CASEY'S GEN'L STRS NDQ-CASY

RECENT PRICE **135.98** | P/E RATIO **26.5** (Trailing: 22.3 Median: 19.0) | RELATIVE P/E RATIO **1.98** | DIV'D YLD **0.9%** | **VALUE LINE**

TIMELINESS 3 Lowered 1/24/20
SAFETY 3 New 7/27/90
TECHNICAL 2 Raised 4/10/20
BETA .70 (1.00 = Market)

High:	33.1	44.7	54.2	63.0	77.6	91.4	129.5	136.2	125.4	137.1	179.2	182.0
Low:	18.3	29.0	35.4	46.2	51.4	64.1	80.9	98.8	99.8	90.4	122.9	114.0

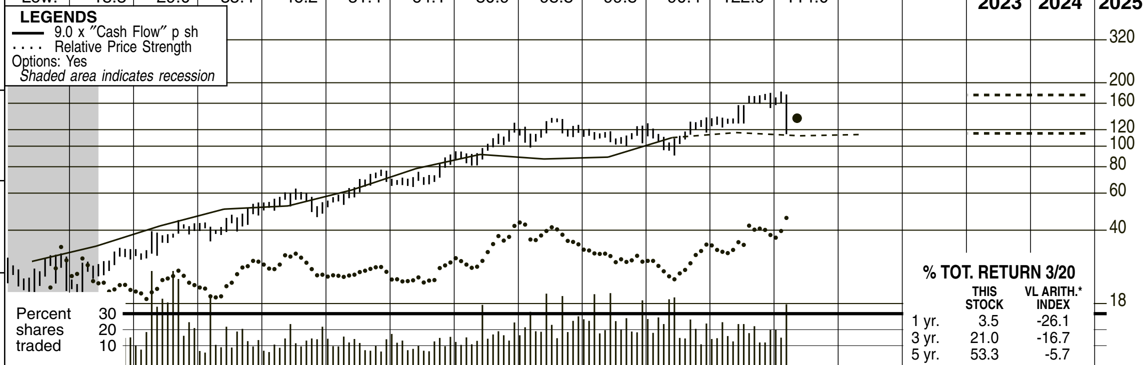
18-Month Target Price Range
Low-High Midpoint (% to Mid)
$144-$217 $181 (35%)

2023-25 PROJECTIONS

	Price	Gain	Ann'l Total Return
High	175	(+30%)	8%
Low	115	(-15%)	-3%

Institutional Decisions

	2Q2019	3Q2019	4Q2019
to Buy	193	167	183
to Sell	158	182	191
Hld's(000)	32448	31663	32176



2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	© VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	23-25
56.00	69.79	79.79	95.15	92.20	91.06	148.43	183.21	189.06	203.60	199.74	182.36	193.64	227.56	255.13	***254.10***	***247.30***	***252.70***	Sales per sh A	275.00
1.89	2.39	2.46	3.01	3.17	3.74	4.66	5.59	5.80	6.90	8.72	10.16	9.68	9.87	12.23	***12.90***	***12.45***	***12.65***	"Cash Flow"per sh	13.90
.85	1.24	1.20	1.67	1.82	2.31	2.22	3.07	2.86	3.46	4.68	5.73	4.48	3.73	5.51	***6.10***	***5.55***	***5.75***	Earnings per sh A B	6.65
.20	.18	.20	.26	.29	.32	.46	.60	.66	.71	.80	.86	.96	1.04	1.13	***1.25***	***1.28***	***1.28***	Div'ds Decl'd per sh C	1.60
9.35	10.39	11.31	12.76	14.18	16.19	10.64	13.27	15.70	18.69	22.51	27.74	30.71	34.47	38.43	***43.50***	***45.95***	***48.65***	Book Value per sh	52.50
50.19	50.37	50.59	50.73	50.84	50.93	37.97	38.14	38.35	38.51	38.89	39.06	38.77	36.87	36.66	***36.80***	***37.00***	***37.00***	Common Shs Outst'g D	40.00
20.8	17.9	20.0	16.0	13.8	12.9	17.8	15.6	19.4	19.6	17.0	18.6	26.8	29.8	22.2	***25.0***	*Bold figures are*		Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	22.0
1.10	.95	1.08	.85	.83	.86	1.13	.98	1.23	1.10	.89	.94	1.41	1.50	1.17	***1.35***	*Value Line*		Relative P/E Ratio	1.20
1.1%	.8%	.8%	1.0%	1.2%	1.1%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.0%	1.0%	.8%	.8%	.9%	.9%	***.8%***	*estimates*		Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	1.1%

CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 1/31/20
Total Debt $1368.9 mill. **Due in 5 Yrs** $177.5 mill.
LT Debt $715.1 mill. **LT Interest** $50.0 mill.
Incl. $14.3 mill. capitalized leases
(LT interest earned: 25.0x; total interest coverage: 9.1x) (31% of Cap'l)

Leases, Uncapitalized Annual rentals $1.7 mill.
No Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Pfd Stock None
Common Stock 36,793,573 shs.

MARKET CAP: $5.0 billion (Large Cap)

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021		23-25
5635.2	6987.8	7250.8	7840.3	7767.2	7122.1	7506.6	8391.1	9352.9	***9350***	***9150***	***9350***	Sales ($mill) A	11000
15.6%	14.4%	14.9%	15.7%	18.5%	22.7%	22.4%	21.1%	20.9%	***22.0%***	***21.0%***	***21.0%***	Gross Margin	22.0%
4.9%	4.5%	4.4%	4.8%	6.2%	7.9%	6.8%	5.8%	5.4%	***5.5%***	***5.5%***	***5.5%***	Operating Margin	5.5%
1637	1699	1749	1808	1878	1931	1978	2073	2146	***2200***	***2225***	***2250***	Number of Stores E	2500
94.6	116.8	110.6	134.5	183.0	226.0	177.5	143.0	203.9	***225***	***205***	***215***	Net Profit ($mill)	265
37.4%	36.4%	36.8%	34.9%	35.7%	35.2%	34.2%	33.3%	22.6%	***23.0%***	***23.0%***	***23.0%***	Income Tax Rate	23.0%
1.7%	1.7%	1.5%	1.7%	2.4%	3.2%	2.4%	1.7%	2.2%	***2.4%***	***2.2%***	***2.3%***	Net Profit Margin	2.4%
d.6	d27.3	d125.0	15.2	d59.6	d61.7	d95.9	d111.1	d180.3	***d715***	***d250***	***d225***	Working Cap'l ($mill)	d125
678.7	667.9	653.1	853.6	838.2	822.9	907.4	1291.7	1283.3	***715***	***825***	***850***	Long-Term Debt ($mill)	1000
403.9	506.0	602.3	719.9	875.2	1083.5	1190.6	1271.1	1408.8	***1600***	***1700***	***1800***	Shr. Equity ($mill)	2100
10.0%	11.4%	10.2%	9.8%	11.9%	12.9%	9.4%	6.6%	8.6%	***11.0%***	***9.0%***	***9.0%***	Return on Total Cap'l	9.0%
23.4%	23.1%	18.4%	18.7%	20.9%	20.9%	14.9%	11.2%	14.5%	***14.0%***	***12.0%***	***12.0%***	Return on Shr. Equity	12.5%
18.4%	18.6%	14.3%	14.9%	17.5%	17.8%	11.8%	8.2%	11.4%	***11.0%***	***9.0%***	***9.0%***	Retained to Com Eq	9.5%
22%	20%	22%	20%	16%	15%	21%	27%	21%	***20%***	***23%***	***22%***	All Div'ds to Net Prof	24%

CURRENT POSITION ($MILL.)	2017	2018	1/31/20
Cash Assets	53.7	63.3	43.5
Receivables	45.0	37.9	46.4
Inventory (LIFO)	241.7	273.0	263.2
Other	56.4	36.4	36.5
Current Assets	396.8	410.6	389.6
Accts Payable	321.4	335.2	275.9
Debt Due	55.0	92.2	653.8
Other	131.5	163.5	175.2
Current Liab.	507.9	590.9	1104.8

ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)	Past 10 Yrs.	Past 5 Yrs.	Est'd '16-'18 to '23-'25
Sales	9.5%	3.0%	6.0%
"Cash Flow"	14.0%	13.0%	6.0%
Earnings	13.0%	11.5%	6.5%
Dividends	16.0%	11.0%	7.5%
Book Value	10.5%	18.5%	5.5%

Fiscal Year Begins	QUARTERLY SALES ($ mill.) A Jul.31	Oct.31	Jan.31	Apr.30	Full Fiscal Year
2017	2093.8	2153.7	2054.6	2089.0	8391.1
2018	2588.4	2538.0	2048.1	2178.4	9352.9
2019	2626.6	2487.6	2248.2	***1987.6***	***9350***
2020	***2375***	***2275***	***2150***	***2350***	***9150***
2021	***2450***	***2325***	***2200***	***2375***	***9350***

Fiscal Year Begins	EARNINGS PER SHARE A B Jul.31	Oct.31	Jan.31	Apr.30	Full Fiscal Year
2017	1.46	1.28	.48	.51	3.73
2018	1.90	1.80	1.13	.68	5.51
2019	2.31	2.21	.91	***.67***	***6.10***
2020	***1.80***	***1.75***	***1.20***	***.80***	***5.55***
2021	***1.90***	***1.80***	***1.23***	***.82***	***5.75***

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID C Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2016	.22	.22	.24	.24	.92
2017	.24	.24	.26	.26	1.00
2018	.26	.26	.29	.29	1.10
2019	.29	.29	.32	.32	1.22
2020	.32				

BUSINESS: Casey's General Stores operates convenience stores in sixteen Midwestern states, primarily in Iowa, Missouri, and Illinois. Stores sell gasoline and a broad selection of food (including freshly prepared pizza, donuts, hamburgers, etc.), beer and other beverages, and non-food items. As of 4/30/19, Casey's had 2,146 company-owned locations (incl. land for most). In fiscal 2018, gasoline accounted for 63% of net sales. Average retail sales/store were $4.4 mill. in 2018, up from $4.2 mill. in 2017. Has 16,891 full-time employees. Off. & Dir. own less than 1% of common stock outstanding (8/19 Proxy). Chair.: H. Lynn Horak. Pres. & CEO: Darren M. Rebelez. Incorporated: IA. Address: One Convenience Blvd., Ankeny, IA 50021. Tel.: 515-965-6100. Internet: www.caseys.com.

The coronavirus pandemic is affecting grocers like Casey's General Stores, and the domestic economy in general. As of early April, 42 states had instituted stay-at-home orders, and another three states had issued partial directives. Foot traffic at brick-and-mortar shopping centers has already been sharply reduced, and will almost certainly remain depressed for the remainder of this calendar year, at a minimum. Moreover, there are increasing signs that the United States economy is heading for a recession, and the unemployment rate is expected to spike directly as a result of the ongoing pandemic. All told, consumer spending on nonessential goods will come under pressure, and operating results at Casey's General, and at food retailers as a whole, will suffer in the near term.

In light of current circumstances, investment activity may slow for the time being. Through the first three quarters of fiscal 2019 (year ends on April 30, 2020), Casey's added 47 new locations at a cost of $364 million, versus 73 stores and $463 million invested for all of fiscal 2018. However, operating results and free cash flow will likely take a hit in the near term, and access to capital may become more difficult.

We are revising our forecasts for fiscal 2019 and 2020, and introducing estimates for 2021. We've trimmed $50 million and $850 million, respectively, from our sales targets for 2019 and 2020. On the bottom line, we have raised our 2019 call by $0.20 a share, due to Casey's better-than-expected results through January, but have reduced our 2020 forecast by $0.70. Our initial sales and earnings estimates for fiscal 2021 are $9.35 billion and $5.75 per share, respectively.

We see little reason to make a commitment here, at present. The stock has lost approximately one-quarter of its value since our full-page report in mid-January, due to the broad market swoon and investor concerns about food retailers like Casey's General. The issue is ranked to only mirror the market in the year ahead; the dividend yield is well below the *Value Line* median; and even with CASY's recent retreat, total return potential to 2023–2025 is lackluster.

Sharif Abdou *April 17, 2020*

(A) Fiscal year ends April 30th of the following calendar year. Sales figures exclude royalty income and the revenues from franchised stores.
(B) Diluted egs. Excludes nonrecurring gain/(loss): '04, (9¢); '17, $4.61. Next earnings report due early June.
(C) Dividends historically paid early February, May, August, and November.
(D) In millions.
(E) Includes only company-owned stores.

