3/09/18 Market back in UPTREND: Nasdaq's THIRD Accumulation day PLUS...Friday

Volume 17 #047

ARMCHAIR INVESTOR (SM) MORNING MARKET NEWSLETTER

A TREND-FOLLOWING STRATEGY



Join me at the Fort Worth IBD Meetup on Thursday 3/15 6:45 – 8:45 p.m. at Ol'South Pancake House. Register at Fort Worth IBD Meetup Call me if I can answer any questions for you.

If this newsletter ever does not suit your needs, you may cancel your subscription here: Unsubscribe | Change Subscriber Options

Sunday, 3/11 is the last day to try MarketSmith for free. You could visit MS to copy a weekly and daily page for each of your stocks, including IBD Ratings and base counts. It would be a good reference. The little "Chart Legend" in the lower left corners defines all the MS terms.

MARKET DIAGNOSIS: UPTREND

FRIDAY: A THIRD ACCUMULATION DAY IN A ROW with confirming indicators moves the market diagnosis to UPTREND! Why did we have 3 strong days? We'll never know for sure but some positive news helped.

- The February employment numbers were 50% higher than expected.
- The Nasdaq finally closed above 7500.
- The Nasdaq is under heavy accumulation its Accumulation/ Distribution rating rose from the worst "E" rating (heavy distribution) to C+ in just 6 trading days. It takes a lot of buying to create that change so quickly.
- In Investor's Business Daily's **175 of its 197 industry groups were up** on Friday.

It's a new Uptrend - Here we go!!!! (In Texas that's, "Giddiyap!")

If you are a trend-following investor, it is time to start investing. Accumulation days in the major indexes show signs of heavy institutional

buying which happens when the money managers believe the market is going up!

To capture the general market rise, you could:

• **Buy the QQQ**, an ETF that is designed to move up and down with the Nasdaq100.

 Buy a double ETF (QLD) or triple ETF (TQQQ) designed to double or triple the gains and losses of the Nasdaq100.

If you buy individual stocks to outperform the market:

 Buy stocks with strong ratings and size that are breaking out of proper bases with volume support. Download the FULL newsletter below. Go to the FOR INVESTORS IN INDIVIDUAL STOCKS near the end of this newsletter for more details and a follow-up on LGND'S successful breakout. (LGND is in a buy range now!)

Since the market's Follow-through on Valentine's Day:

- The Nasdaq has risen 5.0%
- The S&P500 has risen 2.7%

Please note that since the F-T day, the DJIA has risen only 0.8%. One of the reasons I do <u>not</u> use the DJIA for my trend-following investing is that, overall, the DJIA under-performs the S&P500 and Nasdaq.

If you follow the trend-following rules of this newsletter, history says you will significantly outperform the market.

THE ARMCHAIR INVESTOR strategy is SIMPLE. Please sit cross-legged and chant with me:

- Be in the market when it is going up.
- Be out of the market when it is going down.
- Protect yourself with an 8% stop.

And "out of the market" includes going short in a downtrend, if you are willing and able to do so.

Be sure your stops are in.

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DAILY MARKET ACTION							
3/9/18	Index Close	Index % Change	Volume % Change	Accumulation or Distribution Day?	Current Trend Gains: UPTREND 2/14/2018		
Nasdaq	7,560.81	+1.8%	+0.8%	+6.9%	Major Accumulation	+5.0%	
S&P500	2,786.57	+1.7%	NYSE Volume		Major Accumulation	+2.7%	
NYSE	12,918.82	+1.4%	+4.3%	-8.1%	Major Accumulation	+0.8%	
DJIA	25,335.74	+1.8%	-0.176		Major Accumulation	+1.1%	

A Major Accumulation Day: Price RISES 1.0% or more and higher Volume than the day before A Minor accumulation Day: Price RISES 0.2% or more and Volume is strong (either higher e or is well-above average volume)

<u>Current Trend Gains</u> show the gains in these indexes if you bought each at the opening price on the day after the recent trend changed.

REMEMBER:

THE MARKET CONTINUES IN THE DIRECTION IT'S GOING UNTIL IT DOESN'T.

The Uptrend ETFs are still positive since the last change in market direction from Downtrend to Uptrend on February 14 (see table below).

