

**U.S. EQUITY INVESTORS GO ON A ROLLER-COASTER RIDE,
BUT ASIAN INVESTORS JUST SUFFER**

The US banking industry approached crisis levels, last Monday, following 2 major, US-Government announcements:

- a. The US Government would financially support, unconditionally, the country's 2 biggest, mortgage-financing entities, known as Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae; and,
- b. Mortgage-lending bank, IndyMac Bancorp Incorporated, was seized by The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) (a US-Government regulatory body) after a run on the bank.

With regard to Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, both of which are US-Government sponsored entities, they are known to have guaranteed nearly half of all US home loans.

The financial exposure of these entities is known to be about \$US5 trillion, with the 2 entities, in aggregate, having cash of about \$US60 billion.

For the week, ended July 11, 2008, the share prices of both Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae fell by about 50 percent.

Both entities are known to have taken '*baths*' with regard to the US housing crises – and the rot is continuing, apace, with no sign of a let-up.

Last Monday, the share prices of Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae on The New York Stock Exchange tumbled again:

Freddie Mac, down 8.30 percent to \$US7.11; and,
Fannie Mae, down 5.10 percent to \$US9.73.

With regard to IndyMac Bancorp Incorporated, The FDIC said that it had been forced to take action after customers withdrew deposits of more than \$US1.30 billion within a period of about 11 business days.

The bank, on July 7, 2008, sacked about 50 percent of its entire workforce.

IndyMac Bancorp Incorporated specialised in what is known as Alt-A mortgages. It was founded in 1985.

Alt-A mortgages are similar to subprime mortgages with the major difference, being that borrowers do not have to document their incomes and assets.

IndyMac Bancorp Incorporated was the second-largest, major financial institution to fail in the history of the US.

The US Government, in order to bring some semblance of normality to the US banking industry, felt that it had to take definitive action, immediately – and public statements were made to that effect.

There had been strong suggestions that as many as 300 more, US-based banks could be in financial trouble.

On Wall Street, investors were not placated by the actions of the US Government, however.

On The New York Stock Exchange, the Dow Jones Industrial Average shed 45.35 points, equivalent to about 0.41 percent, dropping back to 11,055.19 points.

The Composite Index of The NASDAQ, on the other hand, gave up 26.21 points, or about 1.17 percent, falling to 2,212.87 points.

The ratio of losers to gainers was about 3:One on The New York Stock Exchange and about 2:One on The NASDAQ.

Trading was light on both of the world's largest equity markets.

As expected, banks and financial institutions took it on the chin:

National City Bank	Down 14.71 percent to \$US3.77 per share
Washington Mutual	Down 34.80 percent to \$US3.23 per share
M and T Bank Corporation	Down 15.60 percent to \$US58.82 per share
Fifth Third Bancorp	Down 10.60 percent to \$US11.16 per share

On The New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), the price of crude oil continued to rise, albeit only by fractions.

The last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil for delivery in August came in at \$US145.18, up about 0.07 percent, compared with the final quote of Friday, July 11, 2008.

As for September delivery, the last settlement was \$US145.78 per barrel of light sweet crude oil, representing an increase of about 0.08 percent on the previous Friday's last settlement.

In Europe, the chaos that was the United States of America did not appear to faze investors in this part of the world where attention was focused more on mergers and acquisitions than anything else.

Europe was fully cognisant of the situation across the '*pond*', known as the Atlantic Ocean, as well as the role that the US Government was playing in trying to keep US equity markets in check and appease deposit-holders.

It was a generally held view in this part of the world that the US Government would, eventually, win the day and, therefore, there was little reason to join the US throng in thrashing banks' share prices.

This was how the key indices of the most-important European bourses fared, last Monday:

Amsterdam's AEX Index	Plus	0.85 percent
France's CAC 40 Index	Plus	1.02 percent
Germany's Frankfurt XETRA DAX Index	Plus	0.76 percent
Great Britain's FTSE 100 Index	Plus	0.73 percent
Italy's MIBTEL Index	Plus	0.15 percent
Switzerland's Swiss Market Index	Plus	0.54 percent

In Asia, only the key indices of the 2 equity markets of the People's Republic of China (PRC) were gainers.

In the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the PRC, the key indices of both equity

markets came off the boil on declining volumes of activity.

On the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, The Hang Seng Index shed about 0.77 percent as investors pulled it back to 22,014.46 points.

The Total Turnover was about \$HK58.40 billion.

Declining counters outpaced advancing ones by the ratio of about 1.94:One.

The Ten Most Active counters were:

HSBC Holdings plc (Code: 5)

Down 1.93 percent to \$HK116.60 per share

China Mobile Ltd (Code: 941)

Down 0.19 percent to \$HK105.00 per share

China Life Insurance Company Ltd (Code: 2628)

Down 0.18 percent to \$HK28.50 per share

China Construction Bank Corporation (Code:
939)

Unchanged at \$HK6.50 per share

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

Down 0.54 percent to \$HK5.54 per share

PetroChina Company Ltd (Code: 857)

Up 0.40 percent to \$HK10.04 per share

Hongkong Exchanges and Clearing Ltd (Code:
388)

Up 0.44 percent to \$HK113.00 per share

China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation
(Code: 386)

Down 1.35 percent to \$HK7.29 per share

China Shenhua Energy Company Ltd (Code:
1088)

Up 0.64 percent to \$HK31.40 per share

CNOOC Ltd (Code: 883)

Down 0.30 percent to \$HK13.10 per share

The Main Board's biggest movers of the day included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
BEP International Holdings Ltd	2326	11.49		0.194
China Agri-Products Exchange Ltd	149	12.68		0.80
China Fortune Holdings Ltd	110		13.51	0.32

China Strategic Holdings Ltd	235		10.00	0.495
China Timber Resources Group Ltd	269	10.23		0.097
Crocodile Garments Ltd	122	13.85		0.37
Dynamic Energy Holdings Ltd	578	13.19		1.03
Freeman Corporation Ltd	279		11.88	0.089
Fulbond Holdings Ltd	1041	12.20		0.046
The Hongkong Parkview Group Ltd	207	13.86		1.15
Jolimark Holdings Ltd	2028		12.09	0.40
Lo's Enviro-Pro Holdings Ltd	309		13.92	0.34
Magnesium Resources Corporation of China Ltd	723	12.61		0.125
Premium Land Ltd	164		10.71	0.50
Rising Development Holdings Ltd	1004	13.71		0.141
Shanghai Allied Cement Ltd	1060	11.39		0.88
Sunway International Holdings Ltd	58		11.43	0.248
Tianyi Fruit Holdings Ltd	756		12.90	0.81
Vietnam Manufacturing and Export Processing (Holdings) Ltd	422	11.49		1.65
Zhongda International Holdings Ltd	909		10.34	0.26

On The **G**rowth **E**nterprise **M**arket (The GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, its Growth Enterprise Index shed 0.21 percent, exactly, falling to 770.97 points.

