

**HONGKONG'S EQUITY MARKETS LEAD THE CHARGE IN ASIA,  
BREAKING ALL PREVIOUS RECORDS****Crude-Oil Prices Rise To \$US84 Per-Barrel Level**

As crude-oil prices retreated, last Monday, so did the key indices of most equity markets, around the world.

On The New York Stock Exchange, the Dow Jones Industrial Average lost 22.28 points, equivalent to about 0.16 percent, ending the trading day at 14,043.73 points.

The Composite Index of The NASDAQ, on the other hand, gained 7.05 points, or about one quarter of a percentage point, edging up to 2,787.37 points.

In the US, it was Columbus Day, the day, honouring the landing of Christopher Columbus in what was termed as The New World on October 12, 1492.

As such, it was a holiday for US Government servants: Offices of the US Government were closed, as were all bond markets.

The volume of activity on US equity markets was low as a direct result.

On The New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), the price of crude oil lost materially.

For delivery in November, the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil came in at \$US79.02, representing a fall of about 2.71 percent, compared with the final quote of Friday, October 5, 2007.

The last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil for delivery in December was \$US78.40, equivalent to a fall of about 2.75 percent on the last settlement of the previous Friday.

In Europe, investors watched as the key indices of major bourses of the region slowly drifted to lower levels:

Amsterdam's AEX Index	Minus 0.14 percent
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France's CAC 40 Index	Minus 0.23 percent
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Germany's Frankfurt XETRA DAX Index	Minus 0.34 percent
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Great Britain's FTSE 100 Index	Minus 0.83 percent
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Italy's MIBTEL Index	Minus 0.17 percent
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Switzerland's Swiss Market Index	Plus 0.23 percent
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Trading in energy counters on the most-important European bourses contributed to the losses as investors

grew ice cold, watching the price of crude oil fall.

In Asia, with Golden Week in the People's Republic of China (PRC) fast becoming only a memory, it was back to playing on stocks and shares with gusto: And The Shanghai Composite Index shot up to a new record high.

In the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the PRC, after a strong start on The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, which lifted the key indices to new highs, profit-taking set in with the result that the key index of the Main Board ended the trading day with a small, fractional loss.

The Hang Seng Index, the most-important index of this market, shed 0.22 percent, exactly, falling back to 27,770.29 points.

At the luncheon break, however, The Hang Seng Index stood at 28,420.86 points, 650.57 points, or about 2.34 percent above the closing level of the day.

To state that investors of the territory had been sitting on another roller-coaster of a stock market would have been to state the obvious.

The Total Turnover was about \$HK154.06 billion.

Declining counters outnumbered advancing ones by the ratio of about 1.07:One.

The Ten Most Active counters were:

China Life Insurance Company Ltd (Code: 2628)	Up 1.45 percent to \$HK49.05 per share
Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd (Code: 1398)	Up 4.51 percent to \$HK6.26 per share
SOHO China Ltd (Code: 410)	\$HK9.55 per share*
PetroChina Company Ltd (Code: 857)	Down 3.42 percent to \$HK14.10 per share
HSBC Holdings plc (Code: 5)	Down 0.66 percent to \$HK149.80 per share
Bank of China Ltd (Code: 3988)	Up 1.14 percent to \$HK4.43 per share
China Mobile Ltd (Code: 941)	Down 1.00 percent to \$HK128.60 per share
Hongkong Exchanges and Clearing Ltd (Code: 388)	Up 1.39 percent to \$HK247.60 per share
China Construction Bank Corporation (Code: 939)	Up 2.39 percent to \$HK7.29 per share
China Shenhua Energy Company Ltd (Code: 1088)	Up 1.78 percent to \$HK45.80 per share

\*First Day of Trading

As for the Main Board's double-digit movers of the day, they included:

<b>Name of Company</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Increase (%)</b>	<b>Decrease (%)</b>	<b>Closing Price (\$HK)</b>
Asia Satellite Telecommunications Holdings Ltd	1135	20.54		18.66
Benefun International Holdings Ltd	1130	23.64		0.136
Chinese Estates Holdings Ltd	2965	10.66		13.50
China Fair Land Holdings Ltd	169		10.39	0.69
China Golden Development Holdings Ltd	162		14.00	0.86
China Seven Star Shopping Ltd	245		16.33	0.41
Delta Networks, Incorporated	722	10.06		3.50
eCyberChina Holdings Ltd	254		43.06	0.41
Guangdong Tannery Ltd	1058	14.02		1.22
LeRoi Holdings Ltd	221		11.54	0.345
Ming Hing Waterworks Holdings Ltd	402	43.59		1.12
Neo-China Group (Holdings) Ltd	563	12.44		2.35
Northern International Holdings Ltd	736	15.91		0.51
Opes Asia Development Ltd	810		12.79	1.50
Poly (Hongkong) Investments Ltd	119	11.40		9.77
Rontex International Holdings Ltd	1142	13.56		0.335
Sichuan Expressway Company Ltd	107	23.97		3.62
Theme International Holdings Ltd	990		11.76	0.06
Tiande Chemical Holdings Ltd	609	10.39		0.85
Vantage International (Holdings) Ltd	15	18.99		0.94
Vongroup Ltd	318	18.52		0.64

Wah Yuen Holdings Ltd	2349	15.45		1.27
Wing Hong (Holdings) Ltd	745	138.89		6.45
Xin Corporation Ltd	1141		12.07	0.51
Yugang International Ltd	613	11.11		0.35
Zhongtian International Ltd	2379		17.35	0.405

On The **G**rowth **E**nterprise **M**arket (The GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, its lone gauge to trading on this speculative market, known as The Growth Enterprise Index, rose about 0.11 percent to 1,495.40 points.

