly. We remains fans of both Apple and Intel, and think that ultimately customers win when Apple puts the best processors it can find (or create) in its computers.

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