The Total Turnover was about \$HK257.67 million, while the ratio of losers to gainers was about 1.47:One.

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

ThinSoft (Holdings) Incorporated (Code: 8096)

Down 7.50 percent to \$HK0.74 per share

Intelli-Media Group (Holdings) Ltd (Code: 8173)

Up 5.88 percent to \$HK1.08 per share

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

Up 3.59 percent to \$HK10.40 per share

Enviro Energy International Holdings Ltd (Code:
8182)

Down 2.41 percent to \$HK0.405 per share

Espco Technology Holdings Ltd (Code: 8299)

Up 0.65 percent to \$HK0.156 per share

The GEM's double-digit movers of the day included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
BIG Media Group Ltd	8167		12.64	0.38
Excel Technology International Holdings Ltd	8048		19.19	0.08
Golife Concepts Holdings Ltd	8172	14.29		0.04
Intcera High Tech Group Ltd	8041	23.46		0.10
Mobile Telecom Network (Holdings) Ltd	8266	10.16		0.141
Shanghai Fudan-Zhangjiang Bio-Pharmaceutical Company Ltd	8231	13.46		0.59
Shanghai Jiaoda Withub Information Industrial Company Ltd	8205	18.00		0.59
Shenzhen Neptunus Interlong Bio-technique Company Ltd	8329		13.08	0.93
Thiz Technology Group Ltd	8119		13.25	0.072

On Asia's largest and most-important equity markets, trading was quiet with the key indices, hardly moving off the previous Friday's closing levels.

On The Tokyo Stock Exchange, which is the premier equity market of Japan, its TOPIX Index shed 5.19 points, or about 0.40 percent, ending the trading session at 1,280.72 points.

The ratio of losing counters to gaining ones was about 1.44:One.

The Nikkei-225 Stock Average, which is a much-narrower gauge of trading on select blue chips, listed on The First Section of The Tokyo Stock Exchange, than The TOPIX Index, gave up 29.53 yen, equivalent to about 0.23 percent, sliding back to 13,010.16 yen.

News Wise

- Japanese fishermen went on a **one-day strike** in order to bring home to the public their plight as the cost of fuel continues to rise to historically high levels. About 200,000 fishing boats did not take to the water; and,
- The **3 largest banks** of Japan and 4 major insurance companies of the country were exposed to the

problems of Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae to the extent of about ¥9 trillion (about \$US56 billion), as at March 31, 2008.

The 3 banks are:

<u>Name of Bank</u>	<u>Known Exposure</u>
Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group Incorporated	¥3.30 trillion
Mizuho Financial Group Incorporated	¥1.20 trillion
Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group Incorporated	¥200 billion

The 4 insurance companies are:

<u>Name of Insurance Company</u>	<u>Known Exposure</u>
Nippon Life Insurance Company	¥2.50 trillion
Dai-ichi Mutual Life Insurance Company	¥900 billion
Tokyo Marine and Nichido Fire Insurance Company	¥65.60 billion
Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Company	¥45 billion

On other Asian equity markets, this was how their respective key indices settled, last Monday night:

The HKSAR	Hang Seng Index Minus 0.77 percent to 22,014.46 The Growth Enterprise Index Minus 0.21 percent to 770.97
Indonesia	Minus 0.76 percent to 2,259.54
Japan	TOPIX Index Minus 0.40 percent to 1,280.72 Nikkei-225 Stock Average Minus 0.23 percent to 13,010.16
Malaysia	Minus 0.56 percent to 1,144.00
The Philippines	Plus 0.79 percent to 2,457.27
The PRC	Shanghai Composite Index Plus 0.76 percent to 2,878.26 Shenzhen Composite Index Plus 1.29 percent to 871.30
Singapore	Minus 0.78 percent to 2,904.12
South Korea	Minus 0.57 percent to 1,558.62
Taiwan	Minus 1.21 percent to 7,156.96

Thailand	Minus 1.81 percent to 717.06
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Tuesday

Share prices tumbled round the world, last Tuesday, as investors struggled to come to grips with the plethora of negative news.

On Wall Street, the share prices of major banks sank to levels, not seen in 12 years.

On The New York Stock Exchange, the Dow Jones Industrial Average ended the very volatile day at 11,053.97 points, down about 0.01 percent, compared with Monday's close, but, for most of the trading day, The Dow was sharply lower, compared with Monday's closing level.

As for the Composite Index of The NASDAQ, its final figure was 2,235.08 points, representing a gain of about one percent on Monday's close.

While the key indices of the world's largest equity markets ended last Tuesday's trading sessions with gains (albeit for The Dow by only a tiny fraction), the share prices of many banks and major financial institutions did not fare well, at all:

Citigroup Incorporated	Down 4.30 percent
Bank of America Corporation	Down 8.10 percent
Wachovia Corporation	Down 7.70 percent
JPMorgan Chase and Company	Down 2.10 percent
US Bancorp	Down 2.70 percent

As for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, both of these US Government-sponsored, mortgage lenders had another tough time of it, last Tuesday:

Freddie Mac	Down 26.00 percent
Fannie Mae	Down 27.30 percent

It was only too apparent that investors in The Land of The Free and The Home of The Brave were not pleased with their lot – and they made this only too clear by dumping shares on the world's biggest and most-prestigious equity markets.

On Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., the Chairman of the US Federal Reserve, Dr Ben S. Bernanke, gave testimony to The Senate Banking Committee.

His testimony was not well received since the world's most-celebrated economist appeared to be wishy-washy as to the likely answers to the problems that confront the largest, single economy of the world.

Dr Ben S. Bernanke talked of '*numerous difficulties*', including the problems of the US housing industry, rising unemployment, and persistent strains on the US financial markets.

Members of The Senate Banking Committee had heard this type of discourse in the past and were not amused – and they made their displeasure known in very plain language.

On commodity markets, round the world, the price of crude oil came off, big time.

On The New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil for delivery in August came in at \$US138.74, representing a one-day fall of about 4.44 percent.

As for delivery in September, the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil was \$US139.37, down about 4.40 percent on the day.

