

**ARMCHAIR INVESTOR<sup>(sm)</sup> MORNING MARKET**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
 A TREND-FOLLOWING STRATEGY

PLEASE NOTE: ALL ARMCHAIR INVESTOR CLASSES WILL BE HELD ONLINE  
 Register at [www.ArmchairInvestor.com](http://www.ArmchairInvestor.com) (The coming week is the last FREE WEEK.)

**CURRENT MARKET DIRECTION: DOWNTREND**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Armchair Investor<br>Trend-following Investment Position: | I hold the PSQ (inverse QQQ)               |
| Total Armchair Investor 2020 Return                       | +6.6% Year-to-date<br>See trades on page 2 |

**UNDERSTANDING THE MARKET'S MESSAGE** Monday was day 6 of an attempted rally (i.e. The Nasdaq and S&P500 continued rising above the 3/24 low.)

But the volume has been falling off over the last 5 trading days, perhaps showing a lack of enthusiasm for a new Uptrend.

Market turns at the bottoms are frequently rather abrupt turnarounds. One serious Accumulation day could put the market back in UPTREND!

**MONDAY COULD BE THE START OF A NEW UPTREND** if either major index has a significant rise (1.3+%) with higher volume.. See page 3 – Strength!

Beware: After a hard correction like this one, the first new Uptrend frequently fails.

| DAILY MARKET ACTION |             |                |                 |                       |                                   |   |
|---------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 3/30/20             | Index Close | Index % Change | Volume % Change | Volume vs 50-day Avg. | Accumulation or Distribution Day? | YOUR GAIN from SHORTING at the 2/25/2020 DOWNTREND SIGNAL |
| Nasdaq              | 7774.15     | +3.6%          | -2.4%           | +11.7%                | Neither                           | +13.7%  |
| S&P500              | 2626.62     | +3.4%          | NYSE Volume     |                       | Neither                           | +16.3%  |
| DJIA                | 22327.48    | +3.2%          | -7.8%           | +7.6%                 | Neither                           | +17.8%  |

**Remember:**

**The market continues in the direction it is going until it doesn't.**

By following the current market trend, I will be wrong at the very bottom when it reverses, but ..... I will be right (making money)..... all the way day!

**I am disappointed in the underperformance of the PSQ (short QQQ fund) compared to just shorting the QQQ.**

I understand how difficult managing the PSQ fund must have been in this wildly swinging market. Lesson learned: Shorting the QQQ would have given the expected higher return in this highly volatile market.

**CHART READING LESSON:** Look at a Nasdaq or S&P500 chart over the last 8 weeks. You can see the **telltale DOWN-TRENDING pattern** of:

- **higher volume DOWN days** (serious selling)
- and many **lower volume UP days** (lack of commitment to the upward move).

**Change in S&P500 personality:**

- **WEDNESDAY WAS THE FIRST TIME A MAJOR INDEX (the S&P500) had 2 accumulation days in a row since this downtrend began a month ago – WOW!** The Nasdaq only had one,
- Go to **page 8** to see the 20 day-by-day analysis of the strength and weakness in this market.

**If you are uncomfortable holding an inverse ETF as a strategy to avoid the market drops, you can wait in CASH.**

**At least you won't lose money in a volatile market.**

The selling cascade continues! IS THE CRASH OVER? I remind you:

**REMEMBER:**  
**THE MARKET CONTINUES IN THE DIRECTION IT IS GOING,**  
**UNTIL IT DOESN'T !**

| ARMCHAIR INVESTOR TREND-FOLLOWING RETURNS 2020 |                        |                        |        |          |                              |                                 |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|--------|----------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Market Direction Signal Change                 | Direction              | Action                 | # Days | Price    | % GAIN Each Trend (See note) | Armchair Investor GAINS In 2020 |
| 12/31/19                                       | <b>Uptrend</b>         | Hold the QQQ           | 55     | \$212.61 | +4.3%                        | <b>+4.3%</b>                    |
| 2/24/20  | Uptrend under Pressure | Sold QQQ. Wait in CASH | 3      | \$221.84 | +0.0%                        | <b>+4.3%</b>                    |
| 2/27/20  | <b>Downtrend</b>       | Bot PSQ at Open        | 0      | \$24.69  | +0.0%                        | <b>+4.3%</b>                    |
| 3/30/20  | <b>Downtrend</b>       | Hold PSQ               | 32     | \$25.19  | +2.2%                        | <b>+2.2%</b>                    |
|  |                        | <b>Total Days</b>      | 90     |          | <b>TOTAL % FOR 2020:</b>     | <b>+6.6%</b>                    |
|  |                        |                        |        |          | <b>Annualized Return</b>     | <b>29.1%</b>                    |