The Total Turnover was about \$HK603.18 million.

Declining counters just managed to outpace advancing ones by the ratio of about 1.03:One.

The 5, most-active counters in terms of their respective turnovers, only, were:

Phoenix Satellite Television Holdings Ltd (Code: 8002)

Down 0.51 percent to \$HK1.97 per share

Town Health International Holdings Company Ltd (Code:  
8138)

Down 5.41 percent to \$HK0.105 per share

Galileo Holdings Ltd (Code: 8029)

Up 5.85 percent to \$HK1.81 per share

Yuxing InfoTech Holdings Ltd (Code: 8005)

Down 13.51 percent to \$HK1.28 per share

Golden Meditech Company Ltd (Code: 8180)

Down 0.29 percent to \$HK3.49 per share

The GEM's biggest movers of the day included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
Asian Capital Resources (Holdings) Ltd	8025		11.67	0.265
BIG Media Group Ltd	8167		13.04	1.00
Capinfo Company Ltd	8157	17.65		0.60
China Cyber Port (International) Company Ltd	8206	14.22		2.65
ePRO Ltd	8086		15.38	0.22
Espco Technology Holdings Ltd	8299	23.31		2.01

Essex Bio-Technology Ltd	8151	16.92		0.228
Intelli-Media Group (Holdings) Ltd	8173	38.89		0.125
Rojam Entertainment Holdings Ltd	8075	10.69		0.145
Tiger Tech Holdings Ltd	8046	17.81		0.86
WLS Holdings Ltd	8021	15.38		0.60
Ningbo Yidong Electronic Company Ltd	8249		13.89	0.31
Yuxing InfoTech Holdings Ltd	8005		13.51	1.28

The equity markets of Japan were closed for a public holiday.

This was how the situation looked on other Asian equity markets, last Monday night:

The HKSAR	Hang Seng Index Minus 0.22 percent to 27,770.29 The Growth Enterprise Index Plus 0.11 percent to 1,495.40
Indonesia	Plus 0.92 percent to 2,523.70
Japan	TOPIX Index Closed Nikkei-225 Stock Average Closed
Malaysia	Minus 0.60 percent to 1,364.14
The Philippines	Plus 2.58 percent to 3,873.50
The PRC	Shanghai Composite Index Plus 2.53 percent to 5,692.76 Shenzhen Composite Index Plus 0.57 percent to 1,541.35
Singapore	Minus 0.06 percent to 3,820.31
South Korea	Plus 0.84 percent to 2,012.82
Taiwan	Plus 1.04 percent to 9,717.17

Thailand	Plus 1.27 percent to 863.16
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## **Tuesday**

The Dow Jones Industrial Average, the key index of The New York Stock Exchange, rose to a record high, last Tuesday, on the back of materially increased, crude-oil prices and confirmation that all of the Governors of The Federal Reserve Board had agreed to reduce interest rates at the last Open Market Committee Meeting after viewing intelligence that appeared to indicate that inflation in The Land of The Free and The Home of The Brave had been contained.

The Dow ended last Tuesday's trading session at 14,164.53 points, a one-day gain of about 0.86 percent.

Over on The NASDAQ, its Composite Index ended the trading day at 2,803.91 points, representing a gain of about 0.59 percent, compared with Monday's closing level.

On The New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil for delivery in November was \$US80.26, representing an increase on Monday's final quote of about 1.57 percent.

As for delivery in December, the last settlement was \$US79.54 per barrel of light sweet crude oil, equivalent to an improvement of about 1.45 percent on Monday's last settlement.

All kinds of suggestions were being made as to the reason for the gyrations in the price of crude oil, but, probably, the real reason was fear that there would be too much of a strain on existing stockpiles of distillates as the cold weather approached Continental America.

In Europe, every key index of every major bourse made gains, due in large part to the price improvements, made on energy counters:

Amsterdam's AEX Index                      Plus    0.90 percent

France's CAC 40 Index                      Plus    0.55 percent

Germany's Frankfurt XETRA DAX Index Plus    0.07 percent

Great Britain's FTSE 100 Index           Plus    1.13 percent

Italy's MIBTEL Index                      Plus    0.96 percent

Switzerland's Swiss Market Index       Plus    0.44 percent

In Asia, the mood of investors was, generally, bullish.

In the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), the key indices of the territory's 2 equity markets continued to make inroads toward record-high levels – again.

On the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, The Hang Seng Index made a gain of about 1.65 percent, rising to 28,228.04 points on a Total Turnover of about \$HK129.05 billion.

The ratio of advancing counters to declining ones was, exactly, 1.76:One.