At one point, during the Open Outcry Trading Session, the quote for a barrel of light sweet crude oil for August delivery was off by \$US9.26 (about 6.38 percent), compared with Monday's final quote.

On European bourses, there were only losers as the key indices fell, one after another.

In a number of cases, share prices hit 3-year lows as investors struggled to try to find a safe haven in an equity world that appeared to have gone wild.

This was how the situation looked, last Tuesday, at the close of the trading session of the major bourses of this region of the world:

Amsterdam's AEX Index	Minus 2.95 percent
France's CAC 40 Index	Minus 1.96 percent
Germany's Frankfurt XETRA DAX Index	Minus 1.91 percent
Great Britain's FTSE 100 Index	Minus 2.42 percent
Italy's MIBTEL Index	Minus 2.55 percent
Switzerland's Swiss Market Index	Minus 1.69 percent

As with Wall Street, investors in Europe targeted banks and financial institutions, the shares prices of which came in for quite a wallop.

Here are just some of the big losers:

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc	Down 7.10 percent
Allied Irish Banks plc	Down 9.90 percent
Natixis	Down 9.70 percent
UBS AG	Down 6.30 percent
Fortis Bank Incorporated	Down 11.00 percent

On Asian equity markets, it was a similar situation to the one that existed in Europe: There were only losers as the key indices tumbled to much-lower levels.

In the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), the key indices of both equity markets lost materially.

On the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, The Hang Seng Index shed about 3.81 percent, falling back to 21,174.77 points.

The Total Turnover fell to about \$HK65.79 billion, while the ratio of losing counters to gaining ones was about 3.89:One.

The Ten Most Active counters were:

HSBC Holdings plc (Code: 5)	Down 3.09 percent to \$HK113.00 per share
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China Mobile Ltd (Code: 941)	Down 3.81 percent to \$HK101.00 per share
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China Life Insurance Company Ltd (Code: 2628)	Down 5.26 percent to \$HK27.00 per share
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China Construction Bank Corporation (Code: 939)	Down 4.46 percent to \$HK6.21 per share
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Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd (Code: 1398)	Down 4.33 percent to \$HK5.30 per share
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Hongkong Exchanges and Clearing Ltd (Code: 388)	Down 7.08 percent to \$HK105.00 per share
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PetroChina Company Ltd (Code: 857) Down 3.78 percent to \$HK9.66 per share

Bank of China Ltd (Code: 3988) Down 4.29 percent to \$HK3.35 per share

CNOOC Ltd (Code: 883) Down 3.05 percent to \$HK12.70 per share

China Merchants Bank Company Ltd (Code: 3968) Down 5.40 percent to \$HK25.40 per share

As for the Main Board's biggest movers of the day, they included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
Asia Tele-Net and Technology Corporation Ltd	679	16.88		0.45
Enric Energy Equipment Holdings Ltd	3899	10.64		5.20
Global Flex Holdings Ltd	471		11.41	0.132
Global Tech (Holdings) Ltd	143	10.53		0.042
Grandtop International Holdings Ltd	2309	10.42		0.265
Green Energy Group Ltd	979		11.11	0.80
Hopson Development Holdings Ltd	754		12.47	8.14
Jolimark Holdings Ltd	2028		11.25	0.355
Kenfair International (Holdings) Ltd	223		10.10	0.89
KWG Property Holding Ltd	1813		12.28	4.50
Opes Asia Development Ltd	810		15.03	0.13
Jilin Qifeng Chemical Fiber Company Ltd	549		10.39	0.345
Shanghai Allied Cement Ltd	1060		10.23	0.79
Sincere Watch (Hongkong) Ltd	444		12.50	0.98
Tai-I International Holdings Ltd	1808		10.00	0.63
Tanrich Financial Holdings Ltd	812		17.00	0.415

ZZNode Technologies Company Ltd	2371		13.11	1.06
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On The **G**rowth **E**nterprise **M**arket (The GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, its Growth Enterprise Index gave up about 2.13 percent, dropping to 754.56 points.

The Total Turnover on this (speculative) market was about \$HK173.60 million.

Losing counters outnumbered gaining ones by the ratio of about 3.87:One.

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

Intelli-Media Group (Holdings) Ltd (Code: 8173)

Down 4.63 percent to \$HK1.03 per share

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

Down 3.85 percent to \$HK10.00 per share

Inspur International Ltd (Code: 8141)

Down 3.88 percent to \$HK0.99 per share

Golden Meditech Company Ltd (Code: 8180)

Down 4.98 percent to \$HK2.10 per share

Intcera High Tech Group Ltd (Code: 8041)

Unchanged at \$HK0.10 per share

The GEM's double-digit movers of the day included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
ePRO Ltd	8086		11.11	0.16
Golife Concepts Holdings Ltd	8172		10.00	0.036
International China Financial Holdings Ltd	8123		12.33	0.32
International Elite Ltd	8313		11.54	0.46
Launch Tech Company Ltd	8196		13.33	0.52
Neolink Cyber Technology (Holding) Ltd	8116		10.59	0.076
North Asia Strategic Holdings Ltd	8080		17.05	0.73
Prosten Technology Holdings Ltd	8026		10.71	0.50
Rojam Entertainment Holdings Ltd	8075		11.29	0.055
Shanghai Jiaoda Withub Information Industrial Company Ltd	8205		11.86	0.52

On The Tokyo Stock Exchange, its TOPIX Index surrendered about 2.16 percent as investors pushed it down to 1,253.12 points.

Declining counters outran advancing ones by the ratio of about 2.98:One.

The Nikkei-225 Stock Average lost about 1.96 percent to 12,754.56 yen.

News Wise

- The Central Bank of Japan has reduced its forecast economic growth for the country for Fiscal 2008-2009, ending March 31, 2009, to about 1.20 percent. **Interest rates** were left unchanged at 0.50 percent

Elsewhere in Asia, this was how the situation looked at the close of last Tuesday's trading day:

The HKSAR	Hang Seng Index Minus 3.81 percent to 21,174.77 The Growth Enterprise Index Minus 2.13 percent to 754.56
Indonesia	Minus 1.98 percent to 2,214.85
Japan	TOPIX Index Minus 2.16 percent to 1,253.12 Nikkei-225 Stock Average Minus 1.96 percent to 12,754.56
Malaysia	Minus 1.43 percent to 1,127.60
The Philippines	Minus 1.79 percent to 2,413.26
The PRC	Shanghai Composite Index Minus 3.43 percent to 2,779.45 Shenzhen Composite Index Minus 3.22 percent to 843.23
Singapore	Minus 2.53 percent to 2,830.75
South Korea	Minus 3.16 percent to 1,509.33
Taiwan	Minus 4.51 percent to 6,834.24
Thailand	Minus 3.30 percent to 693.41

Wednesday

The price of crude oil on international commodity exchanges came off the boil for the second, consecutive day, and this event, coupled with some seemingly somewhat bullish news from the US banking industry,

caused a flurry of activity on The New York Stock Exchange and The NASDAQ.