## Current Signs of Market Strength

- The S&P500 is up 15.9% from Monday's low. The Nasdaq is up 11.1%.
- **The Attempted Rally stays in force**. Friday was day 5 of the AR which means:
  - One strong day could put the market in UPTREND. (A strong market day would be when either index rises 1.3% or more with higher volume.)
  - Note that a final determination of market trend also considers about 2 dozen other factors. I will tell you all about the most important when the event occurs
- The recent concentration of distribution days have mostly faded into the past. The market has reversed upward with 2 distribution days and 2 accumulation days while rising

## Current Signs of Market Weakness

- The Nasdaq and S&P500 are now living below their 200-day moving averages.
- The major indexes (Nasdaq, S&P500 and DJIA) have lowest Distribution ratings of E indicating wide spread selling. (This rating is slow to turn around.)
- The market feels like the "Wild West" – unpredictable, highly volatile. Avoid the "showdown" by exiting any losing stocks.
- #1 rule in stock market investing: Don't lose more than 8%.

### MY PLAN FOR MONDAY:

- I am holding my PSQ (inverse ETF). Something is keeping this market from breaking into a new Uptrend. Is it politics, the coronavirus growing numbers, or fear of the impact on the US and world economy? I thought the stimulus package would do it! But again, I am humbled by seeing that:

#### **THE MARKET DOES NOT CARE ABOUT MY OPINION!**

- If the Uptrend is obvious on Monday (within the last hour), I will sell my PSQ and buy the QQQ. If that happens, I will send out a quick email from ArmchairInvestor.com!

### With the Coronavirus spreading, it could be a... long... cold... spring!

Even in a Downtrend, you can hold a winning stock as long as it holds its gains. (Very few are!) But be sure to watch each stock for additional distribution days to signal an exit point. See selling rules chapter of "How to Make Money in Stocks" by William O'Neil, founder of Investor's Business Daily.

Reminder: I do not make recommendations - just ideas to consider.

**CALL ME IF YOU ARE STUCK! Charlotte – 214-995-6702**  
***I'm just hanging around the house!***

## How does a Downtrend evolve into a new Uptrend?

>>>>> This pattern is what I am watching for every day!

A Downtrend changes to an Uptrend by having a Follow-through day which occurs when the market takes 2 clear Upward steps:

1. **Attempted Rally:** One or both major indexes (Nasdaq and S&P500) closes higher than the day before and stays above that low.) This happened on 2/28. The Attempted Rally stays in effect until the index undercuts the recent low, or a Follow-Through day changes the market diagnosis to Uptrend – See step 2 next...
2. **Follow-through Day: On day 4 or later of the A-R,** one or both of the major indexes has a **strong rise** (usually 1.3% or more) with higher volume than the day before.  
**NOTE:** Stay tuned! A New Uptrend could begin any day now! Or not!