The Ten Most Active counters were:

China Life Insurance Company Ltd (Code: 2628)

Unchanged at \$HK49.05 per share

PetroChina Company Ltd (Code: 857)

Up 1.28 percent to \$HK14.28 per share

China Mobile Ltd (Code: 941)

Up 0.86 percent to \$HK129.70 per share

Bank of Communications Company Ltd (Code: 3328)

Up 12.57 percent to \$HK11.28 per share

HSBC Holdings plc (Code: 5)

Down 0.07 percent to \$HK149.70 per share

China Aoyuan Property Group Ltd (Code: 3883)

\$HK6.80 per share\*

Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd (Code:  
1398)

Up 1.44 percent to \$HK6.35 per share

China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (Code: 386)

Up 4.84 percent to \$HK9.96 per share

China Telecom Corporation Ltd (Code: 728)

Up 3.18 percent to \$HK6.17 per share

Bank of China Ltd (Code: 3988)

Up 0.45 percent to \$HK4.45 per share

\*First Day of Trading

As for the Main Board's double-digit movers of the day, they included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
Apex Capital Ltd	905		10.34	0.52
AviChina Industry and Technology Company Ltd	2357	17.50		1.88
Bank of Communications Company Ltd	3328	12.57		11.28
CASIL Telecommunications Holdings Ltd	1185	17.59		1.27
CATIC International Holdings Ltd	232	10.91		0.61
Cheuk Nang (Holdings) Ltd	131	11.86		8.30
China Aerospace International Holdings Ltd	31	12.69		1.51
China Golden Development Holdings Ltd	162		11.63	0.76

Concepta Investments Ltd	1140	23.53		2.10
Cosmos Machinery Enterprises Ltd	118	10.62		1.25
CASH Retail Management Group Ltd	996	10.26		0.43
Garron International Ltd	1226	26.67		0.57
Golden Harvest Entertainment (Holdings) Ltd	1132	11.59		3.66
Greenfield Chemical Holdings Ltd	582	17.44		5.05
Harbin Power Equipment Company Ltd	1133	12.72		22.60
Hidili Industry International Development Ltd	1393	13.30		13.80
The Hongkong Parkview Group Ltd	207	200.00		3.00
Jiaoda Kunji High-Tech Company Ltd	300	13.23		17.12
J.I.C. Technology Company Ltd	987	30.86		0.53
Prime Investments Holdings Ltd	721	18.52		0.96
Jilin Qifeng Chemical Fiber Company Ltd	549	15.00		0.92
Sino Technology Investments Company Ltd	1217	17.86		0.495
Sunny Optical Technology (Group) Company Ltd	2382	11.25		3.46
Vongroup Ltd	318	10.94		0.71
Wing Hong (Holdings) Ltd	745	51.16		9.75
Wuyi International Pharmaceutical Company Ltd	1889	10.00		1.54
Yue Da Holdings Ltd	629	10.00		5.50

On The **Growth Enterprise Market** (The GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, The Growth Enterprise Index moved up by just 0.21 percent, exactly, ending the trading day at 1,498.54 points.

The Total Turnover on this market was about \$HK471.93 million.

The ratio of gaining counters to losing ones was about 1.03:One.

The 5, most-active counters in terms of their respective turnovers, only, were:



Core Healthcare Investment Holdings Ltd (Code: 8250)

Up 10.00 percent to \$HK0.66 per share

China LotSynergy Holdings Ltd (Code: 8161)

Up 1.09 percent to \$HK0.93 per share

Golden Meditech Company Ltd (Code: 8180)

Up 2.29 percent to \$HK3.57 per share

Town Health International Holdings Company Ltd (Code:  
8138)

Down 0.95 percent to \$HK0.104 per share

Phoenix Satellite Television Holdings Ltd (Code: 8002)

Down 1.52 percent to \$HK1.94 per share

The GEM's biggest movers of the day included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
BIG Media Group Ltd	8167	25.00		1.25
China Medical and Bio Science Ltd	8120	25.53		0.59
China.com Incorporated	8006	10.47		0.475
Core Healthcare Investment Holdings Ltd	8250	10.00		0.66
Jessica Publications Ltd	8137	10.00		0.88
Shenzhen Mingwah Aohan High Technology Corporation Ltd	8301	12.11		0.25
Rojam Entertainment Holdings Ltd	8075		11.03	0.129
TeleEye Holdings Ltd	8051		16.67	0.275
Ningbo Yidong Electronic Company Ltd	8249	14.52		0.355

In Japan, it was the first day of trading in equities for the week, Monday, having been a holiday in The Land of The Rising Sun.

On The Tokyo Stock Exchange, its TOPIX Index rose 3.15 points, equivalent to about 0.19 percent, ending the trading day at 1,660.06 points.

Advancing counters outran declining counters by the ratio of about 1.90:One.

The Nikkei-225 Stock Average, which is a much-narrower gauge of trading in select blue chips, listed on The First Section of The Tokyo Stock Exchange, than The TOPIX Index, gained 94.86 yen, or about 0.56 percent, as investors pushed it to 17,159.90 yen.

This was how the situation looked on other Asian equity markets, last Tuesday night:

The HKSAR	Hang Seng Index Plus 1.65 percent to 28,228.04 The Growth Enterprise Index Plus 0.21 percent to 1,498.54
Indonesia	Plus 0.91 percent to 2,546.61
Japan	TOPIX Index Plus 0.19 percent to 1,660.06 Nikkei-225 Stock Average Plus 0.56 percent to 17,159.90
Malaysia	Plus 0.38 percent to 1,369.39
The Philippines	Minus 2.52 percent to 3,776.00
The PRC	Shanghai Composite Index Plus 0.41 percent to 5,715.89 Shenzhen Composite Index Plus 0.64 percent to 1,551.19
Singapore	Plus 1.19 percent to 3,865.75
South Korea	Plus 0.07 percent to 2,014.13
Taiwan	Minus 0.80 percent to 9,639.83
Thailand	Plus 0.51 percent to 867.59

### **Wednesday**

The slowing growth of the US economy is taking its toll on the patience of many an investor in The Land of The Free and The Home of The Brave.