Another piece of evidence illustrating how the Nasdaq out-performs the S&P500 and DJIA:

HOW CLOSE ARE THE INDEXES TO ALL-TIME HIGHS?								
3/9/2018 Nasdaq S&P500 NYSE DJIA								
Date of Index All-time High	1/26/2018	1/26/2018	1/26/2018	1/9/2018				
All-time High	7505.77	2872.87	13637.02	26616.71				
Current Price	7560.81	2786.57	12918.82	25335.74				
Below (-) or Above (+) Recent High (%)	+0.7%	-3.0%	-5.3%	-4.8%				
Below (-) or Above (+) Recent High (#)	+55.04	-86.30	-718.20	-1280.97				

PROGRESS IN ACCUMULATION/DISTRIBUTION RATINGS									
	A B C D E Total								
4 weeks ago	2/8	6%	31%	25%	26%	13%	6476		
3 weeks ago	2/15	7%	32%	23%	24%	13%	6487		
2 weeks ago	2/23	8%	32%	23%	24%	13%	6490		
1 week ago	3/2	7%	27%	22%	28%	16%	6493		
Today	3/9	9%	33%	22%	24%	12%			
	#	598	2124	1425	1589	780	6516		

Note: The Accumulation/Distribution ratings are calculated overnight & reported one day delayed. "2 weeks ago" is 10 market days ago; "4 weeks ago" is 20. The ratings which are higher than two weeks prior are colored light GREEN.

Those lower are PINK.

Uptrend ETFs	ARMCHAIR INVESTOR TREND-FOLLOWING RETURNS FOR CURRENT UPTREND					
3/9/18	Opening Price on 2/15/2018 Today's Price		ETF % Change Today	PROFIT/LOSS from 2/14/18 Signal: "Market in UPtrend"		
QQQ (1x)	\$164.14	\$173.16	+2.0%	+5.5%		
QLD (2x)	\$80.57	\$89.30	+3.8%	+10.8%		
TQQQ (3x)	\$158.00	\$183.73	+5.8%	+16.3%		

The ETF QQQ is designed to move WITH the largest 100 stocks on the Nasdaq. QLD is designed to double the price move of the QQQ. The TQQQ is a more volatile Visit Proshares.com for more information.

MARKET ACTION 2018 YEAR-TO-DATE								
3/9/18 2017 Closing Price Current Price Index % Change Year to-Date								
Nasdaq	6903.39	7560.81	+9.5%					
S&P 500	2673.61	2786.57	+4.2%					
NYSE Comp	12,808.84	12,918.82	+0.9%					
DJIA	24,719.22	25,335.74	+2.5%					

This yearly table is included for your reference. These returns have little relevance to trend-following returns since trend-followers do not hold during "Downtrends" and may lighten their holdings during "Uptrends under Pressure."

LAST WEEK'S MARKET ACTION							
3/9/2018	Weekly Index % Change						
Nasdaq	+4.2%	-2.2%	+6.0%	Neither			
S&P 500	+3.5%	S&P 500	Volume	Neither			
NYSE	+2.9%	-14.0%	-5.0%	Neither			
DJIA	+3.3%			Neither			

The "TYPEs OF WEEK" are: .

EEK Price RISES 0.2% or more and Volume RISES ACCUMULATION WEEK DISTRIBUTION WEEK Price FALLS 0.2% or more and Volume RISES

Another type of DISTRIBUTION(*): WEEK Price FALLS 0.2% or more & Volume is 15% or more above average even without an increase in volume.

The NYSE volume is used for the S&P500 and NYSE Composite.









The above charts are from **StockCharts.com**, a valuable site for investors with **many free tools**. On the **daily charts**: The **price 20-day**, **50-day** and **200-day moving averages** are shown. If you don't see the 200-day price moving average, it is too far away from the price bars to show. But stay tuned – it will appear on these charts when the market direction changes. Also, the **volume 50-day moving average** is shown.

On the weekly charts: The price 10-week & 40-week moving averages and the 10-week volume moving average is shown.