Against, this, however, there was a report from the US Government that was not, at all, bullish.

Just prior to Wall Street, opening its doors for business, last Wednesday, The Bureau of Labour Statistics, a division of the US Government's Labour Department, brought out its findings for the Consumer Price Index for the month of June.

In just 2 words, it smacked of galloping inflation.

Inflation in the US has accelerated at its fastest pace since June of 1991, it seems.

The following is a verbatim extract of the findings of The Bureau, minus some technical data and the tables:

'CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: JUNE 2008

'The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 1.0 percent in June, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The June level of 218.815 (1982-84=100) was 5.0 percent higher than in June 2007.

'The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 1.1 percent in June, prior to seasonal adjustment. The June level of 215.223 (1982-84=100) was 5.6 percent higher than in June 2007.

'The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.8 percent in June on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The June level of 125.582 (December 1999=100) was 4.2 percent higher than in June 2007. Please note that the indexes for the post-2006 period are subject to revision.

'CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

'On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U advanced 1.1 percent in June, following a 0.6 percent increase in May. The index for energy rose sharply for the second straight month, increasing 6.6 percent in June following a 4.4 percent increase in May. The increase in the energy index accounted for around two-thirds of the overall increase in the all items index in June. The index for petroleum-based energy advanced 10.0 percent and the index for energy services rose 1.5 percent. The food index rose 0.8 percent in June after rising 0.3 percent in May. The index for food at home went up 1.0 percent in June, with indexes for four of the six major grocery store food groups sharply accelerating. The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.3 percent in June, following a 0.1 percent rise in April and a 0.2 percent increase in May. Larger increases in the indexes for shelter and for tobacco and smoking products and an upturn in the apparel index contributed to the larger increase ...

'Consumer prices advanced at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate (SAAR) of 7.9 percent in the second quarter after increasing at a 3.1 percent rate in the first three months of 2008. This brings the year-to-date annual rate to 5.5 percent and compares with an increase of 4.1 percent in all of 2007. The index for energy increased at a 29.1 percent SAAR in the first half of 2008, accounting for around half of the advance in the all items CPI-U during that period. Energy commodities increased at a 34.7 percent rate and energy services rose at a 20.1 percent rate. The food index rose at a 6.8 percent SAAR in the first half of 2008, accounting for about one-sixth of the overall CPI-U increase in the period. The food at home index increased at an 8.7 percent annual rate in the first half of 2008, compared to a 5.6 percent increase for all of 2007. Four of the six major groups accelerated over last year. The increases ranged from annual rates of 15.5 percent for the index for cereal and bakery products to 5.2 percent for the index for meats, poultry fish and eggs.

'The CPI-U excluding food and energy increased at a 2.5 percent SAAR in the second quarter after rising at a 2.0 percent rate in the first three months of 2008. The advance at a 2.3 percent SAAR over the first six months of 2008 compares with an increase of 2.4 percent in all of 2007. Deceleration in the shelter and medical care indexes and a larger rate of decline in the apparel index more than offset acceleration in the indexes for recreation,

education and communication, and other goods and services. The shelter index increased at a 2.2 percent SAAR after increasing 3.1 percent in 2007 while the apparel index declined at a 1.9 percent rate after falling 0.3 percent in 2007. The annual rates for selected groups for the last seven-and-one-half years are shown ...

'The food and beverages index rose 0.7 percent in June. The index for food at home increased 1.0 percent, following a 0.3 percent rise in May. Four of the six major grocery store food group indexes accelerated in June. The index for fruits and vegetables, which was virtually unchanged in May, rose 2.8 percent in June. The index for fresh vegetables rose 6.1 percent in June and the indexes for fresh fruit and for processed fruits and vegetables increased 0.8 percent and 1.2 percent, respectively. The index for dairy and related products increased 1.6 percent in June after a 0.1 percent decline in May. The index for meats, poultry fish and eggs rose 0.8 percent in June after a 0.1 percent increase in May. The beef and veal index increased sharply for the second month in a row, up 1.7 percent in June after a 1.5 percent increase in May. The pork index turned up, increasing 0.6 percent in June after declining 0.8 percent the previous month. The index for eggs increased 1.4 percent in June after a 3.8 percent decrease in May and is 23.2 percent higher than in June 2007. The index for nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials rose 0.2 percent in June after a 0.9 percent decline in May. The two decelerating groups were cereals and bakery products, increasing 0.5 percent in June after a 1.6 percent rise in May, and other food at home, up 0.4 percent in June after a 0.5 percent increase in May. The indexes for food away from home and for alcoholic beverages increased 0.5 and 0.1 percent, respectively.

'The index for housing rose 0.5 percent in June, the same increase as the previous month. The index for shelter increased 0.3 percent, following a 0.2 percent rise in May and a 0.1 percent increase in April. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent increased 0.4 and 0.3 percent, respectively. The index for lodging away from home increased 0.7 percent in June. The index for household energy registered its fifth consecutive large increase, increasing 2.1 percent in June. The index for fuel oil rose 10.4 percent for the second consecutive month and is 78.0 percent higher than in June 2007. The index for electricity, after increasing for three consecutive months, declined 0.1 percent in June. The index for natural gas increased sharply for the fifth consecutive month, rising 4.9 percent in June and is up 21.5 percent over the last 12 months. The index for household furnishings and operations was virtually unchanged in June after increasing 0.2 percent in May.

'The transportation index advanced 3.8 percent in June, reflecting large increases in the indexes for motor fuel and public transportation. The index for gasoline rose 10.1 percent, accounting for slightly more than half of the total advance in the all items index, and was 32.8 percent higher than in June 2007. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices in June rose 7.9 percent above their previous peak level recorded in May.) The index for new vehicles turned up in June, increasing 0.2 percent after a 0.1 percent decline in May; the new vehicles index is down 1.0 percent over the last 12 months. The index for used cars and trucks declined 0.3 percent in June, the third consecutive decrease, but is up 0.7 percent over June 2007. The index for public transportation advanced 3.4 percent in June, reflecting a 4.5 percent increase in the index for airline fares. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, airline fares rose 6.7 percent and were 18.7 percent higher than a year ago.)