One US publicly listed company after another is telling investors this and of its tales of woe.

Last Wednesday, a number of US retailers forecast lower profits for the year, stating, inter alia, that consumers were spending less, from paper products to supplies for the family pet, to shoes, to bread.

On The New York Stock Exchange, the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell back by about 0.61 percent to 14,078.69 points, while, on The NASDAQ, its Composite Index managed a gain of about 0.27 percent, ending the trading day at 2,811.61 points.

From Boeing Company, a constituent stock of The Dow, its management announced, publicly, that the company expected a 6-month delay in the deliveries of its newest airline, The Dreamliner.

Investor sentiment was waning, appreciably, as the slower growth of the US economy was causing hardships: It had become more and more of a drag in family budgets.

Meanwhile, continued concern about supplies of distillates caused more concern on the oil markets of the world.

On The New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil for delivery in November came in at \$US81.30, representing a 1.30-percent increase, compared with Tuesday's closing level.

As for December delivery, the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil was \$US80.61, an increase of about 1.35 percent on Tuesday's final quote.

In Europe, only fractional changes marked the movements of the key indices of the major bourses of the region:

Amsterdam's AEX Index	Plus	0.69 percent
France's CAC 40 Index	Minus	0.39 percent
Germany's Frankfurt XETRA DAX Index	Plus	0.07 percent
Great Britain's FTSE 100 Index	Plus	0.26 percent
Italy's MIBTEL Index	Minus	0.26 percent
Switzerland's Swiss Market Index	Plus	0.48 percent

European investors, noting that which was taking place on Wall Street, determined to wait and to see what the morrow would bring.

In Asia, on the other hand, bullishness on the major equity markets of the region was maintained.

In the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), both equity markets made useful gains.

On the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, The Hang Seng Index rose another 1.21 percent to 28,569.33 points on a Total Turnover of about \$HK153.78 billion.

Advancing counters outpaced declining ones by the ratio of about 2.45:One.

The Ten Most Active counters were:

Bank of China Ltd (Code: 3988)	Up 4.04 percent to \$HK4.63 per share
Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd (Code: 1398)	Up 8.98 percent to \$HK6.92 per share
PetroChina Company Ltd (Code: 857)	Up 2.10 percent to \$HK14.58 per share
China Life Insurance Company Ltd (Code: 2628)	Up 1.53 percent to \$HK49.80 per share
China Mobile Ltd (Code: 941)	Up 1.77 percent to \$HK132.00 per share

China Dongxiang (Group) Company Ltd (Code: 3818)

\$HK5.43 per share\*

China Construction Bank Corporation (Code: 939)

Up 1.50 percent to \$HK7.44 per share

China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (Code: 386)

Up 2.21 percent to \$HK10.18 per share

China Telecom Corporation Ltd (Code: 728)

Down 2.43 percent to \$HK6.02 per share

HSBC Holdings plc (Code: 5)

Down 0.33 percent to \$HK149.20 per share

\*First Day of Trading

There was a total of 40, double-digit movers on the Main Board, last Wednesday, with every one of them, being a gainer of 10 percent or more of their respective market capitalisations.

The biggest winner of the day was eCyberChina Holdings Ltd (Code: 254), its shareholders, pushing up the price of its scrip by 37.84 percent to 51 cents.

On The **G**rowth **E**nterprise **M**arket (The GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, its Growth Enterprise Index rose about 2.08 percent to end the day at 1,529.76 points.

The Total Turnover on this speculative market was about \$HK557.64 million.

Advancing counters outpaced declining ones by the ratio of about 1.35:One.

The 5, most-active counters in terms of their respective turnovers, only, were:

Town Health International Holdings Company Ltd (Code:  
8138)

Up 15.38 percent to \$HK0.12 per share

Enviro Energy International Holdings Ltd (Code: 8182)

Up 11.65 percent to \$HK2.78 per share

Tianjin Tianlian Public Utilities Company Ltd (Code: 8290)

Up 0.98 percent to \$HK2.07 per share

DeTeam Company Ltd (Code: 8112)

Up 8.47 percent to \$HK2.69 per share

Wumart Stores Incorporated (Code: 8277)

Down 1.73 percent to \$HK7.38 per share

As for The GEM's biggest movers of the day, they included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
China Railway Logistics Ltd	8089	15.34		9.25
DIGITALHONGKONG.COM	8007		14.14	0.85

Enviro Energy International Holdings Ltd	8182	11.65		2.78
ePRO Ltd	8086	10.48		0.232
Era Information and Entertainment Ltd	8043		13.13	0.43
Espco Technology Holdings Ltd	8299	50.24		3.11
FlexSystem Holdings Ltd	8050		10.34	0.52
Global Link Communications Holdings Ltd	8060	10.66		0.27
International Financial Network Holdings Ltd	8123	33.87		0.415
Jian ePayment Systems Ltd	8165	20.75		0.64
Linefan Technology Holdings Ltd	8166	10.00		0.22
Mobile Telecom Network (Holdings) Ltd	8266	18.86		0.208
Shenzhen Neptunus Interlong Bio-technique Company Ltd	8329		12.27	1.93
Qianlong Technology International Holdings Ltd	8015	29.13		1.33
T S Telecom Technologies Ltd	8003		10.29	0.305
Tai Shing International (Holdings) Ltd	8103	23.64		0.68
TeleEye Holdings Ltd	8051	21.82		0.335
Town Health International Holdings Company Ltd	8138	15.38		0.12
Zhongyu Gas Holdings Ltd	8070	10.26		1.29

In Japan, trading on the country's 3 equity markets was relatively quiet.