MARKET FACTORS, COUNTS & RA	ATING	SS	3/9/2018	
Type of DAY for Nasdag Accumulation, Distribution or Neither		Major Accumulation		
Market Direction Uptrend, Under Pressure, Downtrend, or Attempted Uptrend		UPTR	END	
ALL Nasdaq Accumulation & Distribution Days		Accumulation Days	Distribution Days	
20-day count of NASDAQ Accumulation & Distribution days		5	4	
This field is designed to count ONLY Major Distribution days of 1% drop or more more volatile markets, this field will have larger counts.	e. In			
Count of Up Days and Down Days		Up Days	Down Days	
(10-days on the Nasdaq)		7	3	
The Nasdaq moved an insignificant amount (less than 0.2%) on 7/28, 8/2, 8/8. Those days are not included in the Up/Down count which does not, theref add up to 10 days.	4 & ore,			
Leaders Up/Down with High Volume 10-day ratio		1.	6	
This indicator looks at leading stocks (high RS) and is, thus, biased to the ups Uptrend indicator: 1.5 or higher. Neutral: 1.0 to 1.49. Downtrend: less than				
Market Accumulation/Distribution Ratings		Nasdaq	C+	
"A": heavy accumulation, "B": moderate accumulation, "C": neutral, moderate distribution, "E": heavy distribution.	"D":	S&P 500	E	
Accumulation = Institutions are BUYING, Distribution = Inst are SELL	NG	DJIA	E	
Are Major Indexes Above or Below Moving Averages?		50-Day	200-Day	
Na	sdaq	Above	Above	
"At" is within 1% above or below the moving average.	500	At	Above	
N	IYSE	Below	Above	
	DJIA	Below	Above	

MARKET ACTION (Nasdaq) OVER THE LAST 20 DAYS

(For a full explanation of the terms in this table see end of this newsletter)

	(1 01 0	тип охріс	Index	Volume	Current	Type of Day:	CONSISTENT
#	Date	Close	% Change	% Change	Trend Day Count	Accumulation, Distribution or Neither (—)	WITH: UPTREND or Downtrend?
				MARKE	T IN UPT	REND	
20	2/9/2018	6874.49	+1.4%	+17.4%	5	Major Accumulation day	UPTREND
19	2/12/2018	6981.96	+1.6%	-29.3%	6	I	1
18	2/13/2018	7013.51	+0.5%	-19.6%	7	_	DOWNTREND
17	2/14/2018	7143.62	+1.9%	+22.0%	1	Major Accumulation day	UPTREND
16	2/15/2018	7256.43	+1.6%	-4.0%	2	_	DOWNTREND
15	2/16/2018	7239.47	+0.2%	-4.7%	3	_	DOWNTREND
14	2/20/18	7234.31	-0.1%	-5.2%	4	1	1
13	2/21/18	7218.23	-0.2%	+1.2%	5	Minor distribution day	DOWNTREND
12	2/22/18	7210.09	-0.1%	-1.0%	6	_	_
11	2/23/18	7337.39	+1.8%	-1.9%	7	_	DOWNTREND
10	2/26/18	7421.46	+1.2%	-1.3%	8	_	DOWNTREND
9	2/27/18	7330.35	-1.2%	+14.8%	9	Major Distribution day	DOWNTREND
8	2/28/18	7273.01	-0.8%	+10.1%	10	Minor distribution day	DOWNTREND
7	3/1/18	7180.56	-1.3%	+5.9%	11	Major Distribution day >>>Uptrend under Pressure<<	DOWNTREND
6	3/2/18	7257.87	+1.1%	-8.4%	12	_	DOWNTREND
5	3/5/18	7330.70	+1.0%	-11.9%	13	_	DOWNTREND
4	3/6/18	7370.78	+0.6%	-5.8%	14	_	DOWNTREND
3	3/7/18	7396.65	+0.3%	+3.0%	15	Minor accumulation day	UPTREND
2	3/8/18	7427.95	+0.4%	+6.0%	16	Minor accumulation day	UPTREND
1	3/9/18	7560.81	+1.8%	+0.8%	17	Major Accumulation day >>>UPTREND<<<	UPTREND
	The CUF	RENT TREM	ND column	colors: Greer	n: Uptrend.	Yellow: Uptrend under Pressur	e. Red: Downtrend.

FOR INVESTORS IN INDIVIDUAL STOCKS

More detailed comments on market direction and technical analysis for individual stocks

FRIDAY: A THIRD ACCUMULATION DAY IN A ROW with confirming indicators moves the market diagnosis to UPTREND!

I continue to look for individual stocks that are strong enough to buy now. I am currently pyramiding into new stocks:

- First purchase at the buy signal for 50% of intended position
- <u>Second purchase</u> when price rises 1 or 2% with confirming volume, add another 30%.
- Third and final purchase with another rising price and volume day add the final 20%.