| Today's Armchair Investor Trend-Following Returns for<br>Current <u>Downtrend</u> begun on 2/26/2020   |   |                          |                         |  |
|--|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| This table tracks shorting the QQQ and investing in the Inverse ETFs which are designed to move opposite to the market by the multiple indicated (1x, 2x, and 3x)  |   |                          |                         |  |
| Look at the right column of the table below. If you had shorted the QQQ at the last Downtrend signal, your position would be +11.4%. But the PSQ (designed to be the inverse of the QQQ) has only earned 4.8%. And the QID and SQQQ are worse. Maintaining a double or triple ETF return in this market of violent swings is, apparently, impossible.<br>Remember I told you I was out of the SQQQ (triple short QQQs) last week.  |   |                          |                         |  |
| 3/30/20  | Open Price on 5/14,<br>the Day after the<br>Trend Changed | Current Closing<br>Price | ETF % Change<br>Today * | PROFIT / LOSS from<br>Signal: "Market in<br>DOWNTREND" |
| Short QQQ  | \$216.67  | \$192.04                 | -3.6%                   | +11.4%   |
| PSQ (1x)   | \$24.04   | \$25.19                  | -3.7%                   | +4.8%  |
| QID (2x)   | \$22.35   | \$22.79                  | -7.7%                   | +1.9%  |
| SQQQ (3x)  | \$20.64   | \$19.04                  | -10.8%                  | -7.8%  |
| The PSQ ETF is designed to move opposite to the QQQ (the PSQ rises when the QQQ falls.)<br>The QLD is designed to double the price move of the PSQ. Visit Proshares.com for more information.<br>The SQQQ is designed to triple the opposite price move of the QQQ. Visit Proshares.com for more information on inverse ETFs.<br>The "Profit" calculation is based on buying the ETF at the opening price the morning after the signal. In a downtrend, the inverse ETFs (PSQ and QID) should go opposite to the Nasdaq. For the QQQ, the calculation is reversed, e.g. when the QQQ falls, the PROFIT column rises to indicate I have shorted the QQQ and vice versa. |   |                          |                         |  |

| MARKET ACTION 2020 YEAR-TO-DATE |                    |               |                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| 3/30/20                         | 2019 Closing Price | Current Price | Index % Change<br>Year-to-Date |
| Nasdaq                          | 8972.61            | 7774.15       | -13.4%                         |
| S&P<br>500                      | 3230.78            | 2626.62       | -18.7%                         |
| DJIA                            | 28538.44           | 22327.48      | -21.8%                         |

# THE ARMCHAIR INVESTOR TREND-FOLLOWING STRATEGY

*A Simple and Powerful Tool to Increase Your Returns*

## Armchair Investor Mantra:

- Be IN the market when it is going up
- Be OUT of the market when it is going down
- Protect your portfolio with 8% stops.

**The primary purpose of this Armchair Investor newsletter is to let you, the reader, earn bigger returns riding the trend of the market.**

By following the best (most reliable) market change signals, you can:

- **Get in the market near the bottom** of a new bull market
- **Exit the market near the top**, and
  - **Capture more of the gains**,
  - **Avoid more of the losses** and, thus
  - **Earn higher returns** than the “buy-and-hold” strategy recommended by many brokers and money managers!

### **Why a “Buy-and-Hold” strategy doesn’t work well:**

When the market has topped and starts to fall, do you really want to let your profits fade away as the market falls – sometimes for years? Of course not! Selling your uptrend position allows you to capture your gains and store them safely away in cash. What is the right time to exit? This newsletter will show you the market’s signal.

### **Most downtrends (also called corrections) fall faster than the uptrends rise.**

***I am not willing to sit in a sick, falling market and lose my hard earned gains!*** Cash is a safer position!

Here are the three signals I will give you in this newsletter for the three market conditions:

- **Uptrends:** When the market rises into an Uptrend, buy and hold the QQQ, a stock that rises with the general market.
- **Uptrend showing Weakness:** As a market Uptrend starts to fall, you will receive the signal to exit the QQQ and safely wait in cash.
- **Downtrends:** If the market continues down, you will receive a signal to buy the PSQ, a stock that rises while the market falls.

**FINALLY – For individual stocks:** Use these market signals to help you when buying individual stocks. You increase your likelihood of a successful stock purchase if you only buy stocks when the market is in an Uptrend. Lesson: Don’t fight the market trend!

**HOW CAN YOU CAPTURE THOSE  
GREAT MARKET GAINS SHOWN ABOVE?  
USE THE ARMCHAIR INVESTOR PLAN:  
*It's as easy as 1- 2- 3!***

**STEP 1:** Ride a rising market \_\_\_\_\_.

**STEP 2:** Protect your investments during a weakening Uptrend

**STEP 3:** Go to \_\_\_\_\_ in a falling market. <<<<<<< NOW!

This newsletter will identify the market direction, (step 1, step 2 or step 3) and explain what you can do to grow and protect your portfolio.