'The index for apparel rose 0.1 percent in June following a 0.3 percent decline in May. Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices declined 3.1 percent in June and are 0.2 percent lower than in June 2007. Over the last year, women's and girls' apparel prices declined 3.3 percent while prices for men's and boys' apparel rose 1.0 percent.

'Medical care costs rose 0.2 percent in June, and are 4.0 percent higher than a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies — increased 0.1 percent in June after a 0.7 percent decline in May. The index for medical care services increased 0.3 percent in June after a 0.5 percent increase in May. This reflected a deceleration in the index for professional services, which increased 0.3 percent in June after a 0.7 percent increase in May. The index for hospital and related services increased 0.4 percent in June.

'The index for recreation was increased 0.1 percent in June, the same percent change as in May. Increases in the indexes for pets, pet products and services and for sporting goods more than offset declines in the indexes for video and audio, for toys, and for admissions.

‘The index for education and communication increased 0.5 percent in June. Educational costs rose 0.4 percent and the index for communication costs rose 0.6 percent. Within the latter category, the index for delivery services increased 2.1 percent and long distance land-line telephone charges increased 3.3 percent. These increases were partially offset by a 0.5 percent decline in the index for information technology, hardware and services.

‘The index for other goods and services increased 0.4 percent in June. The index for tobacco and smoking products rose 1.5 percent, accounting for over 80 percent of the increase in this group. The index for personal care increased 0.1 percent.

‘CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)

‘On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers increased 1.2 percent in June ...’.

On The New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil for delivery in August came in at \$US134.60, down about 2.98 percent, compared with Tuesday’s closing level.

As for delivery in September, the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude was \$US135.32, representing a one-day fall of about 2.91 percent.

The principle reason for the 2-day fall in the price of crude oil was due to widespread thinking that, with a retraction in industrial growth in The West, it would rub off onto emerging economies of The East, leading to a diminished requirement for the black ooze in the months to come.

Right or wrong, speculators on the world’s commodity markets were running for cover.

On The New York Stock Exchange, the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 276.74 points, equivalent to about 2.52 percent, ending the moderately active trading day at 11,239.28 points.

Over on The NASDAQ, its Composite Index played follow-my-leader with The Dow as investors pushed it to 2,284.85 points, an increase over Tuesday’s closing level of 69.14 points, or about 3.12 percent.

The ratio of gaining counters to losing ones was about 3:One on both The New York Stock Exchange and The NASDAQ.

Banking counters were hot properties, last Wednesday, with the scrip of many of them, recovering part, or all, of Tuesday’s losses.

While Wall Street was agog with the sudden turn of events on US equity markets, in Europe, the US fervour did not rub off, appreciably, with the key indices of the most-important equity markets, making only smallish gains, for the most part.

Banking counters continued to be pounded by Europeans, most of whom appeared to be of the opinion that there was, still, a great deal more bad news, waiting to be announced.

Also, energy counters suffered, with the fall in the price of crude oil, helping to pull down key indices of select bourses.

The following is **TARGET**’s list of the key indices of the biggest and most-important equity markets of Europe:

Amsterdam’s AEX Index	Plus	0.08 percent
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France’s CAC 40 Index	Plus	1.26 percent
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Germany’s Frankfurt XETRA DAX Index	Plus	1.21 percent
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Great Britain's FTSE 100 Index Minus 0.41 percent

Italy's MIBTEL Index Plus 0.42 percent

Switzerland's Swiss Market Index Plus 0.32 percent

In Asia, most equity markets took note as their key indices fell into the red.

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 made only fractional gains although, all things considered, this situation was much better than that which had transpired over the rest of the region.

On the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, The Hang Seng Index rose about 0.23 percent to 21,223.50 points on a Total Turnover of about \$HK59.81 billion.

However, even though The Hang Index was in positive territory by the close of the trading day, losing counters outnumbered gaining ones by the ratio of about 1.54:One.

The Ten Most Actives were:

China Mobile Ltd (Code: 941) Up 1.58 percent to \$HK102.60 per share

HSBC Holdings plc (Code: 5) Down 0.18 percent to \$HK112.80 per share

China Construction Bank Corporation (Code: 939) Up 0.48 percent to \$HK6.24 per share

CNOOC Ltd (Code: 883) Down 3.31 percent to \$HK12.28 per share

China Life Insurance Company Ltd (Code: 2628) Down 0.19 percent to \$HK26.95 per share

Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd (Code: 1398) Up 0.57 percent to \$HK5.33 per share

PetroChina Company Ltd (Code: 857) Up 0.10 percent to \$HK9.67 per share

Bank of China Ltd (Code: 3988) Down 1.19 percent to \$HK3.31 per share

China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (Code: 386) Up 1.99 percent to \$HK7.16 per share

Hongkong Exchanges and Clearing Ltd (Code: 388) Down 1.33 percent to \$HK103.60 per share

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

Name of Company	Code	Increase	Decrease	Closing Price
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		(%)	(%)	(\$HK)
Anhui Tianda Oil Pipe Company Ltd	839		11.11	1.84
Asia Tele-Net and Technology Corporation Ltd	679		12.22	0.395
China Power New Energy Development Company Ltd	735		10.00	0.81
Dore Holdings Ltd	628		38.10	0.26
Earnest Investments Holdings Ltd	339		10.87	0.41
Fulbond Holdings Ltd	1041		11.63	0.038
Golden Resources Development International Ltd	677		18.63	0.415
Hang Ten Group Holdings Ltd	448	13.24		0.77
Hua Yi Copper Holdings Ltd	559		10.11	0.40
Kwong Hing International Holdings (Bermuda) Ltd	1131		13.33	0.52
Lo's Enviro-Pro Holdings Ltd	309		22.81	0.247
Modern Beauty Salon Holdings Ltd	919		10.87	2.46
Rising Development Holdings Ltd	1004	23.08		0.176
Sam Woo Holdings Ltd	2322		10.53	0.17
See Corporation Ltd	491	11.32		0.059

On The **Growth Enterprise Market** (The GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, its Growth Enterprise Index moved up about 0.34 percent to end the day at 757.09 points.

The Total Turnover on this market was about \$HK218.53 million, while the ratio of declining counters to gaining was about 1.29:One.