There are few stocks with high ratings that are near breakout or add-on buy points. Buy carefully – this is not a market to compromise your standards.

Ligand Pharmaceuticals If you read Thursday's newsletter, you know Ligand LGND broke out, rising 4% with double the average volume. Nice! On Friday LGND continued up. It is still in the buy zone. Do some research on LGND. Its price is \$176 (as many respectable stocks are these days) and its volume is low - just under 300,000. Its ratings are spectacular: EPS 98, RS 93, Accumulation A+, Compositie 98. Wow!

You could use MarketSmith to print out the Weekly and daily charts for future reference.

LGND is still in its 5% buy zone (no guarantees on where it will open up tomorrow.)

Yesterday's notes that are still relevant:

Some protective strategies include:

- 1. Put in a stop loss order to automatically sell your stock if it dips too much.
- 2. Sell stocks without an 8% buffer (gain) before earnings are reported.
- 3. Buy a protective put if near earnings date or if the stock starts to show weakness (distribution, etc.).

Please talk to your broker if you are not clear on which of these strategies is right for you. Each can be tricky to implement and yield a nasty surprise if not set up correctly.

YOU ARE NOT SMARTER THAN THE MARKET

THE MARKET AND STOCKS CONTINUE IN THE DIRECTION THEY ARE GOING...... UNTIL THEY DON'T.

I am still looking for stocks to buy or signs to add to existing positions.

PROTECT YOUR PORTFOLIO WITH AN 8% STOP

And, yes. You may have chosen a tighter 7% or 6% stop. The most important aspect of this first rule is:

CHOOSE YOUR STOP & LIVE BY IT - NO EXCUSES!

And you don't <u>have</u> to wait for your stock to fall to the stop. A concentration of distribution is a good reason to get out wherever it happens!

Remember:

The market AND YOUR STOCKS continue in the direction they are going until they don't.

MARKET DIAGNOSIS: "UPTREND" under PRESSURE

What to do now:

- 1. WATCH YOUR INVESTMENTS CLOSELY: Do a quick review of each stock you own every night. Look for strength and weakness signals in the price-volume action, especially watching for distribution (signs of institutional selling)
- 2. DON'T LOSE YOUR GAINS: Sell any stock that is showing a concentration of distribution days. I sell more quickly in a Downtrend

ARMCHAIR INVESTOR WEEKLY CLASS SCHEDULE

Join us for the ARMCHAIR INVESTOR classes.

Be my guest (FREE) if you have not visited in the last six months (guest seating limited).

Please register on the Meetup site so I will have a handout for you (25 pages of articles and Link to registering for the Armchair Investor Meetup- CLICK HERE

The 2018 ARMCHAIR INVESTOR classes schedule.

Pre-register please! Schedules change! See phone number below:

Mondays 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Barnes & Noble at Royal & Preston (northeast corner), Dallas Tuesdays 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. Barnes & Noble at Royal & Preston (northeast corner), Dallas Wednesdays 10:00 am – noon, Barnes & Noble, on Beltline just east of Montfort, Addison

- Guest attendance is limited to ensure class members get their full value. -
- Be sure to call to confirm we are having a class (we are occasionally on vacation) and have an open chair.

Call or text me at 214-995-6702 to schedule your FREE visit (new visitors only) to an ARMCHAIR INVESTOR class.

TO REGISTER FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE, SINGLE SUBJECT ARMCHAIR INVESTOR WORKSHOPS OR TO VISIT AN ARMCHAIR INVESTOR CLASS:

CALL OR TEXT CHARLOTTE HUDGIN AT 214-995-6702

Wishing you "Many Happy Returns," Charlotte Hudgin, 214-995-6702, Editor, the Armchair Investor

DISCLAIMER, "Buyer Beware" WARNING:

This newsletter shares the ideas I use in my investing. It is not investing advice but should be taken as education only. Your investment decisions are your responsibility as are the results. If you are not comfortable with or do not understand a strategy completely, I recommend that you paper-trade until you are successful and can sleep at night.

Questions may be submitted to: Editor@ArmchairInvestor.com Some of your questions will be used in future newsletters.

Additional notes follow:

EXPLANATION OF TERMS FOR THE

MARKET ACTION OVER THE LAST 20 DAYS

Four weeks of price and volume action reveal much about the direction of the market and the strength of that movement.