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**STEP 1: In an Uptrend, hold the QQQ, a Nasdaq100 ETF**

**Find the market direction diagnosis every night in this newsletter.**

- In the Uptrend, buy the QQQ the next morning if you don't yet have that position. This newsletter will alert you to the Uptrend signal! *The QQQ follows the ups and downs of the Nasdaq100, allowing you to grab the rises of an Uptrend.*
- With some additional positive action, you may decide to switch to the double QQQ ETF (QLD) or triple QQQ (TQQQ). I do not recommend these moves for the first time investor.

**Just in case protection:** When you receive your confirmation of the purchase, place an **8% STOP LOSS** order to protect your portfolio from a sudden market reversal (executing this sale is rare – I almost always sell when the market goes into “under pressure” or Downtrend – see Step 2 below). Your broker can help you set up this order.

**This upward ride is the most exciting part of trend-following – Ride the escalator up, up, up as the market rises. Exit when the market starts to show significant weakness (read this newsletter nightly!**

**Although not every Uptrend signal generates a positive return, most do.**

## **STEP 2: When the Uptrend slows down: “Uptrend under Pressure”**

“Uptrend under Pressure” is a **Warning Message** and means:

- The market is showing significant distribution (selling pressure.)  
**Investors should:**
  - **Be concerned about the strength of this Uptrend.**  
During an Uptrend under Pressure, this newsletter may move into CASH position to avoid possible losses.
  - **Check on the health of your investments each night!** Many investors do not buy new stock positions during this period due to higher failure rates.
- **From STEP 2, “Uptrend under Pressure,”** the market diagnosis will go one of two ways:
  - **Rise** with price and volume strength, and return to **Uptrend – (STEP 1)**, or
  - Continue to add more distribution days and **fall** into a **Downtrend (correction)**
- This is a time to pay attention to the market behavior.

## **STEP 3: When the market diagnosis goes to “Downtrend”**

**Capture much of the gains from the Uptrend by selling your Uptrend ETF position (QQQ, QLD or TQQQ) when the market diagnosis goes into Downtrend to capture much of the gains earned in Steps 1 & 2 above.**

**After exiting the Uptrend ETF, wait in cash** until the next Uptrend signal. More recent Downtrends have been short term and not tradable.

**The Uptrend has been years long and strong. The market is due for a long dive. I will invest in the PSQ (inverse QQQ) ETF which makes profits as the market falls!**

**NOTE: Not every market direction signal ends with a positive return.** But overall, this Market Tracking Strategy has outperformed the market when traded according to these signals.

**BONUS:** Plus the market direction signals will help you by indicating when it is most effective to consider adding individual stocks to your portfolio (with a strong uptrending market).



| <b>MARKET FACTORS, COUNTS &amp; RATINGS</b>   |  | <b>3/30/2020</b>                     |                                      |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Type of Day for <u>Nasdaq Index</u></b><br>Accumulation, Distribution or Neither   |  | <b>Neither</b>                       |                                      |
| I track the <u>Nasdaq's</u> price-volume because it usually leads the market direction.   |  |                                      |                                      |
| <b>Market Direction</b><br>Uptrend, Under Pressure, Downtrend   |  | <b>Downtrend</b>                     |                                      |
| <b><u>Nasdaq Accumulation &amp; Distribution Days (last 20 days)</u></b><br>Only accumulation and distribution days since the last market direction change are in this count.   |  | <b>Accumulation Days</b><br><b>2</b> | <b>Distribution Days</b><br><b>7</b> |
| FYI: IBD uses 25 days for their distribution count. I've found the last 20 days to be most relevant. Thus, we don't always match.   |  |                                      |                                      |
| <b>Count of Up Days and Down Days</b><br>Nasdaq's last <u>10-days'</u> price movement   |  | <b>Up Days</b><br><b>5</b>           | <b>Down Days</b><br><b>5</b>         |
| Only days that move at least + or - 0.2% are included in the Up/Down count which does not always, therefore, add up to 10 days.   |  |                                      |                                      |
| <b>Rising/Falling Ratio of Leader Stocks with High Volume</b><br>Nasdaq 10-day ratio  |  | <b>1.6</b>                           |                                      |
| This indicator looks at the <b>HEALTH</b> of leading stocks (high RS rating) with strong financials (high EPS rating)<br>Uptrend indicator: 1.5 or higher. Neutral: 1.0 to 1.49. Downtrend: less than 1.0   |  |                                      |                                      |
| <b>Market Accumulation/Distribution Ratings</b><br>"A": heavy accumulation, "B": moderate accumulation, "C": neutral, "D": moderate distribution, "E": heavy distribution.<br>Accumulation = Institutions are BUYING, Distribution = Inst are SELLING |  | <b>Nasdaq</b><br><b>E</b>            | <b>S&amp;P 500</b><br><b>E</b>       |
|   |  | <b>DJIA</b><br><b>E</b>              |                                      |
| <b>Are Major Indexes Above or Below Moving Averages?</b><br>"At" is within 1% above or below the moving average.  |  | <b>50-Day</b>                        | <b>200-Day</b>                       |
| Nasdaq  |  | <b>Below</b>                         | <b>Below</b>                         |
| S&P 500   |  | <b>Below</b>                         | <b>Below</b>                         |
| NYSE  |  | <b>Below</b>                         | <b>Below</b>                         |
| DJIA  |  | <b>Below</b>                         | <b>Below</b>                         |