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

Tiger Tech Holdings Ltd (Code: 8046)

Up 2.88 percent to \$HK1.07 per share

Intelli-Media Group (Holdings) Ltd (Code: 8173)

Up 0.97 percent to \$HK1.04 per share

Shandong Weigao Group Medical Polymer Company

Unchanged at \$HK10.00 per share

Ltd (Code: 8199)

ProSticks International Holdings Ltd (Code: 8055)

Unchanged at \$HK0.60 per share

China Information Technology Development Ltd
(Code: 8178)

Up 8.00 percent to \$HK0.27 per share

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

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
Argos Enterprise (Holdings) Ltd	8022		10.00	0.54
BIG Media Group Ltd	8167	14.67		0.43
Capinfo Company Ltd	8157		10.71	0.25
China Chief Cable TV Group Ltd	8153	14.29		0.64
Everpride Biopharmaceutical Company Ltd	8019		10.34	0.13
Long Success International (Holdings) Ltd	8017	31.43		0.046
Shenzhen Dongjiang Environmental Company Ltd	8230	12.71		4.70
Shenzhen Mingwah Aohan High Technology Corporation Ltd	8301	13.51		0.21
Vertex Group Ltd	8228		14.20	0.145

In Japan, the key indices of the country's 3 equity markets went into reverse.

The TOPIX Index, which is the key gauge of trading on The Tokyo Stock Exchange, shed about 0.31 percent, falling back to 1,249.28 points.

Declining counters outnumbered advancing ones by the wide margin of about 1.91:One.

The Nikkei-225 Stock Average gained about 0.05 percent as investors pushed it up to 12,760.80 yen.

News Wise

- **Shiseido Company** has sued 3 PRC-domiciled, cosmetics companies in Shanghai. The lawsuits claim trademark violations – known in legalese as '*passing off*' or infringements of intellectual property rights – and seeks damages of 4.80 million renminbi. The main, alleged culprit is Shanghai Jingdian Cosmetics. This company is producing, what it calls: '*Shidoas*', with its trademark, being very similar to that of Shiseido, it is alleged.

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

The HKSAR	Hang Seng Index Plus 0.23 percent to 21,223.50 The Growth Enterprise Index Plus 0.34 percent to 757.09
Indonesia	Plus 0.15 percent to 2,218.12
Japan	TOPIX Index Minus 0.31 percent to 1,249.28 Nikkei-225 Stock Average Plus 0.05 percent to 12,760.80
Malaysia	Minus 0.73 percent to 1,119.42
The Philippines	Minus 1.64 percent to 2,373.70
The PRC	Shanghai Composite Index Minus 2.65 percent to 2,705.87 Shenzhen Composite Index Minus 4.18 percent to 808.01
Singapore	Minus 0.16 percent to 2,835.32
South Korea	Minus 0.13 percent to 1,507.40
Taiwan	Minus 1.81 percent to 6,710.64
Thailand	Minus 3.38 percent to 669.97

Thursday

For the third consecutive day, the price of crude oil on international commodity exchanges fell – and fell hard.

Oil speculators, for certain, were hurting, the extent of their pain, being the depth of their pockets, no doubt.

On The New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil for delivery in August came in at \$US129.29, representing a one-day fall of about 3.95 percent.

For September delivery, the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil was \$US130.18, an decrease of about 3.80 percent on Wednesday's closing level.

The reason for the fall-off in the price of the black ooze was due to the logical assumption that, with a material retraction of industrial growth, worldwide, the requirement of crude oil should fall, compared with rising demands for the strategic commodity of the past few years.

On Wall Street, the drop in the price of crude oil was roundly welcomed.

On The New York Stock Exchange, the Dow Jones Industrial Average gained about 1.85 percent, rising to

11,446.66 points.

On The NASDAQ, its Composite Index put on about 1.20 percent, rushing up to 2,312.30 points.

Advancing counters beat off declining ones by about 3:One on The New York Stock Exchange and by about 2:One on The NASDAQ.

But, aside from the positive news with regard to the sell-off in oil futures contracts, there was very negative news, also:

News Wise

- **Merrill Lynch and Company** reported a quarterly loss of about \$US4.89 billion. It was the fourth, consecutive quarter of losses for Wall Street's third-largest investment bank. The share price of Merrill Lynch and Company lost about 6 percent on the day;
- **Capital One Financial Corporation** announced that its second-quarter earnings had dropped by about 40 percent, Year-On-Year, to \$US452.90 million. Capital One Financial Corporation is a major issuer of credit cards in the US and, also, is a very large bank; and,
- **Advanced Micro Devices Incorporated (AMD)** logged in its seventh, consecutive quarter of losses. The chipmaker said that its second-quarter loss was about \$US1.19 billion, which compared poorly with a loss of about \$US600 million for the like period in 2007. Its share price fell to \$US4.80, down about 9 percent on Wednesday's closing level.

Europe took its cue from Wall Street: All of the key indices of the most-important bourses rose, materially, last Thursday:

Amsterdam's AEX Index	Plus	2.25 percent
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France's CAC 40 Index	Plus	2.76 percent
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Germany's Frankfurt XETRA DAX Index	Plus	1.88 percent
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Great Britain's FTSE 100 Index	Plus	2.63 percent
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Italy's MIBTEL Index	Plus	1.84 percent
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Switzerland's Swiss Market Index	Plus	2.36 percent
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There was, really, nothing to recommend, investing in equities in this part of the world at this juncture, and its appeared to many institutional investors that a great deal of the '*play*' was due to day traders, trying to take advantage of a seemingly short-term change of heart.

The share price of banking counters, which, in the previous few trading days, had suffered poorly at the hands of investors and speculators, alike, sprang back, somewhat, but they could not make up, completely, for lost ground.

In Asia, things looked a little better on the major equity markets of the region than Wednesday's situation.

In the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), the key indices of the premier equity market rose substantially, but, on the speculative equity market of the territory, known as The **G**rowth **E**nterprise **M**arket (The GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, its lone index lost a fraction.

The Hang Seng Index, which is the key gauge to trading on blue chips, listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, put on about 2.41 percent, rising to 21,734.72 points.

The Total Turnover on this market was about \$HK63.46 billion, with advancing counters, outnumbering declining ones by the ratio of about 1.97:One.