Company's Financial Strength	B+
Stock's Price Stability	80
Price Growth Persistence	75
Earnings Predictability	60

CBOE GLOBAL MKTS. CBOE-CBOE

RECENT PRICE	P/E RATIO		RELATIVE P/E RATIO	DIV'D YLD	
93.03	27.2	(Trailing: 27.9 Median: 25.0)	2.06	1.5%	VALUE LINE

TIMELINESS 3 Lowered 2/21/20
SAFETY 2 Raised 1/13/17
TECHNICAL 2 Raised 3/20/20
BETA .65 (1.00 = Market)

18-Month Target Price Range
Low-High **Midpoint (% to Mid)**
$91-$141 $116 (25%)

2023-25 PROJECTIONS

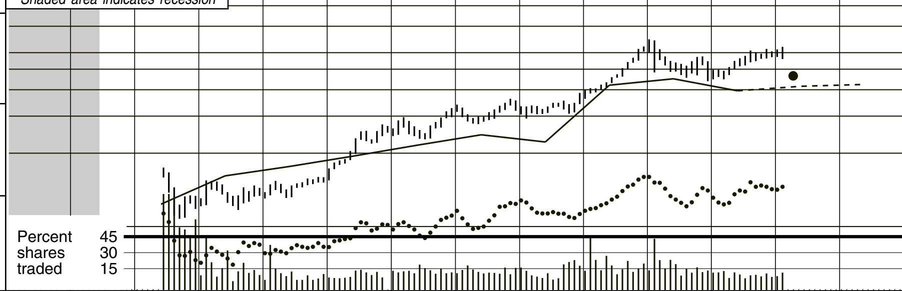
	Price	Gain	Ann'l Total Return
High	190	(+105%)	21%
Low	140	(+50%)	12%

Institutional Decisions

	2Q2019	3Q2019	4Q2019
to Buy	195	192	228
to Sell	190	176	164
Hld's(000)	96100	91958	90983

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
High:	34.2	29.8	31.0	54.8	65.4	72.5	77.3	128.3	138.5	124.9	127.9
Low:	19.6	21.5	24.4	29.7	46.5	55.0	58.4	72.5	87.9	89.5	72.0

LEGENDS
—— 16.0 x "Cash Flow" p sh
. . . . Relative Price Strength
Options: Yes
Shaded area indicates recession



Target Price Range
2023 | 2024 | 2025
320
200
160
120
100
80
60
40
18

% TOT. RETURN 2/20

	THIS STOCK	VL ARITH.* INDEX
1 yr.	19.9	-6.8
3 yr.	51.2	6.6
5 yr.	101.5	20.3

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	© VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	23-25
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	4.85	5.72	5.87	6.59	7.35	7.73	8.08	19.77	24.81	22.56	*23.80*	*24.55*	Revenues per sh	*31.80*
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1.44	1.96	2.17	2.43	2.73	3.06	2.83	5.26	5.64	4.95	*5.20*	*5.30*	"Cash Flow" per sh	*9.30*
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1.03	1.52	1.78	1.99	2.21	2.46	2.27	3.69	3.76	3.34	*3.50*	*3.60*	Earnings per sh A	*7.25*
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	.20	.44	.54	.66	.78	.88	.96	1.04	1.16	1.34	*1.44*	*1.44*	Div'ds Decl'd per sh B	*1.80*
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	.26	.33	.34	.33	.60	.48	.55	.33	.33	.32	*.65*	*.70*	Cap'l Spending per sh	*.75*
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1.95	2.66	2.74	3.28	2.98	3.16	3.91	27.59	29.04	30.32	*33.45*	*35.30*	Book Value per sh B	*54.55*
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	90.09	88.77	87.27	86.77	84.00	82.09	81.29	112.74	111.60	110.66	*110.00*	*110.00*	Common Shs Outst'g C	*110.00*
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	24.0	16.8	15.7	21.7	24.4	25.5	29.2	25.6	28.7	32.4	*Bold figures are*		Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	*22.5*
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1.53	1.05	1.00	1.22	1.28	1.28	1.53	1.29	1.55	1.76	*Value Line*		Relative P/E Ratio	*1.25*
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	.8%	1.7%	1.9%	1.5%	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	1.1%	1.1%	1.2%	*estimates*		Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	*1.1%*

CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 12/31/19
Total Debt $867.6 mill. **Due in 5 Yrs.** $575 mill.
LT Debt $867.6 mill. **LT Interest** $60.0 mill
(21% of Cap'l)
(Tot. Int. Cov.: 15.0x)

Leases, Uncapitalized Annual rentals $10.4 mill.
No Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Pfd Stock None

Common Stock 110,435,193 shs.
as of 2/14/20

MARKET CAP: $10.3 billion (Large Cap)

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021		23-25
437.1	508.1	512.3	572.1	617.2	634.5	656.9	2229.1	2768.8	2496.1	*2620*	*2700*	Revenues ($mill)	*3500*
46.3%	55.4%	55.6%	57.0%	58.2%	58.4%	51.7%	25.3%	29.0%	28.6%	*30.0%*	*32.0%*	Operating Margin	*35.0%*
30.0	34.2	31.6	34.6	39.9	46.3	44.4	192.2	204.0	176.6	*180*	*185*	Depreciation ($mill)	*225*
99.4	139.4	157.4	176.0	189.7	205.0	185.7	400.6	425.2	370.8	*390*	*400*	Net Profit ($mill)	*800*
39.6%	41.9%	35.1%	38.0%	38.7%	36.7%	39.4%	NMF	25.6%	26.0%	*27.0%*	*25.0%*	Income Tax Rate	*25.0%*
22.7%	27.4%	30.7%	30.8%	30.7%	32.3%	28.3%	18.0%	15.4%	14.9%	*14.9%*	*14.8%*	Net Profit Margin	*22.9%*
61.1	137.4	150.7	201.4	170.4	130.1	145.3	100.7	87.8	326.0	*160*	*200*	Working Cap'l ($mill)	*500*
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1237.9	915.6	867.6	*875*	*875*	Long-Term Debt ($mill)	*800*
175.9	236.3	239.1	284.5	250.1	259.6	317.9	3110.6	3241.0	3355.6	*3680*	*3885*	Shr. Equity ($mill)	*6000*
56.8%	59.2%	65.8%	61.9%	75.9%	79.0%	58.4%	9.7%	10.7%	9.2%	*8.5%*	*8.5%*	Return on Total Cap'l	*12.0%*
56.5%	59.0%	65.8%	61.9%	75.9%	79.0%	58.4%	12.9%	13.1%	11.1%	*10.5%*	*10.5%*	Return on Shr. Equity	*13.5%*
45.3%	41.9%	45.8%	41.3%	49.1%	50.7%	33.7%	9.1%	9.1%	6.6%	*6.5%*	*6.0%*	Retained to Com Eq	*10.0%*
20%	29%	30%	33%	35%	36%	42%	29%	31%	40%	*41%*	*40%*	All Div'ds to Net Prof	*25%*

BALANCE SHEET ($MILL.)

	2017	2018	12/31/19
Cash Assets	190.8	310.8	300.3
Accounts Receivable	217.3	287.3	234.7
Other	26.6	85.6	72.6
Current Assets	434.7	683.7	607.6
Accounts Payable	153.8	198.5	171.9
Debt Due	- -	299.8	- -
Other	180.2	97.6	109.7
Current Liab.	334.0	595.9	281.6

ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)	Past 10 Yrs.	Past 5 Yrs.	Est'd '17-'19 to '23-'25
Revenues	- -	27.5%	*6.0%*
"Cash Flow"	- -	16.5%	*10.0%*
Earnings	- -	12.5%	*12.5%*
Dividends	- -	12.5%	*7.5%*
Book Value	- -	57.5%	*11.0%*

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY REVENUES ($ mill.) Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2017	356.2	640.8	611.4	620.7	2229.1
2018	777.7	667.5	575.9	747.7	2768.8
2019	601.5	620.6	675.4	598.6	2496.1
2020	*620*	*625*	*685*	*690*	*2620*
2021	*625*	*650*	*700*	*725*	*2700*

Cal-endar	EARNINGS PER SHARE A Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2017	.16	.60	.53	2.41	3.69
2018	1.04	.73	.76	1.23	3.76
2019	.85	.78	.94	.77	3.34
2020	*.90*	*.80*	*.95*	*.85*	*3.50*
2021	*.90*	*.85*	*.95*	*.90*	*3.60*

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2016	.23	.23	.25	.25	.96
2017	.25	.25	.27	.27	1.04
2018	.27	.27	.31	.31	1.16
2019	.31	.31	.36	.36	1.34
2020	.36				

BUSINESS: Cboe Global Markets, Inc. is a large exchange holding company. It offers a diverse range of products in multiple asset classes, and operates in five primary business segments: Options, U.S. equities, futures, European Equities, and Global FX. Transaction fees (from contracts or shares traded on exchanges) composed 62.9% of 2019 revenues, and regulatory fees, market data, connectivity fees also contributed to revenues. 2/17, Acq. Bats Global Markets. Off./dir. own 1.1% of stock; T. Rowe Price, 13.9%; Vanguard, 10.4%; BlackRock, 7.0%; FMR, 5.3% (4/19 proxy). Has 842 employees. Inc.: DE. Chairman/CEO: Edward T. Tilly. Pres.: Christopher R. Concannon. Address: 400 South LaSalle St., Chicago, IL 60605. Telephone: 312-786-5600. Internet: www.cboe.com.

Cboe Global Markets closed 2019 on a soft note. Revenues pulled back 20% during the fourth quarter, and the top line was down 10% for the full year. Likewise, share net shed 37% in the December period, and the bottom line contracted 11% in 2019. Lower trading volume and softness in Cboe's proprietary products, especially in comparison to the dynamic growth recorded in the year-ago period, caused much of the company's recent setback. Too, unfavorable foreign currency effects and lower transaction revenues hurt results across its business lines.

We imagine the company will rebound in the coming quarters, despite market headwinds. The sudden spread of the coronavirus pandemic has roiled across the globe, and will probably weigh on global markets in the months to come. Still, Cboe has been working hard to ensure business as usual and to keep its markets open and in order. Moreover, acquisition synergies, ongoing expense controls, and management's other strategic growth measures should bolster totals. In all, we look for share earnings and revenues to both recover about 5% this year. What's more, the top and bottom lines ought to climb at a low single-digit clip through 2021.

Cboe has been widening its footprint. It closed on the acquisitions of real-time risk analytics company Hanweck and portfolio platform provider FT Options in early February. Additionally, Cboe has inked an agreement to purchase EuroCCP, a leading European equities clearing house. That deal ought to close in the back half of 2020, and the company will probably bolster its pan-European business to extend its geographic reach. In the meantime, the company has been ramping up research & development and investing heavily in technological advances in order to strengthen its product roster and improve the trading platforms.

This quality issue is ranked 3 (Average) for year-ahead price performance. These shares have fallen precipitously over the past few months, like much of the broader market averages. However, the recent dip in value has helped widen CBOE's long-term capital appreciation potential.

Orly Seidman *April 10, 2020*

(A) Diluted earnings. Next earnings report due early May. 2017 EPS does not sum due to rounding.
(B) Dividends historically paid in mid-March, June, September, and December.
(C) In millions.