On The Tokyo Stock Exchange, The TOPIX Index shed about 0.11 percent, falling back to 1,658.18 points.

Losers outnumbered gainers by the ratio of about 1.22:One.

The Nikkei-225 Stock Average ended the trading day at 17,177.89 yen, a gain over Tuesday's closing level of about 0.10 percent.

On other Asian equity markets, this was how their respective key indices fared, last Wednesday:

The HKSAR	Hang Seng Index Plus 1.21 percent to 28,569.33
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	The Growth Enterprise Index Plus 2.08 percent to 1,529.76
Indonesia	Plus 1.76 percent to 2,591.48
Japan	TOPIX Index Minus 0.11 percent to 1,658.18 Nikkei-225 Stock Average Plus 0.10 percent to 17,177.89
Malaysia	Plus 0.55 percent to 1,376.93
The Philippines	Plus 1.55 percent to 3,834.71
The PRC	Shanghai Composite Index Plus 0.97 percent to 5,771.46 Shenzhen Composite Index Minus 0.48 percent to 1,543.79
Singapore	Minus 1.33 percent to 3,814.45
South Korea	Plus 1.34 percent to 2,041.12
Taiwan	Closed
Thailand	Plus 0.87 percent to 875.10

### **Thursday**

Investors applied pressure to the key indices of the world's largest equity markets, last Thursday, as the price of crude oil continued to rise, internationally, and concerns lingered about the strength (or otherwise) of the US economy.

On The New York Stock Exchange, the Dow Jones Industrial Average shed 63.57 points, equivalent to about 0.45 percent, coming to rest at 14,015.12 points by the close of the business day.

As for The NASDAQ, its Composite Index gave up 39.41 points, or about 1.40 percent, falling back to 2,772.20 points.

The ratio of declining counters to advancing ones was about 1.67:One on The New York Stock Exchange and about 2.33:One on The NASDAQ.

On The New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), fears that there would be substantial shortage of distillates, during the cold winter months, caused speculators to buy into futures contracts, causing prices to rise, very materially.

For delivery in November, the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil came in at \$US83.08, an increase of about 2.19 percent on Wednesday's closing level.

As for December delivery, the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil was \$US82.26, representing an increase of about 2.05 percent on Wednesday's final quote.

Just prior to the opening of Wall Street, last Thursday, the US Government brought out its statistics with regard to the trade deficit for the month of August.

The following is a précis of that Release:

*'The U.S. monthly goods and services deficit decreased in August 2007, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and the U.S. Census Bureau. The deficit decreased from \$59.0 billion (revised) in July to 57.6 billion in August, as exports increased and imports decreased. The July deficit was slightly lower than its previously published value of \$59.2 billion.'*

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#### *'Exports*

*'Exports of goods and services increased \$0.6 billion in August to \$138.3 billion, reflecting increases in both goods and services exports.'*

- *The increase in goods exports was mostly accounted for by increases in industrial supplies and materials and foods, feeds, and beverages, which were partly offset by a decrease in automotive vehicles, parts, and engines.*
- *The increase in services exports mostly reflected an increase in travel.*

#### *'Imports*

*'Imports of goods and services decreased \$0.8 billion in August to \$195.9 billion, reflecting a decrease in goods imports. Services imports were virtually unchanged.'*

- *The decrease in goods imports was mostly accounted for by decreases in industrial supplies and materials and automotive vehicles, parts, and engines, which were partly offset by an increase in capital goods.*
- *Services imports were virtually unchanged, reflecting small and nearly offsetting changes in all categories.*

#### *Goods by geographic area (not seasonally adjusted)*

- *The goods deficit with Mexico increased from \$5.6 billion in July to \$6.9 billion in August. Exports increased \$1.1 billion to \$12.3 billion, while imports increased \$2.4 billion to \$19.2 billion.*
- *The goods deficit with China decreased from \$23.8 billion in July to \$22.5 billion in August. Exports increased \$1.1 billion to \$5.9 billion, while imports decreased \$0.2 billion to \$28.4 billion.*
- *The goods deficit with the European Union decreased from \$13.0 billion in July to \$10.2 billion in August. Exports increased \$1.3 billion to \$20.2 billion, while imports decreased \$1.4 billion to \$30.5 billion.'*

In Europe, it was a different story as every key index of every major bourse recorded useful gains as the

following **TARGET** () list illustrates:

Amsterdam's AEX Index	Plus	0.62 percent
France's CAC 40 Index	Plus	0.41 percent
Germany's Frankfurt XETRA DAX Index	Plus	0.58 percent
Great Britain's FTSE 100 Index	Plus	1.37 percent
Italy's MIBTEL Index	Plus	0.39 percent
Switzerland's Swiss Market Index	Plus	0.39 percent

Ironically, it was due to the gains on energy counters that could be attributable for a goodly part of the improvements on the most-important European bourses, even though, in due course, those same improvements were quite likely to bite many corporations in their proverbial arses.