## MARKET ACTION (Nasdaq) OVER THE LAST 20 DAYS

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

| #  | Date    | Close   | Index % Change | Volume % Change | Current Trend Day Count | Type of Day: Accumulation, Distribution or Neither (—) | CONSISTENT WITH: UPTREND OR DOWNTREND? |
|----|---------|---------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| 20 | 3/3/20  | 8684.09 | -3.0%          | +4.4%           | 6                       | Major Distribution                                     | DOWNTREND                              |
| 19 | 3/4/20  | 9018.09 | +3.9%          | -18.1%          | 7                       | —  | DOWNTREND                              |
| 18 | 3/5/20  | 8752.77 | -2.9%          | +4.0%           | 8                       | Major Distribution                                     | DOWNTREND                              |
| 17 | 3/6/20  | 8575.62 | -2.6%          | +22.6%          | 9                       | Major Distribution                                     | DOWNTREND                              |
| 16 | 3/9/20  | 7950.68 | -7.3%          | +5.4%           | 10                      | Major Distribution                                     | DOWNTREND                              |
| 15 | 3/10/20 | 8344.25 | +5.0%          | -1.7%           | 11                      | —  | DOWNTREND                              |
| 14 | 3/11/20 | 7952.05 | -4.7%          | -2.3%           | 12                      | —  | UPTREND*                               |
| 13 | 3/12/20 | 7288.63 | -8.3%          | +19.6%          | 13                      | Major Distribution                                     | DOWNTREND                              |
| 12 | 3/13/20 | 7874.88 | +9.4%          | -8.9%           | 14                      | —  | DOWNTREND                              |
| 11 | 3/16/20 | 6904.59 | -12.3%         | -3.4%           | 15                      | —  | UPTREND                                |
| 10 | 3/17/20 | 7334.78 | +6.2%          | +7.6%           | 16                      | Major Accumulation                                     | UPTREND                                |
| 9  | 3/18/20 | 6989.84 | -4.7%          | +0.24%          | 17                      | Major Distribution                                     | DOWNTREND                              |
| 8  | 3/19/20 | 7150.58 | +2.3%          | -4.1%           | 18                      | —  | DOWNTREND                              |
| 7  | 3/20/20 | 6879.52 | -3.8%          | +3.2%           | 19                      | Major Distribution                                     | DOWNTREND                              |
| 6  | 3/23/20 | 6860.67 | -0.3%          | -11.7%          | 20                      | —  | UPTREND0                               |
| 5  | 3/24/20 | 7417.86 | +8.1%          | +0.9%           | 21                      | Major Accumulation                                     | UPTREND                                |
| 4  | 3/25/20 | 7384.30 | -0.5%          | -1.8%           | 22                      | —  | UPTREND                                |
| 3  | 3/26/20 | 7797.54 | +5.6%          | -14.5%          | 23                      | —  | DOWNTREND                              |
| 2  | 3/27/20 | 7502.38 | -3.8%          | -1.6%           | 24                      | —  | UPTREND                                |
| 1  | 3/30/20 | 7774.15 | +3.6%          | -2.4%           | 25                      | —  | DOWNTREND                              |

\*When a stock or index falls with lower volume than the day before (see 3/11 and 3/16 above as examples), the lower volume says the market isn't as supportive of that day's price drop. Thus, the day is label "Consistent with an Uptrend day."