Company's Financial Strength	A
Stock's Price Stability	85
Price Growth Persistence	95
Earnings Predictability	45

CRACKER BARREL NDQ-CBRL

RECENT PRICE	P/E RATIO		RELATIVE P/E RATIO	DIV'D YLD	VALUE LINE
160.46	16.5	(Trailing: 17.0 Median: 17.0)	0.92	3.3%	354

TIMELINESS 3 Lowered 9/27/19
SAFETY 2 Raised 5/29/15
TECHNICAL 4 Raised 2/14/20
BETA .70 (1.00 = Market)

High:	39.5	57.8	55.5	69.3	118.6	141.8	162.3	175.0	170.5	185.0	175.1	164.0
Low:	15.4	36.2	37.3	49.5	63.4	92.8	117.9	118.0	141.8	141.6	149.5	151.7

18-Month Target Price Range

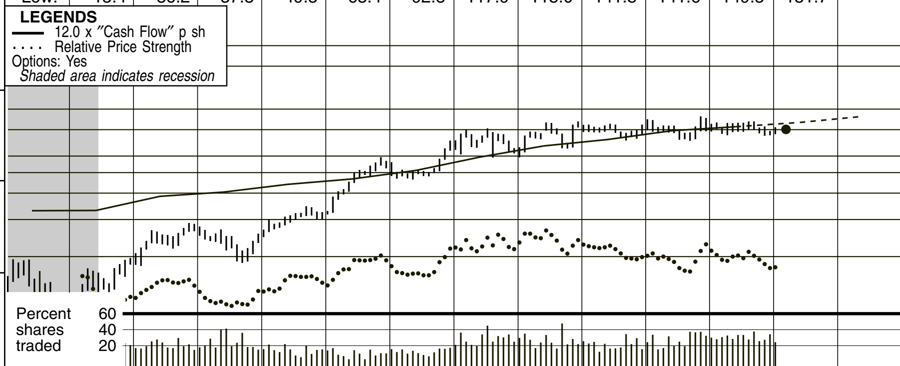
Low-High	Midpoint (% to Mid)
$138-$223	$181 (10%)

2023-25 PROJECTIONS

	Price	Gain	Ann'l Total Return
High	270	(+70%)	16%
Low	200	(+25%)	9%

Institutional Decisions

	1Q2019	2Q2019	3Q2019
to Buy	209	208	179
to Sell	139	146	172
Hld's(000)	19489	20568	20579



Target Price Range
2023 | 2024 | 2025
400
320
200
160
120
100
80
60
40

% TOT. RETURN 1/20

	THIS STOCK	VL ARITH.* INDEX
1 yr.	-4.7	7.1
3 yr.	12.2	19.9
5 yr.	45.8	41.0

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	© VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	23-25
48.82	55.07	85.46	99.33	106.81	104.18	105.77	106.58	109.92	111.14	112.66	118.55	121.57	121.65	126.21	127.74	**132.30**	**138.55**	Sales per sh A	**152.10**
3.70	4.16	6.10	5.61	5.51	5.51	6.43	6.74	7.34	7.78	8.54	9.88	11.17	11.98	13.16	13.76	**14.40**	**15.40**	"Cash Flow" per sh	**20.00**
2.31	2.45	2.50	2.52	2.79	2.89	3.62	3.85	4.61	4.97	5.64	6.82	7.86	8.37	9.23	9.27	**9.55**	**10.25**	Earnings per sh A B E	**13.80**
.44	.48	.52	.56	.72	.80	.80	.88	1.15	2.25	3.25	4.10	4.45	4.65	4.85	5.05	**5.25**	**5.45**	Div'ds Decl'd per sh C ■	**6.60**
2.97	3.68	4.73	4.08	3.94	3.00	3.09	3.42	3.45	3.13	3.85	3.79	4.76	4.60	6.34	5.75	**5.00**	**5.20**	Cap'l Spending per sh	**5.85**
18.05	18.66	9.77	4.40	4.15	5.97	8.43	11.73	16.30	20.34	22.19	22.45	21.98	22.64	24.23	25.14	**27.30**	**29.60**	Book Value per sh	**41.65**
48.77	46.62	30.93	23.67	22.33	22.72	22.73	22.84	23.47	23.80	23.82	23.98	23.96	24.06	24.01	24.05	**24.00**	**24.00**	Common Shs Outst'g D	**24.00**
15.9	15.9	15.3	17.2	12.0	8.5	11.3	13.1	11.2	15.0	18.1	19.2	18.5	18.7	17.2	17.6	*Bold figures are*		Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	**17.0**
.84	.85	.83	.91	.72	.57	.72	.82	.71	.84	.95	.97	.97	.94	.93	.96	*Value Line*		Relative P/E Ratio	**.95**
1.2%	1.2%	1.4%	1.3%	2.2%	3.2%	2.0%	1.7%	2.2%	3.0%	3.2%	3.1%	3.1%	3.0%	3.1%	3.1%	*estimates*		Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	**2.8%**

CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 11/1/19
Total Debt $485.0 mill. **Due in 5 Yrs** $375.0 mill.
LT Debt $485.0 mill. **LT Interest** $25.0 mill.
(44% of Cap'l)
Leases, Uncapitalized Annual rentals $69.2 mill.

No Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Pfd Stock None

Common Stock 23,980,825 shs.
as of 11/19/19
MARKET CAP: $3.8 billion (Mid Cap)

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021		23-25
2404.5	2434.4	2580.2	2644.6	2683.7	2842.3	2912.4	2926.3	3030.4	3072.0	**3175**	**3325**	Sales ($mill) A	**3650**
9.4%	9.4%	10.2%	10.3%	10.5%	11.5%	12.3%	13.7%	12.8%	12.7%	**12.5%**	**13.0%**	Operating Margin	**15.0%**
61.0	62.8	64.5	66.1	68.4	73.0	78.2	86.3	93.7	107.5	**115**	**125**	Depreciation ($mill)	**150**
85.3	91.1	107.9	119.0	135.1	163.9	189.3	201.9	222.2	223.4	**230**	**245**	Net Profit ($mill) E	**330**
26.3%	26.4%	29.6%	30.6%	30.8%	31.2%	28.9%	32.4%	20.2%	16.1%	**16.5%**	**16.5%**	Income Tax Rate	**21.0%**
3.5%	3.7%	4.2%	4.5%	5.0%	5.8%	6.5%	6.9%	7.3%	7.3%	**7.2%**	**7.4%**	Net Profit Margin	**9.0%**
d73.3	d21.2	18.2	d13.9	d14.8	11.2	d13.1	d16.9	d57.8	d150.1	**d125**	**d100**	Working Cap'l ($mill)	**25.0**
573.8	550.1	525.0	400.0	375.0	400.0	400.0	400.0	400.0	400.0	**485**	**500**	Long-Term Debt ($mill)	**600**
191.6	268.0	382.7	484.0	528.6	538.3	526.4	544.5	581.8	604.7	**655**	**710**	Shr. Equity ($mill)	**1000**
14.3%	14.3%	14.3%	15.5%	15.9%	18.4%	21.2%	22.1%	23.4%	23.1%	**21.0%**	**21.5%**	Return on Total Cap'l	**21.5%**
44.5%	34.0%	28.2%	24.6%	25.6%	30.5%	36.0%	37.1%	38.2%	36.9%	**35.0%**	**34.5%**	Return on Shr. Equity	**33.0%**
34.8%	26.6%	22.3%	15.2%	12.0%	12.7%	15.7%	16.5%	18.1%	16.9%	**16.0%**	**16.0%**	Retained to Com Eq	**17.0%**
22%	22%	21%	38%	53%	58%	56%	55%	53%	54%	**55%**	**53%**	All Div'ds to Net Prof	**48%**

CURRENT POSITION ($MILL.)	2018	2019	11/1/19
Cash Assets	114.7	36.9	43.2
Receivables	19.5	22.8	22.1
Inventory (LIFO)	156.3	155.0	188.7
Other	16.3	27.7	39.4
Current Assets	306.8	242.4	293.4
Accts Payable	122.3	132.2	145.9
Debt Due	- -	- -	- -
Other	242.3	260.3	296.8
Current Liab.	364.6	392.5	442.7

ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)	Past 10 Yrs.	Past 5 Yrs.	Est'd '17-'19 to '23-'25
Sales	2.0%	2.5%	*3.5%*
"Cash Flow"	9.0%	10.5%	*7.5%*
Earnings	12.5%	12.0%	*7.5%*
Dividends	21.5%	17.0%	*5.5%*
Book Value	17.5%	4.0%	*9.5%*

Fiscal Year Ends	QUARTERLY SALES ($ mill.) A Oct.Per	Jan.Per	Apr.Per	Jul.Per	Full Fiscal Year
2017	710.0	772.7	700.4	743.2	2926.3
2018	710.4	787.8	721.4	810.8	3030.4
2019	733.6	811.7	739.6	787.1	3072.0
2020	749.0	***841***	***775***	***810***	***3175***
2021	***785***	***880***	***810***	***850***	***3325***

Fiscal Year Ends	EARNINGS PER SHARE A B Oct.Per	Jan.Per	Apr.Per	Jul.Per	Full Fiscal Year
2017	2.01	2.19	1.95	2.23	F8.37
2018	1.92	2.73	2.03	2.55	9.23
2019	1.96	2.52	2.09	2.70	9.27
2020	2.15	***2.60***	***2.15***	***2.65***	***9.55***
2021	***2.30***	***2.75***	***2.35***	***2.85***	***10.25***

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID C ■ Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2016	1.10	1.10	1.15	1.15	4.50
2017	1.15	1.15	1.20	1.20	4.70
2018	1.20	1.20	1.25	1.25	4.90
2019	1.25	1.25	1.30	1.30	5.10
2020	1.30				

BUSINESS: Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc., formerly CBRL Group, Inc., operates 660 restaurants/gift shops in 45 states, mostly in the South and Midwest (11/26/19). Restaurants feature an old country store motif, along with adjoining/separate gift shops, which sell early American reproductions and food items. Nearly all units are company-owned and located along highways. Restaurants accounted for 80.8% of '19 sales; gift shops, 19.2%. CBRL also had (now divested) 143 Logan's Roadhouse company-operated and 26 franchised units. Has about 73,000 employees. Off./dir. own less than 1% of stock (10/19 proxy). Pres. & CEO: Sandra B. Cochran. Inc.: TN. Addr.: P.O. Box 787, 305 Hartmann Drive, Lebanon, TN 37088-0787. Tel.: 615-444-5533. Internet: www.crackerbarrel.com.

Shares of Cracker Barrel Old Country Store have remained market laggards since our November review. We attribute this to lackluster same-store sales trends at the flagship concept. In fact, while share net of $2.15 for the first quarter of fiscal 2020 (year ends July 31st) beat our estimate by a dime, restaurant comps advanced a mediocre 2.1%, including a 1.5% traffic decline. Moreover, same-store sales across the retail operations (adjacent gift shops sell a variety of Americana items) have slipped into negative territory, falling 0.9% in the October period. The company has been trying to de-emphasize this part of its business, which continues to be squeezed by Amazon and other e-tailers. But retail still accounts for almost 20% of the revenue mix. And this challenged segment will probably remain a drag on results for the foreseeable future.

Prospects still appear decent as we look through the balance of fiscal 2020 and into next year. Though retail headwinds should persist, restaurant comps ought to improve gradually, thanks to off-premise expansion (i.e., more catering and delivery options) and new budget-friendly additions to the menu, like the popular southern fried chicken entrée. Service enhancements will probably bolster same-store sales, too. And we expect a heightened emphasis on the chain's unique value proposition to be a plus, helping Cracker Barrel to wrest share from some of its pricier casual-dining rivals. All in all, when factoring in some modest labor-related margin pressures, we see share net rising 3% this year (to $9.55) and another 7% in fiscal 2021 (to $10.25).

The restaurant operator has acquired Maple Street Biscuit Company for $36 million. This all-cash deal, along with the new strategic tie-up with entertainment chain Punch Bowl Social, adds a welcome element of diversity to the business. And we think that Maple Street represents a good long-term growth opportunity, especially as Cracker Barrel looks to move into urban areas and more aggressively target the breakfast and lunch crowds.

This stock has worthwhile total-return potential through 2023-2025. It does not stand out for the year ahead (Timeliness: 3), however.

Justin Hellman *February 21, 2020*

(A) Fiscal year ends Friday closest to July 31st. (B) Dil. earnings. Excl. nonrecurring (loss): '04, ($0.06). Excl. discontinued gain: '07, $2.41. Next earnings report due late February. (C) Quarterly div'd adopted 9/03. Payments made in February, May, August, and November. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan available. Excl. special div'ds of $3.00/sh. paid 8/5/15, $3.25/sh. paid 7/29/16, $3.50/sh. paid 7/28/17, $3.75/sh. paid 8/3/18, and $3.00/sh. paid 8/2/19. (D) In mill. (E) Incl. stock option expense as of '06. (F) Does not sum due to rounding.