		Price	е	V	olume
Healthy Uptrend Price-Volume	Strong Action	Up	↑	↑	Up
Movement	Weaker Action	Down	Ψ	4	Down
Healthy <u>Downtrend</u> Price-Volume-	Strong Action	Down	Ψ	1	Up
Movement	Weaker Action	Up	↑	•	Down

The chart below identifies the **market direction** indicated by the Nasdaq's price and volume action for the last 20 days at two levels of significance.

ACCUMULATION/DISTRIBUTION COLUMN - TELLS YOU WHERE THE BIG MONEY IS GOING

The listing includes: the date, Nasdaq closing price and percent change of the Nasdaq price and volume.

- The next column identifies days that were Major Accumulation (serious UPTREND indicator) or Major Distribution (serious Downtrend indicator) using the 1% minimum rise or fall with higher volume.
- Minor accumulation and minor distribution days are also identified days that moved 0.2% or more but less than 1%.

"CONSISTENT WITH" - THE SUBTLE, BUT TELLING MOVES

The last column is an UPTREND /Downtrend indicator.

Think of a healthy Uptrend. It will have many days where the index rises with increased volume.

But even in the most robust Uptrend, * not every day will be up. In any Uptrend, there will be some down days. If they have higher volume, then the day becomes a distribution day but if the volume is lighter (as frequently happens in an Uptrend), then the down day is NOT a distribution day. In fact, a drop on lighter 4747.62volume says they market is NOT selling off heavily – good news and consistent with the Uptrend.

Using the Healthy UPTREND/Downtrend price and volume movement listed above.

- For example, if the Nasdaq closing <u>price rose 0.7%</u> and the <u>volume rose 2%</u> (up and up), that movement is "consistent with" the price-volume action of a <u>Healthy</u> UPTREND.
- If the <u>price drops 0.5%</u> and the <u>volume rises 1.2%</u> (down and up), that movement is "consistent with" the price-volume action of a Healthy Downtrend as indicated in the table above.
- Any index change less than + or 0.3% or volume change less than + or 1% has no "consistent with" notation. Price and volume movements that small is not strong enough to tell us about the market movement.

EXAMPLE OF ACCUMULATION AND DISTRIBUTION WITH EXPANDED EXPLANATION OF TERMS:

Today's Market Action with explanation							
2/5/16	Index Close	Index % Change	Volume % Change	Volume vs 50-day Avg	Accumulation or Distribution Day?	Current Trend: DOWNTREND Began 1/4/2015	
Index	4363.14	-3.2%	+13.8%	+21.8%	Major Distribution	+11.3%	
S&P500	1879.92	-1.9%	NYSE '	Volume	Neither	+6.6%	
NYSE	9,390.33	-1.5%	-5.3%	+15.0%	Neither	+6.2%	
DJIA	16,204.62	-1.3%			Neither	+5.5%	

A <u>Major</u> Accumulation Day: Price RISES 1.0% or more and higher Volume than the day before A <u>Minor</u> accumulation Day: Price RISES 0.2% or more and Volume is strong (either higher volume or is well-above average volume)

A <u>Major</u> Distribution Day: Price FALLS 1.0% or more and higher Volume than the day before.

A <u>Minor</u> distribution Day: Price FALLS 0.2% or more, Volume is strong (either higher volume or is well-above average volume)

A <u>Stalling</u> minor distribution Day: Only in an up-trending index or stock, price is FLAT or DOWN slightly compared to the day before, closing in the <u>bottom half of the day's range</u> and <u>volume is heavier or about equal to</u> the day before or strong compared to the past market. It's the <u>price closing low in the day's range</u> after an <u>uptrend</u> that is the key for this designation. Price close to flat and higher or consistent volume indicates the big money (institutions: mutual funds, banks, etc.) are gently selling, trying to sneak out so you won't notice.

- ** The "CURRENT TREND" column calculates how far each index has moved in the current trend assuming you purchased the index (which is not buyable) at the opening price on the day after the trend change signal.
- •When this column is GREEN, the index has moved in the direction of the market trend.
- •HOWEVER, when this column is <u>RED</u>, the index change has fallen into negative territory (which could be a <u>rise during a Downtrend</u>)

An ACCUMULATION day points at heavy buying by institutional money managers - the mutual funds, pension funds, banks, etc.

A **DISTRIBUTION** day points at heavy selling by institutional money managers.