The Ten Most Active counters were:

China Mobile Ltd (Code: 941)	Up 2.53 percent to \$HK105.20 per share
China Life Insurance Company Ltd (Code: 2628)	Up 4.08 percent to \$HK28.05 per share
HSBC Holdings plc (Code: 5)	Up 3.72 percent to \$HK117.00 per share
Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd (Code: 1398)	Up 2.63 percent to \$HK5.47 per share
China Construction Bank Corporation (Code: 939)	Up 3.21 percent to \$HK6.44 per share
Bank of China Ltd (Code: 3988)	Up 0.91 percent to \$HK3.34 per share
China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (Code: 386)	Up 4.47 percent to \$HK7.48 per share
PetroChina Company Ltd (Code: 857)	Up 3.21 percent to \$HK9.98 per share
CNOOC Ltd (Code: 883)	Down 0.49 percent to \$HK12.22 per share
Hongkong Exchanges and Clearing Ltd (Code: 388)	Up 4.25 percent to \$HK108.00 per share

The Main Board's double-digit movers of the day included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
APT Satellite Holdings Ltd	1045		10.71	1.25
Buildmore International Ltd	108		12.12	2.90
China Fortune Holdings Ltd	110	15.63		0.37
China Sci-Tech Holdings Ltd	985		11.11	0.064
China Shanshui Cement Group Ltd	691	10.47		3.27

Grandtop International Holdings Ltd	2309	10.42		0.265
Integrated Distribution Services Group Ltd	2387		26.86	10.02
Jilin Qifeng Chemical Fiber Company Ltd	549	10.29		0.375
MAE Holdings Ltd	851		20.00	0.48
National Investments Fund Ltd	1227	15.00		0.115
New Media Group Holdings Ltd	708	10.42		0.53
O2Micro International Ltd	457		21.82	0.86
PYI Corporation Ltd	498		14.29	1.02
The Quaypoint Corporation Ltd	2330		12.86	0.61
Rising Development Holdings Ltd	1004	11.93		0.197
Sam Woo Holdings Ltd	2322	11.76		0.19
Samson Paper Holdings Ltd	731	25.00		1.10
Vongroup Ltd	318	18.36		0.245
VXL Capital Ltd	727	12.64		0.98
Willie International Holdings Ltd	273	10.00		0.055
Yun Sky Chemical (International) Holdings Ltd	663	19.05		0.125

On The GEM, the situation was in direct contrast to that that transpired on the Main Board.

The Growth Enterprise Index lost about 0.06 percent of its value, dropping back to 756.65 points on a Total Turnover of about \$HK169.42 million.

Losers outran gainers by the ratio of about 1.30:One.

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

Intelli-Media Group (Holdings) Ltd (Code: 8173)

Up 2.88 percent to \$HK1.07 per share

Tiger Tech Holdings Ltd (Code: 8046)

Down 14.95 percent to \$HK0.91 per share

Town Health International Holdings Company Ltd

Up 2.73 percent to \$HK0.113 per share

(Code: 8138)

Golden Meditech Company Ltd (Code: 8180)

Unchanged at \$HK2.12 per share

Espco Technology Holdings Ltd (Code: 8299)

Down 8.39 percent to \$HK0.131 per share

As for the biggest movers on The GEM, they included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
Armitage Technologies Holding Ltd	8213		13.79	0.05
Capinfo Company Ltd	8157	12.00		0.28
Era Information and Entertainment Ltd	8043	17.65		0.40
iMerchants Ltd	8009		14.44	0.385
Richfield Group Holdings Ltd	8136	19.15		0.112
Shanghai Fudan-Zhangjiang Bio-Pharmaceutical Company Ltd	8231		17.24	0.48
Shenzhen Mingwah Aohan High Technology Corporation Ltd	8301		11.90	0.185
Shenzhen Neptunus Interlong Bio-technique Company Ltd	8329	22.58		1.14
Tiger Tech Holdings Ltd	8046		14.95	0.91
Value Convergence Holdings Ltd	8101		12.50	1.05
Xi'an Haitian Antenna Technologies Company Ltd	8227	13.64		0.25

On The Tokyo Stock Exchange, its TOPIX Index rose about 1.15 percent to 1,263.65 points.

Gainers outran losers by the ratio of about 3.36:One.

The Nikkei-225 Stock Average rose one percent, exactly, to 12,887.95 yen.

On other Asian equity markets, this was how their respective key indices ended, last Thursday night:

The HKSAR	Hang Seng Index Plus 2.41 percent to 21,734.72 The Growth Enterprise Index Minus 0.06 percent to 756.65
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Indonesia	Minus 2.27 percent to 2,167.71
Japan	TOPIX Index Plus 1.15 percent to 1,263.65 Nikkei-225 Stock Average Plus 1.00 percent to 12,887.95
Malaysia	Plus 0.16 percent to 1,121.17
The Philippines	Plus 0.84 percent to 2,393.62
The PRC	Shanghai Composite Index Minus 0.78 percent to 2,684.78 Shenzhen Composite Index Minus 0.93 percent to 800.46
Singapore	Plus 1.02 percent to 2,864.10
South Korea	Plus 1.20 percent to 1,525.56
Taiwan	Plus 3.93 percent to 6,974.51
Thailand	Closed

Friday

Citigroup Incorporated, once the largest bank in the US, announced a second-quarterly loss of about \$US2.50 billion and a write-down of about \$US11.70 billion of its assets.

The gurus of Wall Street claimed that it was a victory for the bank's management!

'It could have been much worse,' one heard on the Street.

Misery loves company.

On The New York Stock Exchange, the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose about 0.44 percent to end the trading week at 11,496.57 points.

Over on The NASDAQ, however, its Composite Index shed about 1.28 percent, dropping back to 2,282.78 points.

The ratio of gainers to loser on The New York Stock Exchange was about 1.13:One while, over on The NASDAQ, declining counters outnumbered advancing ones by the ratio of about 1.33:One.

Trading on the world's largest and most-influential equity markets was described as being moderate.

For the week, the tally for the world's largest equity markets was:

The Dow Jones Industrial Average Plus 3.57 percent
The Composite Index of The NASDAQ Plus 1.95 percent

Helping investor sentiment on US equity markets was a continued retraction in the price of crude oil on international commodity exchanges.

On The New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil for delivery in August was \$US128.88, representing a fall of about 0.32 percent on Thursday's closing level.

For September delivery, the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil came in at \$US129.47, down about 0.55 percent on the final quote of Thursday.

On European equity markets, there was a bit of resurgence as investors jumped back into equities, seeing what was taking place on Wall Street.

Banking counters, which had been hit hard, during the earlier part of the week, were the targets of many investors as it was determined that the world was not coming to an end, after all.

A continued fall in the price of crude oil, also assisted investor sentiment.