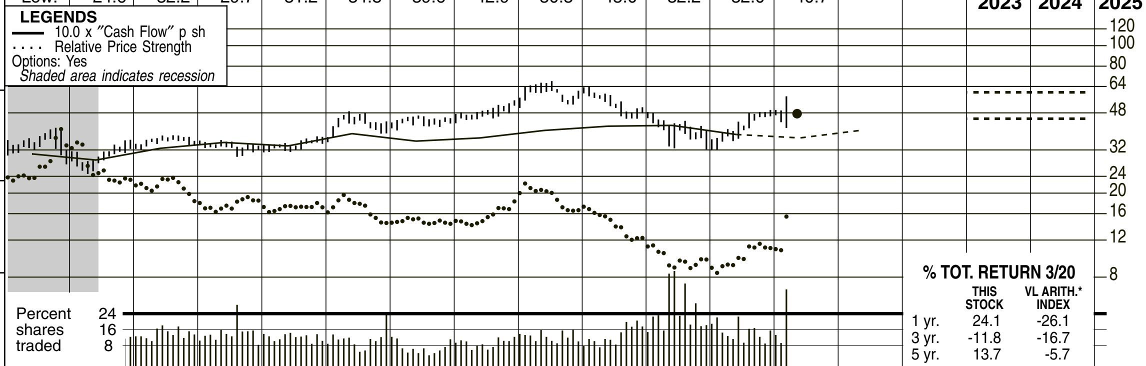
Company's Financial Strength	A
Stock's Price Stability	75
Price Growth Persistence	75
Earnings Predictability	100

CAMPBELL SOUP NYSE-CPB

RECENT PRICE **47.61** | P/E RATIO **18.5** (Trailing: 19.5 Median: 16.0) | RELATIVE P/E RATIO **1.38** | DIV'D YLD **2.9%** | VALUE LINE

TIMELINESS 3 Raised 6/7/19
SAFETY 2 Lowered 5/14/99
TECHNICAL 3 Raised 4/3/20
BETA .65 (1.00 = Market)

High:	35.8	37.6	35.7	37.2	48.8	46.7	55.1	67.9	64.2	48.4	49.5	57.5
Low:	24.6	32.2	29.7	31.2	34.8	39.6	42.9	50.5	45.0	32.2	32.0	40.7



18-Month Target Price Range

Low-High	Midpoint (% to Mid)
$31-$56	$44 (-10%)

2023-25 PROJECTIONS

	Price	Gain	Ann'l Total Return
High	55	(+15%)	9%
Low	40	(-15%)	2%

Institutional Decisions

	2Q2019	3Q2019	4Q2019
to Buy	216	198	229
to Sell	262	267	239
Hld's(000)	156748	154023	156767

% TOT. RETURN 3/20

	THIS STOCK	VL ARITH.* INDEX
1 yr.	24.1	-26.1
3 yr.	-11.8	-16.7
5 yr.	13.7	-5.7

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	© VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	23-25
17.42	18.50	18.27	20.76	22.47	21.01	22.85	24.12	24.70	25.81	26.42	26.07	25.85	26.21	28.85	26.93	*27.00*	*27.20*	Sales per sh A	*30.60*
2.24	2.42	2.41	2.78	3.07	2.87	3.26	3.48	3.35	3.82	3.53	3.66	3.97	4.15	4.19	3.79	*3.65*	*3.90*	"Cash Flow" per sh	*4.40*
1.58	1.71	1.66	1.95	2.09	2.15	2.42	2.54	2.44	2.48	2.53	2.65	2.94	3.04	2.87	2.30	*2.55*	*2.70*	Earnings per sh A B	*3.00*
.64	.69	.74	.80	.88	1.00	1.08	1.15	1.16	1.16	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.40	1.40	1.40	*1.40*	*1.40*	Div'ds Decl'd per sh C■	*1.60*
.71	.81	.77	.88	.84	.96	.94	.85	1.04	1.08	1.11	1.23	1.11	1.12	1.35	1.28	*1.30*	*1.35*	Cap'l Spending per sh	*1.50*
2.14	3.11	4.40	3.42	3.70	2.02	2.76	3.40	2.88	3.90	5.16	4.45	4.95	5.44	4.53	3.66	*10.50*	*12.05*	Book Value per sh D	*12.45*
408.00	408.00	402.00	379.00	356.00	361.00	336.00	320.00	312.00	312.00	313.00	310.00	308.00	301.00	301.00	301.00	*302.00*	*302.50*	Common Shs Outst'g E	*304.00*
16.7	16.7	19.0	19.7	16.6	14.6	14.1	13.7	13.4	16.0	17.1	17.1	19.3	18.9	15.6	16.6	*Bold figures are*		Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	*16.0*
.88	.89	1.03	1.05	1.00	.97	.90	.86	.85	.90	.90	.86	1.01	.95	.84	.91	*Value Line*		Relative P/E Ratio	*.90*
2.4%	2.4%	2.3%	2.1%	2.5%	3.2%	3.2%	3.3%	3.6%	2.9%	2.9%	2.7%	2.2%	2.4%	3.1%	3.7%	*estimates*		Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	*3.1%*

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021		23-25
7676.0	7719.0	7707.0	8052.0	8268.0	8082.0	7961.0	7890.0	8685.0	8107.0	*8150*	*8225*	Sales ($mill) A	*9300*
21.0%	21.0%	19.4%	20.4%	19.2%	20.3%	22.5%	23.3%	20.1%	20.8%	*20.4%*	*20.6%*	Operating Margin	*20.5%*
251.0	268.0	262.0	407.0	305.0	303.0	308.0	318.0	394.0	446.0	*340*	*345*	Depreciation ($mill)	*390*
844.0	846.0	783.0	786.0	800.0	831.0	914.0	932.0	868.0	696.0	*770*	*815*	Net Profit ($mill)	*945*
32.0%	31.5%	31.0%	29.8%	31.7%	31.4%	32.6%	32.4%	27.2%	23.7%	*24.0%*	*24.0%*	Income Tax Rate	*25.0%*
11.0%	11.0%	10.2%	9.8%	9.7%	10.3%	11.5%	11.8%	10.0%	8.6%	*9.4%*	*9.9%*	Net Profit Margin	*10.2%*
d378.0	d26.0	d299.0	d1061	d889.0	d714.0	d647.0	d495.0	d1298	d1418	*d1000*	*d895*	Working Cap'l ($mill)	*d800*
1945.0	2427.0	2004.0	2544.0	2244.0	2552.0	2314.0	2499.0	7998.0	7103.0	*4750*	*4500*	Long-Term Debt ($mill)	*4000*
926.0	1088.0	898.0	1217.0	1615.0	1380.0	1525.0	1637.0	1364.0	1103.0	*3175*	*3645*	Shr. Equity ($mill)	*3790*
30.8%	25.8%	28.9%	22.6%	22.0%	22.5%	25.3%	23.5%	10.2%	10.3%	*9.5%*	*10.0%*	Return on Total Cap'l	*12.0%*
91.1%	77.8%	87.2%	64.6%	49.5%	60.2%	59.9%	56.9%	63.6%	63.1%	*24.0%*	*22.0%*	Return on Shr. Equity	*52.0%*
51.7%	43.0%	45.7%	34.4%	25.3%	31.7%	34.4%	31.3%	32.4%	24.8%	*10.5%*	*10.5%*	Retained to Com Eq	*12.5%*
43%	45%	48%	47%	49%	47%	43%	45%	49%	61%	*55%*	*52%*	All Div'ds to Net Prof	*51%*

CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 1/26/20
Total Debt $5817 mill. **Due in 5 Yrs** $3025 mill.
LT Debt $4919 mill. **LT Interest** $265 mill.
(Total interest coverage: 5.1x)
(66% of Cap'l)

Leases, Uncapitalized Annual rentals $68 mill.
Pension Assets- 7/19 $2.2 bill. **Oblig.**$2.3 bill.
Pfd Stock None

Common Stock 301,744,623 shs.
as of 2/25/20

MARKET CAP: $14.4 billion (Large Cap)

CURRENT POSITION ($MILL.)	2018	2019	1/26/19
Cash Assets	226	31	58
Receivables	785	574	660
Inventory (LIFO)	1199	863	779
Other	86	499	59
Current Assets	2296	1967	1556
Accts Payable	893	814	923
Debt Due	1896	1371	902
Other	805	1200	711
Current Liab.	3594	3385	2536

ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)	Past 10 Yrs.	Past 5 Yrs.	Est'd '17-'19 to '23-'25
Sales	2.5%	1.5%	3.0%
"Cash Flow"	3.5%	2.5%	2.0%
Earnings	3.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Dividends	4.5%	3.5%	.5%
Book Value	4.0%	2.5%	15.5%

Fiscal Year Ends	QUARTERLY SALES ($ mill.) A Oct.Per	Jan.Per	Apr.Per	Jul.Per	Full Fiscal Year
2017	2202	2171	1853	1664	7890
2018	2161	2180	2125	2219	8685
2019	2202	2172	1953	1780	8107
2020	2183	2162	*1930*	*1875*	*8150*
2021	*2200*	*2175*	*1950*	*1900*	*8225*

Fiscal Year Ends	EARNINGS PER SHARE A B Oct.Per	Jan.Per	Apr.Per	Jul.Per	Full Fiscal Year
2017	1.00	.91	.59	.52	3.04
2018	.92	1.00	.70	.25	2.87
2019	.71	.65	.53	.41	2.30
2020	.78	.72	*.57*	*.48*	*2.55*
2021	*.80*	*.78*	*.61*	*.51*	*2.70*

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID C■ Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2016	.312	.312	.312	.35	1.29
2017	.312	.35	.35	.35	1.40
2018	.35	.35	.35	.35	1.40
2019	.35	.35	.35	.35	1.40
2020	.35				

BUSINESS: Campbell Soup Company manufactures and markets branded convenience food products. Operates two reportable segments: Meals & Beverages (53% of '19 sales), Snacks (47%). Sold Arnott's International Business, 12/19; Kelsen Int'l Business, 9/19. Fully divested Campbell Fresh division, 6/19. Popular brands include *Campbell's*, *Goldfish*, *Lance*, *Pace*, *Pepperidge Farm*, *Plum*, *Prego*, *Snyder's of Hanover*, *Swanson*, and *V8*. Largest customer is Wal-Mart, 20% of sales. Employs 19,000. Officers/directors (including heirs of founder John T. Dorrance) own 36.5% of shares (10/19 Proxy). Chairman: Keith McLoughlin. President & CEO: Mark A. Clouse. Inc.: NJ. Address: 1 Campbell Place, Camden, New Jersey 08103. Tel.: 856-342-4800. Internet: www.campbellsoup.com.

Campbell Soup posted solid operating results in the fiscal second quarter (ended January 26th). Organic net sales rose 1% year over year, leading to earnings per share of $0.72, a rise of 11% over the year-ago period. (Note: Our earnings figures exclude the impact of losses on debt extinguishment and other nonrecurring items.) The snacks category led the way, and we suspect that it will be joined by better soup results in the April quarter, judging from coronavirus-driven demand in recent weeks. A lower tax rate (it fell from 25% to 16%), as well as a 22% plunge in interest expense helped tremendously.

Management bumped up its 2020 fiscal year earnings-per-share guidance range by a nickel to $2.55-$2.60. We have raised our estimate for fiscal 2020 by a nickel, as well, and are introducing a $2.70 share-net prediction for fiscal 2021. Minor top-line growth will continue to be helped by continued paring of expenses. In fiscal 2020, roughly $150 million in cost synergies will be realized from the streamlining of production and further integrating the Snyder's-Lance operations. Another saving of $200 million has been targeted through the end of fiscal 2022.

The balance sheet transformation has largely run its course. Net debt has fallen from $9.1 billion to $5.8 billion over the past 12 months. CEO Mark Clouse, named in January, 2019, has made good on his promise to use the proceeds from international divestitures to delever and focus on adjusting the product mix. Further small debt reductions should aid ongoing productivity enhancements.

This neutrally ranked stock has held up rather well in the recent market downdraft. Debt reduction, improved execution, and renewed interest in some of Campbell's brands has not only helped profits, but propped up CPB's stock. It now trades at a premium valuation relative to the overall market, matching its decade-high level last witnessed in 2016. Currently, the yield of the consistent dividend is now below that of the *Value Line* median. Since annual earnings growth should decelerate out to mid-decade and we see an eventual return to a discounted multiple, three- to five-year total return potential appears subpar.

Charles Moran, CFA *April 17, 2020*

(A) Fiscal year ends on the Sun. nearest July 31st. **(B)** Based on dil. shs. Qrtly may not sum due to changes in share count. Excl. n/r gains/(losses): '04, (1¢); '06, 16¢; '07, 13¢; '08, (33¢); '09, (11¢); '11, (12¢); '12, (3¢); '13, (31¢); '14, 3¢; '15, (52¢); '16, ($1.13); '17, (15¢); '18, ($2.01); '19, (73¢); '20 Q1, (22¢). Excl. disc. ops.: '13, (73¢); '14, 3¢; '19, (87¢); '20 Q1, (1¢). Next egs. report due late May. **(C)** Div'ds paid late Jan., April, July, and Oct.■ Div'd reinvest. plan avail. **(D)** Incl. intangibles. In '19: $7.4 billion, or $24.69/sh. **(E)** In millions.