In Asia, bullishness prevailed on the major equity markets in the most-populous part of the world.

In the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), both equity markets made material gains.

The Hang Seng Index, which is the key gauge to trading on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, rose about 1.97 percent to the record level of 29,133.02 points on the second-largest daily Total Turnover in history: About \$HK178.71 billion.

Gaining counters outran losing ones by the ratio of about 2.92:One.

The Ten Most Active counters were:

PetroChina Company Ltd (Code: 857)	Up 5.90 percent to \$HK15.44 per share
Bank of China Ltd (Code: 3988)	Up 3.67 percent to \$HK4.80 per share
China Shenhua Energy Company Ltd (Code: 1088)	Up 24.01 percent to \$HK57.85 per share
China Life Insurance Company Ltd (Code: 2628)	Up 2.01 percent to \$HK50.80 per share
China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (Code: 386)	Up 11.39 percent to \$HK11.34 per share
China Telecom Corporation Ltd (Code: 728)	Up 9.80 percent to \$HK6.61 per share
China Mobile Ltd (Code: 941)	Up 2.35 percent to \$HK135.10 per share
Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd (Code: 1398)	Down 1.73 percent to \$HK6.80 per share



China Construction Bank Corporation (Code: 939)

Up 0.94 percent to \$HK7.51 per share

Bosideng International Holdings Ltd (Code: 3998)

\$HK3.41 per share\*

\*First Day of Trading

As for the double-digit movers of the day, there was a total of 39 counters that qualified for that nomenclature, of which number, 8 counters lost ground – 10 percent or more of their respective market capitalisations – while the managements of the remaining 31 counters watched their respective share prices rise by 10 percent or more.

Incutech Investments Ltd (Code: 356) and Wing Hong (Holdings) Ltd (Code: 745) shared the honours of being the biggest gainers of the day, their share prices, rising 45.83 percent to \$HK1.05 and \$HK18.90, respectively.

China Golden Development Holdings Ltd (Code: 162) turned out to be the biggest loser of the day as investors drove down its share price by 16.67 percent to 70 cents.

The **G**rowth **E**nterprise **M**arket (The GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd was not left out of the very decidedly bullish trend in the HKSAR as its Growth Enterprise Index gained 1.32 percent, hitting 1,549.99 points by the close of the day.

However, losing counters outnumbered gaining ones by the ratio of about 1.22:One.

The Total Turnover on this market was about \$HK697.10 million.

The 5, most-active counters in terms of their respective turnovers, only, were:

China LotSynergy Holdings Ltd (Code: 8161)

Up 17.35 percent to \$HK1.15 per share

Town Health International Holdings Company Ltd (Code:  
8138)

Down 5.00 percent to \$HK0.114 per share

Enviro Energy International Holdings Ltd (Code: 8182)

Up 2.16 percent to \$HK2.84 per share

Wumart Stores Incorporated (Code: 8277)

Down 2.44 percent to \$HK7.20 per share

Zhongyu Gas Holdings Ltd (Code: 8070)

Up 6.20 percent to \$HK1.37 per share

As for The GEM's double-digit movers of the day, they included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
abc Multiactive Ltd	8131	15.00		0.46
AcrossAsia Ltd	8061	78.57		0.375
Armitage Technologies Holding Ltd	8213	19.00		0.119

Brilliant Arts Multi-Media Holding Ltd	8130	12.14		0.194
China LotSynergy Holdings Ltd	8161	17.35		1.15
Everpride Biopharmaceutical Company Ltd	8019	17.65		0.26
Global Solution Engineering Ltd	8192		10.86	1.56
International Entertainment Corporation	8118	15.29		1.81
Intelli-Media Group (Holdings) Ltd	8173		13.04	0.10
Jessica Publications Ltd	8137	30.68		1.15
JF Household Furnishings Ltd	8310	18.75		0.95
KanHan Technologies Group Ltd	8175	17.07		0.24
Mobile Telecom Network (Holdings) Ltd	8266		11.54	0.184
North Asia Strategic Holdings Ltd	8080		10.92	1.55
Northeast Tiger Pharmaceutical Company Ltd	8197		13.04	0.16
TeleEye Holdings Ltd	8051		14.93	0.285
WLS Holdings Ltd	8021	16.39		0.71
Zhejiang Yonglong Enterprises Company Ltd	8211	20.00		2.28

In The Land of The Rising Sun, the 3 equity markets made very reasonable gains.

On The Tokyo Stock Exchange, its TOPIX Index put on about 1.17 percent, rising to 1,677.52 points.

The ratio of gainers to losers was about 3.49:One.

The Nikkei-225 Stock Average rose 281.09 yen, or about 1.64 percent, ending the trading day at 17,458.98.

#### News Wise

- **Fast Retailing Company**, the operator of the Uniqlo, casual-clothing outlets, announced that its Net Profit Attributable to Shareholders had slipped, Year-On-Year, by about 21.40 percent, during the Financial Year, ended August 31, 2007, to ¥31.70 billion;
- **Japan's Current Account Surplus** for August was ¥2,081 trillion, an increase of about 42.10 percent, compared with the like month in 2006;
- **The Bank of Japan** determined to leave interest rates untouched at 0.50 percent; and,
- **Kyowa Pharmaceutical Industry Company** announced that **Lupin Ltd** (of India) had acquired a

controlling stake in the Osaka-based, generic pharmaceutical producer. No other details were made available.