On a rising day with lower volume (see 3/13 and 3/26 for example), the lower volume says the market isn't supportive of the rise in price. Thus, the day is label "Consistent with a Downtrend day."

## **DO YOU INVEST IN INDIVIDUAL STOCKS?—**

**Always consider taking some profit if significant distribution is showing up for your individual stocks.** However, many individual stocks are rising with gusto! Look at all the lists in the Investor's Business Daily newspaper for stocks breaking out with high volume. **They are there!**

To get a deeper sense of the health of the market, look at the **MARKET FACTORS, COUNTS & RATINGS table** included each day in the FULL Armchair Investor newsletter. It looks at 7 key market direction factors and highlights the leaning of each:

- If the factor leans toward the **Uptrend**, that box will be **green**
- If the factor leans toward the **Downtrend**, that box will be **orange** or **red**

**To schedule a class visit: Contact Charlotte Hudgin at 214-995-6702**

One of the reasons I pay so much attention to the Investor's Business Daily strategies and books (*How to Make Money in Stocks* series) is that they work consistently.

## **Visit an ARMCHAIR INVESTOR CLASS**

We have 3 live classes given each week in Dallas. These classes will be given **ONLINE** until we are cleared to meet in person. **Visit any class this week and next as my guest.** Register at the Armchair Investor Meetup class site to receive an invitation to join the class you are interested in. Click on one of the links below to register.

- [Monday nights 7 – 9 p.m.](#)
- [Tuesday afternoons 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.](#)
- [Wednesday mornings 10:00 a.m. to noon](#)
- Classes meet in **ONLINE**.
- Online classes and consultations available by appointment – **Call me for a FREE introduction!**

**Newsletter readers get a FREE class visit:**

Monday evening, Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday morning online.  
Register on Meetup.com or call or text me to set up your visit.

**Pre-REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR YOUR FREE VISIT**

Just Call or Text me: 214-995-6702

**CALL EARLY: Seating is limited.**

## A BULLISH BUYING PATTERN EMERGES IN ACCUMULATION/DISTRIBUTION TABLE:

### A week ago (3/20):

- 15% of stocks were being had “B” ratings (being bought) or “C” ratings (neutral).

### Last week (ending on 3/27)

- “B” and “C” rated stocks jumped to 31% indicating serious buying.
- Why did “A” stocks not rise? This small but elite group of best stocks (having strong fundamentals including strong, growing earnings) have continued to be bought and held (not sold off).

| PROGRESS IN ACCUMULATION/DISTRIBUTION RATINGS   |                          |     |     |     |      |      |         |
|---|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|---------|
|   |                          | A   | B   | C   | D    | E    | As + Bs |
| 4 weeks ago   | 3/2                      | 4%  | 11% | 13% | 27%  | 45%  | 16%     |
| 3 weeks ago   | 3/9                      | 4%  | 16% | 17% | 31%  | 32%  | 20%     |
| 2 weeks ago   | 3/16                     | 2%  | 7%  | 11% | 31%  | 50%  | 9%      |
| 1 week ago  | 3/23                     | 2%  | 6%  | 8%  | 25%  | 59%  | 8%      |
| Today   | 3/30                     | 2%  | 14% | 16% | 30%  | 38%  | 16%     |
|   | # stocks in each rating: | 138 | 845 | 980 | 1833 | 2304 | 6100    |
| Stocks with an A or B rating are under accumulation (being bought.)<br>Stocks with a D or E rating are under distribution (being sold). |                          |     |     |     |      |      |         |

**AN EVEN SPLIT:** Since there are 5 ratings, each would equally get 20%.

When the market shows heavy buying of top stocks, the A and B counts will rise and the D and E counts will fall. When the market is heavily selling stocks, the opposite happens,

**THE SIGNAL:** Notice I have noted the % of all stocks that have A or B ratings.

- When the A+B% rises, I know the market, as a whole, is being bought.
- Any total of A+Bs over their “fair share” of 40% (2 ratings out of the 5 possible ratings= 40%) is **good news.**

## WHAT HAPPENED IN LAST WEEK'S MARKET ACTION:

**IMPORTANT:** >>> Scan across the volume over the last four weeks on a daily chart. You will see almost all the tall volume bars (sticking up above their neighbors) are .... RED, showing higher volume on down days. Thus, the "E" distribution ratings on the Nasdaq, S&P500, NYSE and DJIA.