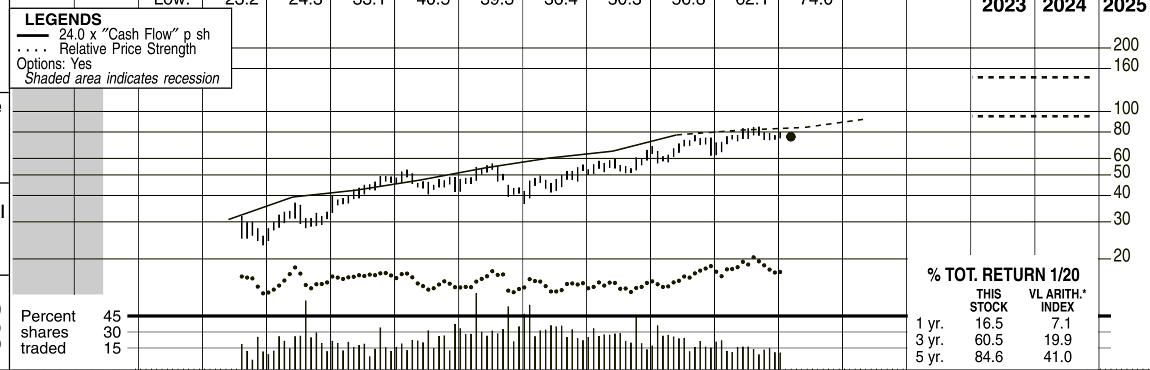
Company's Financial Strength	B++
Stock's Price Stability	80
Price Growth Persistence	30
Earnings Predictability	80

DUNKIN' BRANDS NDQ-DNKN

RECENT PRICE	P/E RATIO	RELATIVE P/E RATIO	DIV'D YLD	VALUE LINE
75.80	24.0 (Trailing: 24.0 / Median: NMF)	1.33	2.1%	360

TIMELINESS 2 Raised 5/24/19
SAFETY 3 New 12/2/11
TECHNICAL 3 Lowered 1/24/20
BETA .70 (1.00 = Market)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
High:	31.9	37.0	49.5	53.1	56.8	56.1	65.7	77.1	84.7	79.8
Low:	23.2	24.3	33.1	40.5	39.3	36.4	50.3	56.8	62.1	74.0



Target Price Range

2023	2024	2025

18-Month Target Price Range

Low-High	Midpoint (% to Mid)
$64-$97	$81 (5%)

2023-25 PROJECTIONS

	Price	Gain	Ann'l Total Return
High	145	(+90%)	19%
Low	95	(+25%)	8%

Institutional Decisions

	1Q2019	2Q2019	3Q2019
to Buy	196	181	190
to Sell	196	183	180
Hld's(000)	73615	72917	72054

% TOT. RETURN 1/20

	THIS STOCK	VL ARITH.* INDEX
1 yr.	16.5	7.1
3 yr.	60.5	19.9
5 yr.	84.6	41.0

In July 2011, Dunkin' Brands Group sold 22,250,000 shares of common stock and certain stockholders sold 3,337,500 shares of common stock at a price of $19.00 per share in an IPO. The lead underwriters were J.P. Morgan, Barclays Capital, and Morgan Stanley. Upon completion of the offering, the stock, on July 27, 2011, began trading on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "DNKN".

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	© VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	23-25
- -	5.23	6.26	6.69	7.16	8.75	9.07	9.52	16.01	***16.50***	***17.30***	***18.15***	Revenues per sh	***21.15***
- -	1.28	1.64	1.76	1.97	2.25	2.51	2.70	3.22	***3.40***	***3.50***	***3.85***	"Cash Flow" per sh	***5.05***
- -	.94	1.28	1.53	1.75	1.93	2.26	2.43	2.90	3.17	***3.20***	***3.55***	Earnings per sh A	***4.75***
- -	- -	.60	.76	.92	1.06	1.20	1.29	1.39	1.50	***1.61***	***1.72***	Div'ds Decl'd per sh C ■	***2.40***
- -	.15	.21	.29	.23	.33	.17	.16	.63	***.45***	***.55***	***.65***	Cap'l Spending per sh	***.95***
- -	6.21	3.30	3.82	3.52	d2.39	d1.79	.09	d8.63	***d7.10***	***d5.80***	***d4.30***	Book Value per sh	***1.30***
- -	120.14	106.15	106.65	104.63	92.64	91.44	90.38	82.56	***83.00***	***82.00***	***81.00***	Common Shs Outst'g B	***78.00***
- -	28.3	24.1	27.6	26.5	24.9	20.7	22.7	23.2	23.9	***Bold figures are***		Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	***25.0***
- -	1.78	1.53	1.55	1.39	1.25	1.09	1.14	1.25	1.31	***Value Line***		Relative P/E Ratio	***1.40***
- -	- -	1.9%	1.8%	2.0%	2.2%	2.6%	2.3%	2.1%	2.0%	***estimates***		Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	***2.0%***
577.1	628.2	664.0	713.8	748.7	810.9	828.9	860.5	1321.6	1370.2	***1420***	***1470***	Revenues ($mill)	***1650***
41.7%	51.4%	50.0%	50.8%	51.6%	52.0%	55.1%	56.6%	34.4%	35.6%	***35.0%***	***36.0%***	Operating Margin	***38.5%***
57.8	52.5	24.2	22.4	19.8	20.6	20.5	20.1	19.9	18.4	***20.0***	***20.0***	Depreciation ($mill)	***25.0***
95.9	101.7	149.7	165.8	186.4	188.0	208.7	223.8	246.3	265.1	***265***	***290***	Net Profit ($mill)	***370***
- -	38.9%	36.4%	36.2%	37.5%	38.0%	37.7%	38.9%	21.0%	23.7%	***27.0%***	***27.0%***	Income Tax Rate	***27.0%***
16.6%	16.2%	22.5%	23.2%	24.9%	23.2%	25.2%	26.0%	18.6%	19.3%	***18.7%***	***19.7%***	Net Profit Margin	***22.4%***
3.8	90.0	66.3	117.5	87.1	139.0	182.2	844.9	273.9	324.9	***375***	***425***	Working Cap'l ($mill)	***700***
1852.2	1458.3	1830.5	1825.6	1814.7	2428.1	2409.5	3043.0	3010.6	3004.2	***3000***	***3000***	Long-Term Debt ($mill)	***3000***
306.2	745.9	350.0	407.4	368.0	d221.0	d163.3	8.4	d712.8	d588.0	***d475***	***d350***	Shr. Equity ($mill)	***100***
4.7%	7.0%	8.6%	9.2%	10.1%	10.7%	11.5%	9.0%	13.5%	13.6%	***13.5%***	***14.0%***	Return on Total Cap'l	***14.5%***
31.3%	13.6%	42.8%	40.7%	50.7%	- -	- -	NMF	NMF	NMF	***NMF***	***NMF***	Return on Shr. Equity	***NMF***
31.3%	13.6%	22.8%	20.8%	24.4%	- -	- -	NMF	NMF	NMF	***NMF***	***NMF***	Retained to Com Eq	***NMF***
- -	- -	47%	49%	52%	53%	53%	52%	47%	47%	***50%***	***48%***	All Div'ds to Net Prof	***51%***

CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 12/28/19
Total Debt $3035.4 mill. **Due in 5 Yrs** $1750 mill.
LT Debt $3004.2 mill. **LT Interest** $150.0 mill.
(Total interest coverage: 3.2x)
(more than 100% of Cap'l)

Leases, Uncapitalized $60.2 mill.

No Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Pfd Stock None

Common Stock 82,843,010 shs.
as of 11/1/19

MARKET CAP: $6.3 billion (Large Cap)

CURRENT POSITION ($MILL.)	2017	2018	12/28/19
Cash Assets	1112.4	596.6	706.8
Receivables	102.5	140.4	133.2
Inventory	- -	- -	- -
Other	101.9	76.5	67.3
Current Assets	1316.8	813.5	907.3
Accts Payable	16.3	80.0	89.4
Debt Due	31.5	31.7	31.2
Other	424.1	427.9	461.8
Current Liab.	471.9	539.6	582.4

ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)	Past 10 Yrs.	Past 5 Yrs.	Est'd '16-'18 to '23-'25
Revenues	- -	13.5%	NMF
"Cash Flow"	- -	12.5%	8.5%
Earnings	- -	15.0%	9.5%
Dividends	- -	23.5%	9.5%
Book Value	- -	- -	NMF

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY REVENUES ($ mill.) Mar.Per	Jun.Per	Sep.Per	Dec.Per	Full Year
2017	190.7	218.5	224.2	227.1	860.5
2018	301.3	350.6	350.0	319.7	1321.6
2019	319.1	359.3	355.9	335.9	1370.2
2020	***330***	***372***	***367***	***351***	***1420***
2021	***340***	***385***	***380***	***365***	***1470***

Cal-endar	EARNINGS PER SHARE A D Mar.Per	Jun.Per	Sep.Per	Dec.Per	Full Year
2017	.54	.64	.61	.64	2.43
2018	.62	.77	.83	.68	2.90
2019	.67	.86	.90	.73	3.17
2020	***.69***	***.88***	***.86***	***.77***	***3.20***
2021	***.77***	***.98***	***.95***	***.85***	***3.55***

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID C■ Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2016	.30	.30	.30	.30	1.20
2017	.323	.323	.323	.323	1.29
2018	.348	.348	.348	.348	1.39
2019	.375	.375	.375	.375	1.50
2020	.403				

BUSINESS: Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc., based in Canton, Massachusetts, is one of the world's leading franchisors of quick-service restaurants, serving hot and cold coffee and baked goods, as well as hard-serve ice cream. It has two core concepts, *Dunkin'* (about 80% of total segment revenues) and *Baskin-Robbins* (20%), and over 21,250 points of distribution in more than 60 countries. At the end of Q4 '19, the company's 100% franchised business model included more than 13,100 *Dunkin'* and 8,150 *Baskin-Robbins* locations. Has approximately 1,100 employees. Officers & directors as a group own 1.7% of common (4/19 Proxy). CEO: David Hoffmann. Inc.: Delaware. Addr.: 130 Royall St., Canton, Massachusetts 02021. Tel.: 781-737-3000. Internet: www.dunkinbrands.com.

Dunkin' Brands Group closed out 2019 on a high note. Indeed, fourth-quarter share net of $0.73 sailed past our $0.69 estimate and topped Wall Street's expectations, as the company benefited from a lower-than-anticipated effective tax rate and an especially strong showing from its domestic *Dunkin'* business. Same-store sales across the core *Dunkin'* U.S. segment advanced 2.8% during the period, notwithstanding stiff industry competition (most notably from coffee giant Starbucks). This was the best such comp performance in several years. And . . .

We look for the good momentum to persist. That should stem, we think, from further gains in the espresso-based beverage category and the rollout of new menu items, including more of the popular *Beyond Meat* breakfast sandwiches. Greater traction from the *Go2s* value platform will probably be a plus, as well, helping the fast-food chain attract more budget-conscious consumers. And the *Perks* loyalty initiative should continue to expand nicely. Notably, this digital rewards program has picked up considerable steam of late, adding about one million new members in the fourth quarter. And its extension should not only be a positive for comp trends, but it should speed up restaurant transaction times (by encouraging customers to place mobile orders and/or pay with their smartphones).

Stepped-up investment spending is expected to keep a tight lid on the bottom line in the near term. Despite the same-store sales momentum, earnings will likely be on the flattish side this year, at $3.20 a share, as the company ramps up spending on remodels and new high-volume brewers. The pace of unit development ought to accelerate, too, with the opening of more *Dunkin'* locations in the western part of the country still a priority. We expect solid profit growth to return in 2021, however, when share net is apt to approximate $3.55. And we project that the bottom line will reach around $4.75 a share by the 2023-2025 horizon.

This restaurant issue remains timely (2). The shares also offer a decent dividend yield. And the current valuation appears reasonable, making this a fine selection for buy-and-hold investors.

Justin Hellman *February 21, 2020*

(A) Earnings based on diluted shares outstanding. Next earnings report is due early May.
(B) In millions.
(C) Dividend initiated in 3/12. Quarterly payments have been made in February, May, August, and November. ■ Dividend reinvestment plan available.
(D) Quarterly share earnings do not sum in '19 due to rounding.