In other parts of Asia, this was how the key indices of these equity markets closed, last Thursday:

The HKSAR	Hang Seng Index Plus 1.97 percent to 29,133.02 The Growth Enterprise Index Plus 1.32 percent to 1,549.99
Indonesia	Plus 1.80 percent to 2,638.21
Japan	TOPIX Index Plus 1.17 percent to 1,677.52 Nikkei-225 Stock Average Plus 1.64 percent to 17,458.98
Malaysia	Plus 0.49 percent to 1,383.61
The Philippines	Minus 0.27 percent to 3,824.20
The PRC	Shanghai Composite Index Plus 2.46 percent to 5,913.23 Shenzhen Composite Index Minus 0.56 percent to 1,535.19
Singapore	Plus 1.61 percent to 3,875.77
South Korea	Plus 0.87 percent to 2,058.85
Taiwan	Plus 0.60 percent to 9,697.67
Thailand	Plus 1.60 percent to 889.06

### **Friday**

Oil prices reached a record high, last Friday.

Concern over adequate supplies of distillates, during the cold winter months, plus speculation that the 500,000-barrel, per-day increase in exports of crude oil from the members of The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), starting November 1, 2007, will be insufficient, all things considered, sent speculators back to the drawing boards – and up went the prices of crude-oil future contracts.

At its September meeting, OPEC promised that, effective November 1, exports of crude oil from the cartel would be increased by 500,000 barrels per day.

Today, however, the debate was whether or not that promised increase would have much of an effect on the international price of the black ooze since things have changed since the OPEC meeting of September.

The record-high price of crude oil, probably sooner than later, could have a telling effect on the economies of the world.

Iraq is the third-largest producer of crude oil after Saudi Arabia and Iran, but it is well known that Turkey is planning armed incursions into northern Iraq due to attacks on Turkey by the Iraqi-based, Kurdistan Workers Party.

Those attacks have killed more than 15 Turkish soldiers in the past week or so.

The north of Iraq is rich in crude oil and many of the largest oil fields are in this part of the country.

On The New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil was \$US83.69, representing an increase of about 0.73 percent on Thursday's closing level.

During the heat of the day, however, the price of light sweet crude oil rose to \$US84.05 per barrel.

As for delivery in December, the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil came in at \$US82.74, equivalent to an increase of about 0.58 percent on the final quote of Thursday.

Wall Street investors appeared to be nonchalant about oil prices – more's the pity, one might be tempted to add.

On The New York Stock Exchange, the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 77.96 points, or about 0.56 percent, ending the trading day at 14,093.08 points.

Over on The NASDAQ, its Composite Index ended the day at 2,805.68 points, a one-day improvement of about 1.21 percent.

The ratio of gaining counters to losing ones was about 1.67:One on The New York Stock Exchange and about 1.50:One on The NASDAQ.

The tally for the week for the largest and most-important equity markets of the world was:

The Dow Jones Industrial Average	Plus	0.19 percent
The Composite Index of The NASDAQ	Plus	0.91 percent

In Europe, record-high, crude-oil prices caused a flurry of excitement on major bourses in the region, resulting in the key indices of some equity markets to hit 3-month highs.

The following **TARGET** list of the key indices of the most-important, European bourses tells the tale:

Amsterdam's AEX Index	Plus	0.20 percent
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France's CAC 40 Index	Minus	0.32 percent
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Germany's Frankfurt XETRA DAX Index	Plus	0.09 percent
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Great Britain's FTSE 100 Index	Plus	0.09 percent
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Italy's MIBTEL Index	Plus	0.16 percent
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Switzerland's Swiss Market Index	Minus	0.22 percent
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It was not a good trading day for Asia, last Friday, as many of the key indices of the biggest equity markets

lost ground.

In the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), both equity markets lost their footing to bearishness due, mainly, to concern that the PRC Government would announce another tightening up of the economy in order to stop the runaway equity and property trains.

On the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, the Hang Seng Index gave up 294.65 points, equivalent to about 1.01 percent, ending the day at 28,838.37 points.

The Total Turnover was about \$HK195.28 billion.

The ratio of declining counters to advancing ones was about 1.57:One.

The Ten Most Active counters were:

PetroChina Company Ltd (Code: 857)	Up 7.64 percent to \$HK16.62 per share
China Shenhua Energy Company Ltd (Code: 1088)	Down 6.48 percent to \$HK54.10 per share
China Mobile Ltd (Code: 941)	Down 1.11 percent to \$HK133.60 per share
China Life Insurance Company Ltd (Code: 2628)	Down 1.87 percent to \$HK49.85 per share
China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (Code: 386)	Up 0.53 percent to \$HK11.40 per share
Xinjiang Xinxin Mining Industry Company Ltd (Code: 3833)	\$HK14.24 per share*
China Telecom Corporation Ltd (Code: 728)	Up 3.03 percent to \$HK6.81 per share
Bank of China Ltd (Code: 3988)	Down 2.29 percent to \$HK4.69 per share
Aluminum Corporation of China Ltd (Code: 2600)	Up 0.62 percent to \$HK24.25 per share
Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd (Code: 1398)	Down 2.06 percent to \$HK6.66 per share

\*First Day of Trading

As for the Main Board's double-digit movers of the day, they included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
China Golden Development Holdings Ltd	162	10.00		0.77
China Seven Star Shopping Ltd	245		15.79	0.32