### Conclusion: HOW TO SEE DISTRIBUTION ON 2-COLOR CHARTS!

Distribution action is easiest to see when you are on a chart with two color volume lines, usually red for falling price days and green (or blue) for rising days. The fastest way to get a sense of the accumulation/distribution going on in a stock or index is to swing your eyes across the volume bars – noting the color of the highest bars - the red volume bar indicates the price dropped that day. The taller bar indicates the volume was higher.

| Last Week in Review (final IBD numbers) |        |         |           |          |        |               |
|---|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|---------------|
|   | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | FOR THE WEEK: |
|   | 3/23   | 3/24    | 3/25      | 3/26     | 3/27   |               |
| Nasdaq                                  | -0.3%  | +8.1%   | -0.5%     | +5.6%    | -3.8%  | +9.1%         |
| Volume                                  | -17.9% | +2.1%   | +6.4%     | -14.5%   | -0.5%  |               |

Note the pattern of higher volume DOWN days with lower volume UP days was broken last week which started with 2 days of lower volume on down days and one day of higher volume on Tuesday's up day (more consistent with an Uptrend! Scan the volume over the last four weeks. You will see almost all the volume bars sticking up above their neighbors are .... RED showing higher volume down days. This analysis is easier on a chart with two color volume lines, red for rising price days and green (or blue) for rising days.

| LAST WEEK'S MARKET ACTION |                       |                        |                                 |              |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 3/27/20                   | Weekly Index % Change | Weekly Volume % Change | Volume Above/ Below 10-week Avg | Type of Week |
| Nasdaq                    | +9.1%                 | -12.3%                 | +37.0%                          | Neither      |
| S&P 500                   | +10.3%                | S&P 500 Volume         |                                 | Neither      |
| DJIA                      | +12.8%                | -10.9%                 | +57.0%                          | Neither      |

The "TYPES OF WEEK" are:

**"ACCUMULATION" WEEK** PRICE RISES 0.2% or more and VOLUME RISES

**"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.

**"NEITHER" WEEK** PRICE moves less than 0.2% or VOLUME FALLS

The Nasdaq volume is used for the Nasdaq Index.  
The NYSE volume is used for the S&P500, DJIA and NYSE indexes.

**NASDAQ Daily 4 month chart, (updated Friday 3/27/2020)**  
**Day 5 of Attempted Rally (Market could go into Uptrend on One Strong Rising Day)**



**NASDAQ Weekly 1 year chart, ( updated Friday 3/27/2020)**  
**Nasdaq's fast down market reverses: Index rises but volume is weak.**



These charts are from StockCharts.com, a valuable site for investors with many free tools



**S&P500 Daily 4 month chart, (updated Friday 3/27/2020)**  
**Day 5 of Attempted Rally (Market could go into Uptrend on One Strong Rising Day)**



**S&P500 Weekly 1 year chart, (updated Friday 3/20/2020)**  
**S&P500's fast down market reverses: Index rises but volume is weak.**



These charts are from StockCharts.com, a valuable site for investors with many free tools

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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 well at night.

Questions may be submitted to: [Editor@ArmchairInvestor.com](mailto:Editor@ArmchairInvestor.com)

**See additional definitions on the following pages....**



**EXAMPLE of the DAILY MARKET ACTION table  
with explanation of terms and signals:**

| THE DAILY MARKET ACTION |             |                |                 |                       |                                   |   |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 9/27/19                 | Index Close | Index % Change | Volume % Change | Volume vs 50-day Avg. | Accumulation or Distribution Day? | Recent Trend Gain/Loss from 8/13 UPTREND SIGNAL |
| Nasdaq                  | 7,939.63    | -1.1%          | +8.5%           | -11.0%                | Major Distribution                | +1.7%   |
| S&P500                  | 2,961.79    | -0.5%          | NYSE Volume     |                       | minor distribution                | +3.4%   |
| DJIA                    | 26,820.25   | -0.3%          | +5.1%           | -12.0%                | minor distribution                | +3.8%   |

A **Major Accumulation Day**: Price RISES 1.0% or more with higher Volume than the day before.  
A **minor accumulation Day**: Price RISES 0.2% and less than 1% with strong Volume (either higher than the day before or is well-above average volume).  
A **Major Distribution Day**: Price FALLS 1.0% or more with higher Volume than the day before.  
A **minor distribution Day**: Price FALLS 0.2% and less than 1% with strong Volume (either higher than the day before or is well-above average volume).  
If the day's price/volume action does not meet the accumulation or distribution definitions above, it is a **neither day**.