Company's Financial Strength	B+
Stock's Price Stability	85
Price Growth Persistence	95
Earnings Predictability	100

DARDEN RESTAURANTS NYSE-DRI

RECENT PRICE 122.23 | P/E RATIO 18.2 (Trailing: 20.2, Median: 18.0) | RELATIVE P/E RATIO 1.01 | DIV'D YLD 2.9% | VALUE LINE 355

TIMELINESS 2 Lowered 1/4/19
SAFETY 3 Lowered 3/12/04
TECHNICAL 3 Lowered 2/7/20
BETA .75 (1.00 = Market)

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
High:	41.2	50.8	53.8	57.9	55.3	59.6	75.6	79.4	98.4	124.0	128.4	122.4
Low:	23.3	33.7	40.7	43.8	44.1	43.6	53.4	55.8	71.0	82.4	97.9	109.4

LEGENDS
— 12.0 x "Cash Flow" p sh
.... Relative Price Strength
Options: Yes
Shaded area indicates recession

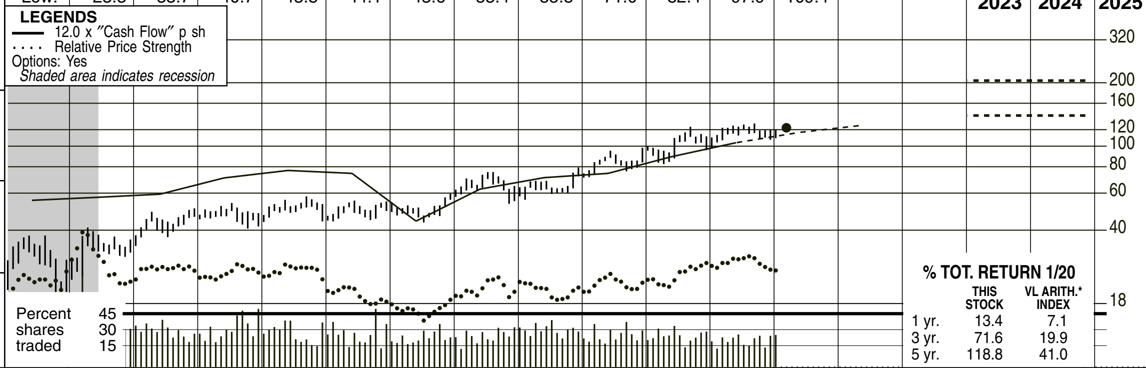
18-Month Target Price Range
Low-High: $97-$178 — Midpoint (% to Mid): $138 (10%)

2023-25 PROJECTIONS

	Price	Gain	Ann'l Total Return
High	205	(+70%)	16%
Low	140	(+15%)	6%

Institutional Decisions

	1Q2019	2Q2019	3Q2019
to Buy	361	314	312
to Sell	280	314	324
Hld's(000)	109431	112113	111271



Target Price Range 2023 | 2024 | 2025

% TOT. RETURN 1/20

	THIS STOCK	VL ARITH.* INDEX
1 yr.	13.4	7.1
3 yr.	71.6	19.9
5 yr.	118.8	41.0

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	© VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	23-25
31.58	34.19	38.92	39.37	47.16	51.81	49.20	55.72	62.01	65.63	47.51	53.39	54.94	57.18	65.43	69.13	*74.70*	*79.90*	Sales per sh A	*86.85*
2.94	3.26	3.81	4.08	4.62	4.77	4.95	5.91	6.40	6.20	3.69	5.23	5.92	6.20	7.44	8.66	*9.70*	*10.50*	"Cash Flow" per sh	*12.65*
1.50	1.78	2.16	2.53	2.78	2.72	2.91	3.41	3.58	3.14	1.38	2.64	3.53	4.02	4.81	5.82	*6.55*	*7.30*	Earnings per sh AB	*9.05*
.08	.08	.40	.46	.72	.80	1.00	1.28	1.72	2.00	2.20	2.20	2.10	2.24	2.52	3.00	*3.56*	*3.64*	Div'ds Decl'd per sh C■	*4.04*
2.24	2.13	2.30	2.44	3.05	3.84	2.99	4.07	4.96	5.26	3.14	2.34	1.81	2.34	3.21	3.67	*4.15*	*4.05*	Cap'l Spending per sh	*2.85*
7.86	8.25	8.37	7.74	10.03	11.53	13.10	14.38	14.28	15.81	16.30	18.42	15.47	16.76	17.77	19.44	*19.15*	*20.35*	Book Value per sh	*30.25*
158.43	154.39	147.00	141.40	140.50	139.30	144.60	134.60	129.00	130.30	132.30	126.70	126.20	125.40	123.50	123.10	*120.00*	*118.00*	Common Shs Outst'g D	*114.00*
14.1	14.4	16.6	15.8	13.4	10.6	12.6	13.4	13.5	16.0	36.5	21.2	18.5	17.8	18.4	18.9	*Bold figures are*		Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	*19.0*
.74	.77	.90	.84	.81	.71	.80	.84	.86	.90	1.92	1.07	.97	.90	.99	1.03	*Value Line*		Relative P/E Ratio	*1.05*
.4%	.3%	1.1%	1.2%	1.9%	2.8%	2.7%	2.8%	3.6%	4.0%	4.4%	3.9%	3.2%	3.1%	2.9%	2.7%	*estimates*		Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	*2.5%*

CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 11/24/19
Total Debt $928.2 mill. **Due in 5 Yrs** None
LT Debt $928.2 mill. **LT Interest** $50 mill.

(Total interest coverage: 16.8x)
(29% of Cap'l)

Leases, Uncapitalized Annual rentals $372.9 mill.
Pension Assets-5/19 $248.5 mill.
Pension Obligation $252.3 mill.
Pfd Stock None

Common Stock 121,510,096 shs.
as of 12/16/19
MARKET CAP: $14.9 billion (Large Cap)

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021		23-25
7114.1	7500.2	7998.7	8551.9	6285.6	6764.0	6933.5	7170.2	8080.1	8510.4	*8965*	*9425*	Sales ($mill) A	*9900*
13.3%	14.2%	13.6%	12.2%	10.0%	12.1%	13.9%	13.6%	13.6%	14.0%	*14.7%*	*15.2%*	Operating Margin	*17.0%*
300.9	316.8	349.1	394.8	304.4	319.3	290.2	272.9	313.1	336.7	*360*	*380*	Depreciation ($mill)	*410*
414.2	478.7	476.5	412.6	183.2	342.9	456.6	504.5	606.2	729.6	*805*	*860*	Net Profit ($mill)	*1030*
24.8%	26.1%	25.3%	21.0%	- -	14.6%	24.4%	24.8%	16.7%	8.4%	*11.0%*	*11.0%*	Income Tax Rate	*15.0%*
5.8%	6.4%	6.0%	4.8%	2.9%	5.1%	6.6%	7.0%	7.5%	8.6%	*9.0%*	*9.1%*	Net Profit Margin	*10.4%*
d576.1	d623.0	d1017	d651.5	357.9	d140.3	d366.8	d489.4	d830.9	d581.5	*d1000*	*d550*	Working Cap'l ($mill)	*d500*
1466.3	1463.3	1508.1	2548.7	2533.4	1452.3	440.0	936.6	926.5	927.7	*875*	*825*	Long-Term Debt ($mill)	*650*
1894.0	1936.2	1842.0	2059.5	2156.9	2333.5	1952.0	2101.7	2194.8	2392.6	*2300*	*2400*	Shr. Equity ($mill)	*2450*
13.6%	15.3%	15.7%	10.3%	5.3%	10.4%	20.5%	17.3%	20.4%	22.7%	*25.5%*	*27.5%*	Return on Total Cap'l	*25.0%*
21.9%	24.7%	25.9%	20.0%	8.5%	14.7%	23.4%	24.0%	27.6%	30.5%	*35.0%*	*36.0%*	Return on Shr. Equity	*30.0%*
14.5%	15.7%	13.7%	7.5%	NMF	2.7%	9.7%	10.7%	13.3%	15.0%	*16.5%*	*18.0%*	Retained to Com Eq	*16.5%*
34%	37%	47%	63%	NMF	81%	59%	55%	52%	51%	*53%*	*50%*	All Div'ds to Net Prof	*45%*

CURRENT POSITION ($MILL.)

	2018	2019	11/24/19
Cash Assets	146.9	457.3	157.3
Receivables	40.4	88.3	56.8
Inventory (avg. cost)	205.3	207.3	212.2
Other	161.0	139.7	109.2
Current Assets	553.6	892.6	535.5
Accts Payable	277.0	332.6	340.2
Debt Due	- -	- -	- -
Other	1107.5	1141.5	1217.3
Current Liab.	1384.5	1474.1	1557.5

ANNUAL RATES

of change (per sh)	Past 10 Yrs.	Past 5 Yrs.	Est'd '17-'19 to '23-'25
Sales	3.5%	2.0%	*5.0%*
"Cash Flow"	5.0%	6.5%	*9.5%*
Earnings	6.0%	12.5%	*11.0%*
Dividends	14.5%	5.5%	*7.5%*
Book Value	6.5%	3.0%	*9.0%*

QUARTERLY SALES ($ mill.) A

Fiscal Year Ends	Aug.Per	Nov.Per	Feb.Per	May Per	Full Fiscal Year
2017	1714.4	1642.5	1878.7	1934.6	7170.2
2018	1936.1	1881.5	2128.4	2134.1	8080.1
2019	2061.4	1973.4	2246.5	2229.1	8510.4
2020	2133.9	2056.4	*2368*	*2406.7*	*8965*
2020	*2325*	*2200*	*2400*	*2500*	*9425*

EARNINGS PER SHARE AB

Fiscal Year Ends	Aug.Per	Nov.Per	Feb.Per	May Per	Full Fiscal Year
2017	.88	.64	1.32	1.18	4.02
2018	.99	.73	1.71	1.39	4.81
2019	1.34	.92	1.80	1.76	5.82
2020	1.38	1.12	*1.95*	*2.10*	*6.55*
2021	*1.55*	*1.35*	*2.15*	*2.25*	*7.30*

QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID C■

Cal-endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2016	.50	.50	.56	.56	2.12
2017	.56	.56	.63	.63	2.38
2018	.63	.63	.75	.75	2.76
2019	.75	.75	.88	.88	3.26
2020	.88				

BUSINESS: Darden Restaurants is the world's largest casual dining operator. At 11/24/19, had 1,799 units in the U.S. and Canada. Licenses to 78 franchisees overseas. Chains include: *The Olive Garden* (867 units); *LongHorn* (518 units); *Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen* (166 units); *Capital Grille* (59 units); *Yard House* (79 units); *Bahama Breeze* (42 units); *Seasons 52* (45 units); *Eddie V's* (23 units). Spun-off Red Lobster, 5/15; Four Corners Property Trust 11/15. Depr. rate: 4.8%. Has 184,514 employees. Officers/directors own less than 1.0% of common stock. Vanguard Group, 11.75%; BlackRock Inc. 10.17%. (8/19 Proxy). CEO: Eugene Lee. Inc.: Florida. Address: 1000 Darden Center Drive, Orlando, FL 32837. Telephone: 407-245-4000. Internet: www.darden.com.

Darden Restaurants' fiscal second-quarter 2020 results were solid (years end on last Sunday in May). The company reported share net of $1.12, $0.05 better than the consensus estimate, but a nickel below our call. Total sales increased 4.2%, to $2.06 billion. Same-store sales accelerated at *Longhorn Steakhouse* (+6.7%), their highest level since 2012. Traffic jumped 3.2% at the chain, its best level in over a year. *Longhorn* benefited from enhancements to its existing core menu items, coupled with increased promotion of its award-winning "You Can't Fake Steak" advertising campaign. *Olive Garden* also posted positive same-store sales (for the 21st-consecutive period), although its gain was driven by price, not traffic. Guest counts for the chain were negative for the third-consecutive quarter.

Results for the company's other brands are a mixed bag. Indeed, only three of the other six chains reported positive same-store sales: *The Capital Grille* (+1.8%), *Eddie V's* (+0.5%), and *Yard House* (+0.7%). Meanwhile, *Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen* (-1.2%), *Seasons 52* (-3.5%). and *Bahama Breeze* (-3.4%), all continued to struggle, although *Cheddar's* comps did improve sequentially.

These shares are a timely choice for year-ahead market action. This equity is suitable for conservative, income-oriented accounts. Darden stock has a solid Price Stability rating and a below-market Beta. The board has raised the dividend in each of the past four years, and we expect this trend to continue. Its dividend yield is comfortably above that of the average stock reviewed in the *Value Line* universe. Furthermore, Darden's board has a long history of buying back shares. The company bought back $207.5 million in common stock last year, and has already repurchased $230.9 million worth through the first six months of fiscal 2020. Finally, the company has a good track record of beating the consensus earnings estimate. Thus, more-nimble trading accounts may want to look here, too. Darden Restaurants has beaten the consensus estimate for seven-consecutive quarters. Returns over the 18-month and 3- to 5-year time frames are unexciting near the recent quote, however.