Ching Hing (Holdings) Ltd	692	22.58		0.76
City Telecom (Hongkong) Ltd	1137	59.57		3.67
Concepta Investments Ltd	1140	16.67		2.80
Dickson Concepts (International) Ltd	113		11.73	7.15
E2-Capital (Holdings) Ltd	378		20.50	1.59
Fubon Bank (Hongkong) Ltd	636	13.63		5.67
Fujian Holdings Ltd	181	11.67		1.34
G-Prop (Holdings) Ltd	286		11.72	1.28
GFT Holdings Ltd	1003	22.89		0.102
Graneagle Holdings Ltd	147	17.99		1.64
Guangzhou Shipyard International Company Ltd	317	11.90		64.90
Hans Energy Company Ltd	554		11.76	0.60
The Hongkong Parkview Group Ltd	207	28.79		4.25
HKC International Holdings Ltd	248	17.86		0.33
Jolimark Holdings Ltd	2028		13.48	0.77
New World Development Company Ltd	17	10.04		25.20
Poly Investments Holdings Ltd	263	25.57		2.75
Tomorrow International Holdings Ltd	760		10.00	0.81
UBA Investments Ltd	768	10.74		0.165
Vitop Bioenergy Holdings Ltd	1178	36.47		0.232
VST Holdings Ltd	856		17.40	2.80
Wing Hong (Holdings) Ltd	745		11.11	16.80
Zhongtian International Ltd	2379		11.76	0.45

On The **G**rowth **E**nterprise **M**arket (The GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, its Growth Enterprise Index shed about 0.45 percent, falling back to 1,542.98 points on a Total Turnover of about \$HK705 million.

Losing counters outdistanced advancing ones by the ratio of about 1.41:One.

The 5, most-active counters in terms of their respective turnovers, only, were:

Wumart Stores Incorporated (Code: 8277)

Down 2.22 percent to \$HK7.04 per share

Shandong Weigao Group Medical Polymer Company Ltd  
(Code: 8199)

Up 1.01 percent to \$HK17.98 per share

Phoenix Satellite Television Holdings Ltd (Code: 8002)

Up 1.53 percent to \$HK1.99 per share

DeTeam Company Ltd (Code: 8112)

Up 3.33 percent to \$HK2.79 per share

Tong Ren Tang Technologies Company Ltd (Code: 8069)

Up 1.29 percent to \$HK18.80 per share

The GEM's biggest movers of the day included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
AcrossAsia Ltd	8061	30.67		0.49
BIG Media Group Ltd	8167		15.63	1.08
China Chief Cable TV Group Ltd	8153		21.37	1.03
ePRO Ltd	8086	12.07		0.26
Golding Soft Ltd	8190	13.36		0.28
Xi'an Haitian Antenna Technologies Company Ltd	8227		10.67	0.335
HC International Incorporated	8292	20.16		1.55
Inspur International Ltd	8141		12.70	1.10
Intelli-Media Group (Holdings) Ltd	8173	10.00		0.11
Jessica Publications Ltd	8137		10.43	1.03
Shanghai Jiaoda Withub Information Industrial Company Ltd	8205		15.38	0.33

Longlife Group Holdings Ltd	8037		11.69	0.34
Prosperity International Holdings (Hongkong) Ltd	8139	76.36		1.94
Prosten Technology Holdings Ltd	8026		12.35	0.71
South China Land Ltd	8155	11.11		0.40
TeleEye Holdings Ltd	8051	15.79		0.33
ThinSoft (Holdings) Incorporated	8096		14.04	0.245
Tiger Tech Holdings Ltd	8046	27.27		0.98
Ultra Group Holdings Ltd	8203	11.59		0.26

The tally for the second-largest and second, most-important equity market of Asia was:

The Hang Seng Index Plus 3.62 percent  
The Growth Enterprise Index Plus 3.30 percent

In Japan, the situation was one of profit-taking and concern about the growth of future exports to the country's biggest market: The United States of America.

On The Tokyo Stock Exchange, its TOPIX Index surrendered about 1.08 percent of its value, dropping back to 1,659.48 points.

The ratio of losers to gainers was about 3.96:One.

The Nikkei-225 Stock Average shed about 0.73 percent of its value, ending the day at 17,331.17 yen.

For the 4-day, working week for Asia's most-important equity market, the tally was:

The TOPIX Index Minus 0.03 percent  
The Nikkei-225 Stock Average Plus 1.56 percent

This was how the key indices of the other Asian equity markets ended the week of October 12, 2007:

The HKSAR	Hang Seng Index Minus 1.01 percent to 28,838.37 The Growth Enterprise Index Minus 0.45 percent to 1,542.98
Indonesia	Closed
Japan	TOPIX Index Minus 1.08 percent to 1,659.48 Nikkei-225 Stock Average Minus 0.73 percent to 17,331.17
Malaysia	Minus 0.60 percent to 1,375.25



The Philippines	Closed
The PRC	Shanghai Composite Index Minus 0.17 percent to 5,903.26 Shenzhen Composite Index Minus 1.14 percent to 1,517.63
Singapore	Minus 0.48 percent to 3,857.25
South Korea	Minus 1.57 percent to 2,026.44
Taiwan	Minus 2.07 percent to 9,496.47
Thailand	Minus 0.23 percent to 887.02

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