\*\* The **Recent Trend Gains/Losses** column calculates how far each index has moved from the recent trend change assuming you purchased the index (in an Uptrend) or sold the index (in a Downtrend) at the opening price on the day after the signal. Although not every year outperforms the common "buy and hold" strategy, using these signals has significantly OUTPERFORMED the buy-and-hold strategy in total since 1/1/2000.

**Why are my Final Volumes Sometimes Different than Yours?** Why do the volume numbers on this table not always match other web sites? The 4:00 close of the market immediately shows an accurate final price. But the volume figures continue to trickle in for hours. At some time, the accumulation of volume numbers has to be cut off and different sites use different cut-offs. Also, some sources include the volume of stocks listed on one exchange but traded on another (e.g. Apple stock listed on Nasdaq but also traded on other exchanges.) And some sources do not. The most important rule is to consistently use only one source for volume.

**EXAMPLE and DEFINITIONS used in this newsletter:**

| <b>DAILY MARKET ACTION</b>   |             |                |                 |                       |                                   |   |
|--|-------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 10/25/19   | Index Close | Index % Change | Volume % Change | Volume vs 50-day Avg. | Accumulation or Distribution Day? | Recent Trend Gain/Loss from 8/13 UPTREND SIGNAL |
| Nasdaq   | 8,243.12    | +0.70%         | +1.2%           | -2.1%                 | Neither                           | +5.3%   |
| S&P500   | 3,022.55    | +0.41%         | NYSE Volume     |                       | Neither                           | +5.3%   |
| DJIA   | 26,958.06   | +0.57%         | -9.2%           | -1.5%                 | Neither                           | +4.3%   |
| <p>A <b>Major Accumulation Day</b>: Price RISES at least 1.0% or more with higher Volume than prior day.</p> <p>A <b>minor accumulation Day</b>: Price RISES at least 0.2% and less than 1% with strong Volume (either higher than the day before or is well-above average volume).</p> <p>A <b>Major Distribution Day</b>: Price FALLS at least 1.0% or more with higher Volume than the day before.</p> <p>A <b>minor distribution Day</b>: Price FALLS at least 0.2% and less than 1% with strong Volume (either higher than the day before or is well-above average volume).</p> <p>If the day's price/volume action does not meet the accumulation or distribution definitions above, it is a "<b>Neither</b>" day.</p> |             |                |                 |                       |                                   |   |
| <p><b>Why are my Final Volumes Sometimes Different than Yours?</b> Why do the volume numbers on this table not always match other web sites? The 4:00 p.m. close of the market immediately shows an accurate final price. But the volume figures continue to trickle in for hours. At some time, the accumulation of volume numbers has to be cut off and different sites use different cut-offs. Also, some sources include the volume of stocks listed on one exchange but traded on another (e.g. Apple stock listed on Nasdaq but also traded on other exchanges.) And some sources do not. The most important rule is to consistently use the same source for your volume.</p>  |             |                |                 |                       |                                   |   |

## **DO YOU INVEST IN INDIVIDUAL STOCKS?—**

**Always consider taking some profit if significant distribution is showing up for your individual stocks.** However, many individual stocks are rising with gusto! Look at all the lists in the Investor's Business Daily newspaper for stocks breaking out with high volume. **They are there!**

To get a deeper sense of the health of the market, look at the **MARKET FACTORS, COUNTS & RATINGS table** included each day in the FULL Armchair Investor newsletter. It looks at 7 key market direction factors and highlights the leaning of each:

- If the factor leans toward the **Uptrend**, that box will be **green**
- If the factor leans toward the **Downtrend**, that box will be **orange** or **red**

**To schedule a class visit: Contact Charlotte Hudgin at 214-995-6702**

One of the reasons I pay so much attention to the Investor's Business Daily strategies and books (*How to Make Money in Stocks series*) is that they work consistently.

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