This was how the situation looked on the most-important, European bourses, last Friday night:

Amsterdam's AEX Index	Plus	0.83 percent
France's CAC 40 Index	Plus	1.73 percent
Germany's Frankfurt XETRA DAX Index	Plus	1.77 percent
Great Britain's FTSE 100 Index	Plus	1.70 percent
Italy's MIBTEL Index	Plus	1.33 percent
Switzerland's Swiss Market Index	Plus	1.30 percent

News Wise

- **Sony Ericsson** will sack some 2,000 of its staff. The company announced a second-quarter Operating Loss of about \$US3.17 million.

On Asian equity markets, there were far more losers than gainers around the region.

In the Hongkong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (PRC), the key indices of the premier equity market rose fractionally, while, on the speculative equity market, known as The Growth Enterprise Market (The GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, its lone index lost a fraction of its former value.

The Hang Seng Index, which is the key index of the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, rose to end the trading week at 21,874.19 points, representing a one-day improvement of about 0.64 percent.

The Total Turnover was about \$HK59.57 billion.

However, losing counters outnumbered gaining ones by the ratio of about 1.18:One in spite of The Hang Seng Index, being in positive territory by the close of the day.

The Ten Most Active counters were:

HSBC Holdings plc (Code: 5)

Up 2.56 percent to \$HK120.00 per share

China Mobile Ltd (Code: 941)

Down 0.95 percent to \$HK104.20 per share

China Life Insurance Company Ltd (Code: 2628)

Unchanged at \$HK28.05 per share

China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation
(Code: 386)

Up 0.13 percent to \$HK7.49 per share

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

Up 1.46 percent to \$HK5.55 per share

China Construction Bank Corporation (Code:
939)

Up 0.62 percent to \$HK6.48 per share

PetroChina Company Ltd (Code: 857)

Up 0.60 percent to \$HK10.04 per share

CNOOC Ltd (Code: 883)

Down 2.78 percent to \$HK11.88 per share

Hongkong Exchanges and Clearing Ltd (Code:
388)

Up 2.31 percent to \$HK110.50 per share

Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd (Code: 16)

Up 1.73 percent to \$HK111.80 per share

The Main Board's biggest movers of the day included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
Advanced Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation Ltd	3355		10.00	0.216
China Haisheng Juice Holdings Company Ltd	359		12.00	1.10
Clear Media Ltd	100		10.00	4.95
Dore Holdings Ltd	628		10.00	0.243
Far East Pharmaceutical Technology Company Ltd	399		76.76	0.158
First Sign International Holdings Ltd	933	11.85		1.51
Hans Energy Company Ltd	554		13.16	0.33
Integrated Distribution Services Group Ltd	2387	29.74		13.00
L.K. Technology Holdings Ltd	558	10.59		0.94

Lee and Man Paper Manufacturing Ltd	2314		13.88	9.68
Multifield International Holdings Ltd	898	11.11		0.20
Nam Fong International Holdings Ltd	1176	10.61		0.365
National Investments Fund Ltd	1227		11.30	0.102
Oriental Explorer Holdings Ltd	430	19.05		0.10
QPL International Holdings Ltd	243		11.54	0.23
Rising Development Holdings Ltd	1004		13.71	0.17
Samson Paper Holdings Ltd	731		10.91	0.98
Tidetime Sun (Group) Ltd	307		19.42	0.112
Wang Sing International Holdings Group Ltd	2389		16.39	0.255
Winbox International (Holdings) Ltd	474	13.33		0.68
World Houseware (Holdings) Ltd	713		14.97	0.159

Over on The GEM, its Growth Enterprise Index shed about 0.78 percent, falling back to 750.73 points on a Total Turnover of about \$HK212.30 million.

Declining counters outpaced advancing ones by the ratio of about 1.42:One.

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

Intelli-Media Group (Holdings) Ltd (Code: 8173) Up 7.48 percent to \$HK1.15 per share

B M Intelligence International Ltd (Code: 8158) Unchanged at \$HK0.31 per share

BIG Media Group Ltd (Code: 8167) Up 3.45 percent to \$HK0.45 per share

Town Health International Holdings Company Ltd
(Code: 8138) Unchanged at \$HK0.113 per share

Shandong Weigao Group Medical Polymer Company
Ltd (Code: 8199) Unchanged at \$HK10.00 per share

The GEM's double-digit movers of the day included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
CCID Consulting Company Ltd	8235		11.18	0.151
Era Information and Entertainment Ltd	8043		12.50	0.35
Golife Concepts Holdings Ltd	8172		11.11	0.032
Jilin Province Huinan Changlong Bio-pharmacy Company Ltd	8049	10.00		0.275
ThinSoft (Holdings) Incorporated	8096	21.95		1.00
Trasy Gold Ex Ltd	8063		10.53	0.017
Zheda Lande Scitech Ltd	8106	12.12		0.185

The tally for the week for Asia's second, most-important equity market was:

The Hang Seng Index Minus 1.40 percent
The Growth Enterprise Index Minus 2.83 percent

Investors on Asia's largest equity market, The Tokyo Stock Exchange, lost heart and started to unload scrip.
Its TOPIX Index gave up about 0.89 percent, falling to 1,252.43 points.

The ratio of losing counters to gaining ones was about 3.10:One.

The Nikkei-225 Stock Average ended the trading week at 12,803.70 yen, a one-day decline of about 0.65 percent.

For the week, ended July 18, 2008, the tally for Asia's largest and most-important equity market was:

The TOPIX Index Minus 2.60 percent

The Nikkei-225 Stock Average Minus 1.81 percent

And this was how things looked on other Asian equity markets, last Friday night:

The HKSAR	Hang Seng Index Plus 0.64 percent to 21,874.19 The Growth Enterprise Index Minus 0.78 percent to 750.73
Indonesia	Minus 1.23 percent to 2,141.14
Japan	TOPIX Index Minus 0.89 percent to 1,252.43 Nikkei-225 Stock Average Minus 0.65 percent to 12,803.70

Malaysia	Minus 1.44 percent to 1,105.04
The Philippines	Minus 0.17 percent to 2,389.52
The PRC	Shanghai Composite Index Plus 3.49 percent to 2,778.37 Shenzhen Composite Index Plus 3.03 percent to 824.68
Singapore	Minus 0.57 percent to 2,847.73
South Korea	Minus 1.02 percent to 1,509.99
Taiwan	Minus 2.28 percent to 6,815.32
Thailand	Minus 0.81 percent to 664.52

-- E N D --

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