Wayne C. Nef — *February 21, 2020*

(A) Fiscal year ends on the last Sunday in May of the calendar year. (B) Based on diluted shares. 2018 EPS do not add due to change in shares outstanding. Excludes nonrecurring gains/(losses): '15, ($1.13); '16, (75¢); '17, (19¢); '18, (2¢). Excludes disc. operations: '14 77¢; '15 $3.96; '16 (0.73); '17, (6¢); '18, (6¢); '19, (2¢). Next earnings report due late March. (C) Div'ds historically paid in early February, April, July, and October. ■ Dividend reinvestment plan available. (D) In millions.

Company's Financial Strength	B++
Stock's Price Stability	75
Price Growth Persistence	65
Earnings Predictability	50

HORMEL FOODS NYSE-HRL

RECENT PRICE 48.55 | P/E RATIO 27.7 (Trailing: 26.8 / Median: 21.0) | RELATIVE P/E RATIO 2.07 | DIV'D YLD 2.0% | VALUE LINE

TIMELINESS 1 Raised 4/3/20
SAFETY 2 Lowered 1/19/18
TECHNICAL 4 Lowered 3/27/20
BETA .60 (1.00 = Market)

18-Month Target Price Range

Low-High	Midpoint (% to Mid)
$35-$52	$44 (-10%)

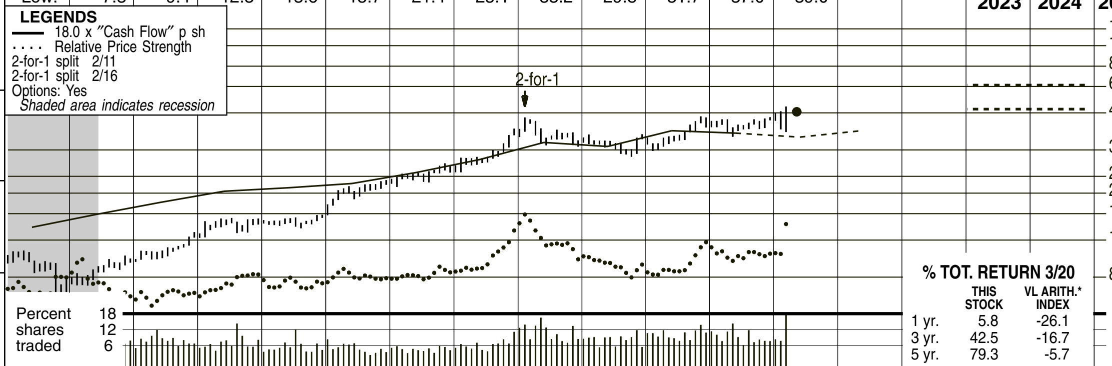
2023-25 PROJECTIONS

	Price	Gain	Ann'l Total Return
High	65	(+35%)	9%
Low	50	(+5%)	3%

Institutional Decisions

	2Q2019	3Q2019	4Q2019
to Buy	246	291	302
to Sell	275	209	229
Hld's(000)	238266	235427	243943

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
High:	10.1	13.1	15.3	15.8	23.1	27.7	40.4	45.7	38.0	46.3	45.8	51.5
Low:	7.3	9.4	12.3	13.6	15.7	21.4	25.1	33.2	29.8	31.7	37.0	39.0



Target Price Range
2023 | 2024 | 2025

% TOT. RETURN 3/20

	THIS STOCK	VL ARITH.* INDEX
1 yr.	5.8	-26.1
3 yr.	42.5	-16.7
5 yr.	79.3	-5.7

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	© VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	23-25
8.67	9.82	10.46	11.41	12.55	12.23	13.57	14.96	15.65	16.60	17.67	17.53	18.02	17.35	17.87	17.77	***18.20***	***18.75***	Sales per sh A	***20.75***
.57	.67	.74	.78	.77	.88	1.01	1.13	1.18	1.23	1.39	1.60	1.93	1.85	2.20	2.14	***2.05***	***2.20***	"Cash Flow" per sh	***3.20***
.39	.46	.51	.54	.52	.63	.76	.87	.93	.98	1.12	1.32	1.64	1.57	1.86	1.80	***1.75***	***1.90***	Earnings per sh A B	***2.85***
.11	.13	.14	.15	.19	.19	.21	.26	.30	.34	.40	.50	.58	.68	.75	.84	***.93***	***1.02***	Div'ds Decl'd per sh C ■	***1.20***
.15	.19	.26	.23	.23	.18	.17	.18	.25	.20	.30	.27	.48	.42	.73	.55	***.65***	***.70***	Cap'l Spending per sh	***.85***
2.54	2.86	3.28	3.47	3.73	3.97	4.52	5.04	5.37	6.29	6.85	7.57	8.42	9.34	10.49	11.08	***11.95***	***12.65***	Book Value per sh D	***15.00***
551.50	551.37	549.36	542.71	538.08	534.37	531.93	527.93	526.09	527.32	527.23	528.41	528.48	528.42	534.14	534.49	***538.00***	***538.00***	Common Shs Outst'g E	***540.00***
18.1	16.9	17.0	17.3	18.2	13.0	13.7	15.7	15.6	19.8	21.3	21.6	23.4	21.8	19.6	23.4	*Bold figures are*	*Value Line estimates*	Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	***20.0***
.96	.90	.92	.92	1.10	.87	.87	.98	.99	1.11	1.12	1.09	1.23	1.10	1.06	1.28			Relative P/E Ratio	***1.10***
1.6%	1.7%	1.6%	1.6%	2.0%	2.3%	2.0%	1.9%	2.1%	1.8%	1.7%	1.8%	1.5%	2.0%	2.1%	2.0%			Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	***2.1%***

CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 1/26/20
Total Debt $317.3 mill. **Due in 5 Yrs** $250.0 mill.
LT Debt $309.0 mill. **LT Interest** $15.0 mill. (5% of Cap'l)
Leases, Uncapitalized Annual rentals $15.6 mill.

Pension Assets-10/19 $1477.3 mill. **Oblig.** $1616.2 mill.

Pfd Stock None
Common Stock 537,776,130 shs. as of 3/1/20

MARKET CAP: $26.1 billion (Large Cap)

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021		23-25
7220.7	7895.1	8230.7	8751.7	9316.3	9263.9	9523.2	9167.5	9545.7	9497.3	***9800***	***10100***	Sales ($mill) A	***11200***
10.6%	10.6%	10.3%	10.4%	11.2%	13.0%	14.9%	15.0%	13.8%	13.9%	***13.5%***	***14.0%***	Operating Margin	***17.5%***
125.6	124.2	119.5	124.9	130.0	133.4	132.0	131.0	161.9	165.2	***170***	***175***	Depreciation ($mill)	***190***
409.0	474.2	500.1	526.2	602.7	713.8	890.1	846.7	1012.1	978.8	***940***	***1020***	Net Profit ($mill)	***1540***
34.9%	33.3%	33.4%	33.6%	34.3%	34.3%	32.4%	33.8%	14.3%	19.1%	***21.5%***	***21.5%***	Income Tax Rate	***21.5%***
5.7%	6.0%	6.1%	6.0%	6.5%	7.7%	9.3%	9.2%	10.6%	10.3%	***9.6%***	***10.1%***	Net Profit Margin	***13.8%***
757.0	1220.0	1534.4	1263.4	1178.1	849.0	976.7	968.3	911.2	1256.4	***1375***	***1500***	Working Cap'l ($mill)	***2000***
- -	250.0	250.0	250.0	250.0	250.0	250.0	250.0	624.8	250.0	***310***	***325***	Long-Term Debt ($mill)	***500***
2406.6	2659.8	2824.9	3316.6	3612.1	3998.2	4448.0	4935.9	5600.8	5921.5	***6425***	***6800***	Shr. Equity ($mill) D	***8100***
17.0%	16.7%	16.5%	14.9%	15.8%	16.9%	19.1%	16.4%	16.5%	16.0%	***14.0%***	***14.5%***	Return on Total Cap'l	***18.0%***
17.0%	17.8%	17.7%	15.9%	16.7%	17.9%	20.0%	17.2%	18.1%	16.5%	***14.5%***	***15.0%***	Return on Shr. Equity	***19.0%***
12.4%	12.9%	12.3%	10.6%	11.1%	11.6%	13.3%	10.1%	11.1%	9.1%	***7.0%***	***7.0%***	Retained to Com Eq	***11.0%***
27%	27%	30%	33%	34%	35%	33%	41%	38%	45%	***53%***	***54%***	All Div'ds to Net Prof	***42%***

CURRENT POSITION ($MILL.)

	2018	2019	1/26/20
Cash Assets	459.1	687.6	739.2
Receivables	600.4	574.4	562.5
Inventory (FIFO)	963.5	1042.4	1057.3
Other	27.1	57.0	36.0
Current Assets	2050.1	2361.4	2395.0
Accts Payable	618.8	590.0	490.0
Debt Due	- -	- -	8.3
Other	520.1	515.0	524.8
Current Liab.	1138.9	1105.0	1023.1

ANNUAL RATES

of change (per sh)	Past 10 Yrs.	Past 5 Yrs.	Est'd '17-'19 to '23-'25
Sales	4.0%	1.0%	*2.5%*
"Cash Flow"	10.0%	10.0%	*7.5%*
Earnings	12.0%	11.5%	*8.5%*
Dividends	16.0%	17.0%	*8.0%*
Book Value	10.5%	11.0%	*6.5%*

Fiscal Year Ends	QUARTERLY SALES ($ mill.) A Jan.Per	Apr.Per	Jul.Per	Oct.Per	Full Fiscal Year
2017	2280.2	2187.3	2207.4	2492.6	9167.5
2018	2331.3	2330.6	2359.1	2524.7	9545.7
2019	2360.4	2344.7	2290.7	2501.5	9497.3
2020	2384.4	***2355.6***	***2410***	***2650***	***9800***
2021	***2450***	***2450***	***2475***	***2725***	***10100***

Fiscal Year Ends	EARNINGS PER SHARE A B Jan.Per	Apr.Per	Jul.Per	Oct.Per	Full Fiscal Year
2017	.44	.39	.34	.40	1.57
2018	.56	.44	.39	.47	1.86
2019	.44	.52	.37	.47	1.80
2020	.45	***.42***	***.40***	***.48***	***1.75***
2021	***.48***	***.46***	***.44***	***.52***	***1.90***

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID C ■ Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2016	.145	.145	.145	.145	.58
2017	.17	.17	.17	.17	.68
2018	.188	.188	.188	.188	.75
2019	.21	.21	.21	.21	.84
2020	.233	.233			

BUSINESS: Hormel Foods Corporation is an international manufacturer and marketer of consumer-branded meat and food products, which are sold fresh, frozen, cured, smoked, cooked, and canned. Well-known brand names include: *Hormel, Always Tender, Cure 81, SPAM, Dinty Moore, Jennie-O, Mary Kitchen, Little Sizzlers, Chi-Chi's, Kid's Kitchen, and Skippy.* Distributes products to supermarkets and independent food stores in all 50 states as well as overseas. Has approximately 18,800 employees. The Hormel Foundation owns 48.0% of common stock; all officers/directors as a group, 1.2% (12/19 Proxy). President and CEO: James P. Snee. Inc.: DE. Address: 1 Hormel Place, Austin, MN 55912-3680. Telephone: 507-437-5611. Internet: www.hormel.com.

Hormel Foods stock has exerted its safe-haven status over the past three months. Indeed, since our last review in January, the stock has climbed 9% in value, while the broader S&P 500 Index has plunged into bear market territory amidst the coronavirus outbreak. We attribute this to a flight to quality on the part of jittery investors, with many shifting out of volatile growth names into more-defensive, dividend-paying issues. Consumers, being asked to "shelter in place" in select communities across the country, have also been hunkering down and stockpiling canned goods.

This hoarding behavior augurs well for the company's Grocery Products segment as we look out through fiscal 2020 (ends October 31st). That division has been struggling of late (first-quarter organic volume and segment profit fell 4% and 28%, respectively), hampered by heightened raw material costs, lower contract manufacturing earnings, weakness in the *SKIPPY* peanut butter line, and the recently completed CytoSport divestiture. And a recovery there would be encouraging, adding to the momentum that Hormel is seeing in its *Jennie-O* turkey business and Refrigerated Foods (especially foodservice) unit. As things stand presently . . .

We expect the Refrigerated and rejuvenated *Jennie-O* segments to do most of the heavy lifting in the coming periods. Indeed, strength in those areas should offset coronavirus-related softness in China and other international markets, along with any lingering pressures on the Grocery Products division. Acquisitions ought to bolster results, as well. This includes a just-announced deal to purchase Sadler's Smokehouse, a pit-smoked meats outfit based in Texas, for $270 million. Sadler's should help Hormel build on its foodservice momentum and better capitalize on the growing demand for authentic barbeque fare. All in all, while the bottom line seems apt to retreat a bit this year, we envision share net rebounding to $1.90 in fiscal 2021 and about $2.85 by the 2023-2025 horizon.

This equity is timely (1), and should still provide long-term investors with decent risk-adjusted returns. Steady dividend growth is a plus here, too.

Justin Hellman *April 17, 2020*

(A) Fiscal year ends on last Saturday in Oct. (B) Based on diluted shares outstanding. Excludes nonrecurring gain: '04, 3¢. Next earnings report due late May. (C) Dividends have historically been paid in the middle of Feb., May, Aug., and Nov. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan available. (D) Includes intangibles. In '19: $3515.5 mill., $6.58/sh. (E) In millions, adjusted for splits.

Company's Financial Strength	A
Stock's Price Stability	85
Price Growth Persistence	90
Earnings Predictability	95

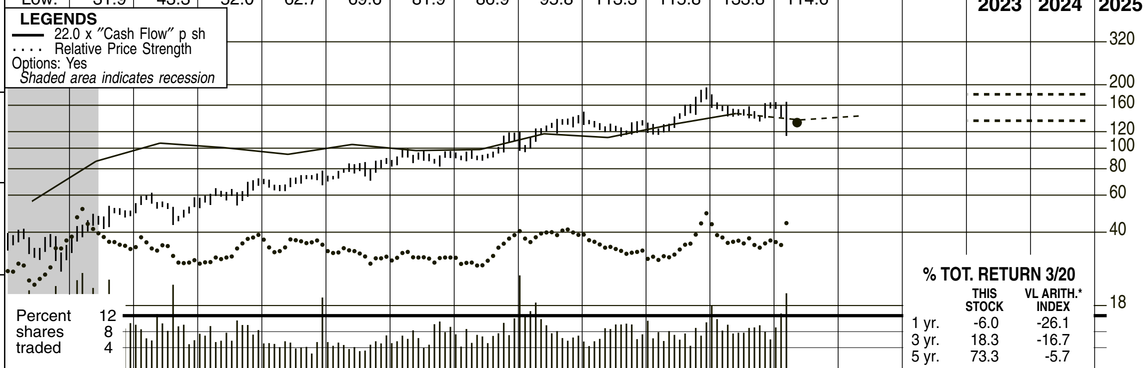
LANCASTER COLONY NDQ-LANC

RECENT PRICE	P/E RATIO	(Trailing / Median)	RELATIVE P/E RATIO	DIV'D YLD	
132.23	26.3	(Trailing: 24.6) (Median: 23.0)	1.96	2.1%	VALUE LINE

TIMELINESS 3 Lowered 2/14/20
SAFETY 2 Lowered 1/19/18
TECHNICAL 3 Lowered 3/27/20
BETA .70 (1.00 = Market)

High:	53.4	61.6	72.0	78.3	89.9	99.7	118.7	143.7	149.3	194.4	180.1	166.3
Low:	31.9	43.3	52.0	62.7	69.6	81.9	86.9	95.8	113.3	115.8	133.8	114.6

LEGENDS
— 22.0 x "Cash Flow" p sh
.... Relative Price Strength
Options: Yes
Shaded area indicates recession



Target Price Range
2023 | 2024 | 2025

18-Month Target Price Range

Low-High	Midpoint (% to Mid)
$133-$224	$179 (35%)

2023-25 PROJECTIONS

	Price	Gain	Ann'l Total Return
High	180	(+35%)	8%
Low	135	(+5%)	1%

Institutional Decisions

	2Q2019	3Q2019	4Q2019
to Buy	100	118	102
to Sell	141	96	120
Hld's(000)	15402	15737	15760

Percent shares traded 12 8 4

% TOT. RETURN 3/20

	THIS STOCK	VL ARITH.* INDEX
1 yr.	-6.0	-26.1
3 yr.	18.3	-16.7
5 yr.	73.3	-5.7

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	© VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	23-25
30.92	33.05	36.45	35.49	34.48	37.42	37.51	39.80	41.46	42.67	38.08	40.37	43.43	43.79	44.49	47.57	***46.45***	***49.25***	Sales per sh A	***55.00***
3.10	3.21	3.35	3.04	2.55	3.95	4.81	4.58	4.25	4.73	4.44	4.49	5.32	5.11	5.90	6.63	***6.20***	***6.50***	"Cash Flow" per sh	***7.95***
2.21	2.20	2.26	2.05	1.64	3.18	4.07	3.84	3.51	3.99	3.69	3.72	4.44	4.20	4.92	5.46	***5.00***	***5.25***	Earnings per sh AB	***6.60***
.89	.98	1.04	1.07	1.11	1.14	1.19	1.29	1.41	1.52	1.72	1.82	1.96	2.15	2.35	2.55	***2.85***	***3.05***	Div'ds Decl'd per sh C■	***3.65***
.51	.66	1.92	1.82	.59	.40	.46	1.29	.60	.88	.58	.67	.61	.98	1.13	2.58	***3.65***	***3.25***	Cap'l Spending per sh	***1.45***
16.54	17.17	15.33	14.45	12.63	14.32	17.22	18.90	20.68	18.34	19.33	21.23	18.73	20.98	23.73	26.44	***28.55***	***30.70***	Book Value per sh D	***38.60***
35.47	34.24	32.25	30.75	28.45	28.10	28.17	27.39	27.29	27.32	27.34	27.36	27.42	27.45	27.49	27.49	***27.55***	***27.60***	Common Shs Outst'g E	***27.80***
18.8	19.2	18.1	21.0	23.0	11.8	12.8	14.2	18.6	18.6	23.5	24.5	24.3	31.2	25.4	28.9	*Bold figures are*		Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	***24.0***
.99	1.02	.98	1.11	1.38	.79	.81	.89	1.18	1.05	1.24	1.23	1.28	1.57	1.37	1.56	*Value Line*		Relative P/E Ratio	***1.35***
2.1%	2.3%	2.5%	2.5%	2.9%	3.0%	2.3%	2.4%	2.2%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	1.8%	1.6%	1.9%	1.6%	*estimates*		Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	***2.0%***

CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 12/31/19
Total Debt None

Leases, Uncapitalized Annual rentals $8.2 mill.
Pension Assets-6/19 $36.6 mill. **Oblig.** $38.4 mill.

Pfd Stock None

Common Stock 27,513,000 shs.
as of 1/17/20
MARKET CAP: $3.6 billion (Mid Cap)

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021		23-25
1056.6	1089.9	1131.4	1165.9	1041.1	1104.5	1191.1	1201.8	1222.9	1307.8	***1280***	***1360***	Sales ($mill) A	***1530***
18.6%	15.2%	14.5%	15.6%	16.7%	15.9%	17.5%	16.6%	16.3%	17.0%	***16.0%***	***16.5%***	Operating Margin	***18.0%***
20.5	18.9	20.3	20.1	20.4	21.1	24.1	24.9	26.9	31.8	***33.0***	***34.0***	Depreciation ($mill)	***37.0***
115.0	106.4	95.8	109.2	101.0	101.7	121.8	115.3	135.3	150.5	***135***	***145***	Net Profit ($mill)	***185***
34.4%	34.1%	34.4%	32.6%	34.1%	34.2%	34.1%	34.3%	22.3%	23.0%	***23.0%***	***23.0%***	Income Tax Rate	***23.0%***
10.9%	9.8%	8.5%	9.4%	9.7%	9.2%	10.2%	9.6%	11.1%	11.5%	***10.8%***	***10.7%***	Net Profit Margin	***12.0%***
239.4	257.0	319.0	248.9	298.2	268.4	194.8	224.6	285.1	248.9	***240***	***245***	Working Cap'l ($mill)	***380***
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	***Nil***	***Nil***	Long-Term Debt ($mill)	***Nil***
484.9	517.5	564.3	501.2	528.6	580.9	513.6	576.0	652.3	726.9	***785***	***845***	Shr. Equity ($mill) D	***1075***
23.7%	20.6%	17.0%	21.8%	19.1%	17.5%	23.7%	20.0%	20.7%	20.7%	***17.5%***	***17.0%***	Return on Total Cap'l	***17.0%***
23.7%	20.6%	17.0%	21.8%	19.1%	17.5%	23.7%	20.0%	20.7%	20.7%	***17.5%***	***17.0%***	Return on Shr. Equity	***17.0%***
16.8%	13.7%	10.2%	13.5%	10.2%	8.9%	13.2%	9.8%	10.9%	11.1%	***7.5%***	***7.0%***	Retained to Com Eq	***7.5%***
29%	34%	40%	38%	47%	49%	44%	51%	48%	47%	***57%***	***58%***	All Div'ds to Net Prof	***55%***

CURRENT POSITION ($MILL.)	2018	2019	12/31/19
Cash Assets	205.8	196.3	202.2
Receivables	73.0	76.0	77.1
Inventory (FIFO)	90.9	86.1	90.5
Other	9.2	10.5	10.5
Current Assets	378.9	368.6	380.3
Accts Payable	58.0	76.7	86.2
Debt Due	- -	- -	- -
Other	35.8	43.0	47.1
Current Liab.	93.8	119.7	133.3

ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)	Past 10 Yrs.	Past 5 Yrs.	Est'd '17-'19 to '23-'25
Sales	2.5%	2.0%	*3.5%*
"Cash Flow"	6.5%	5.5%	*5.0%*
Earnings	8.0%	5.5%	*5.0%*
Dividends	8.0%	8.5%	*7.5%*
Book Value	5.5%	4.0%	*8.5%*

Fiscal Year Ends	QUARTERLY SALES ($ mill.) A Sep.30	Dec.31	Mar.31	Jun.30	Full Fiscal Year
2017	291.4	326.7	293.8	289.9	1201.8
2018	298.9	319.6	296.2	308.2	1222.9
2019	316.6	349.6	317.9	323.7	1307.8
2020	337.1	355.1	***300***	***287.8***	***1280***
2021	***340***	***365***	***325***	***330***	***1360***

Fiscal Year Ends	EARNINGS PER SHARE A B Sep.30	Dec.31	Mar.31	Jun.30	Full Fiscal Year
2017	1.22	1.42	.53	1.03	4.20
2018	1.07	1.67	1.00	1.18	4.92
2019	1.42	1.73	1.11	1.20	5.46
2020	1.48	1.58	***1.00***	***.94***	***5.00***
2021	***1.50***	***1.60***	***1.07***	***1.08***	***5.25***

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID C ■ Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2016	.50	.50	.50	.55	2.05
2017	.55	.55	.55	.60	2.25
2018	.60	.60	.60	.65	2.45
2019	.65	.65	.65	.70	2.65
2020	.70				

BUSINESS: Lancaster Colony Corp. operates solely in the Specialty Foods segment after the sale of its candle unit in January 2014. The food products are sold to the retail and foodservice markets and include salad dressings, sauces, vegetable and fruit dips, rolls, breads, and specialty noodles and pastas. The company obtains 68% of its sales from non-frozen products. The remaining 32% consists of frozen items. Has 3,200 employees. Off./dir. control about 31.7% of shares (incl. John B. Gerlach, Jr. 29.8%); BlackRock, 8.1%; Vanguard, 7.6% (10/19 Proxy). Chairman, CEO & President: David A. Ciesinksi. Incorporated: Ohio. Address: 37 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Telephone: 614-224-7141. Internet: www.lancastercolony.com.

Lancaster Colony posted an unimpressive performance in the 2020 fiscal second quarter (ended December 31st). The company posted a share-net decline of 9%, year over year, to $1.58, on a modest 2% sales uptick. Most of the top-line growth was driven by the Foodservice division (+3% year to year) from increased sales of branded products being sold to restaurants. Growth in this segment was muted when compared to the 12% sales gain it tallied in the previous-year period. Meanwhile, Retail sales were essentially flat as increased sales of frozen and shelf-stable items sold under license agreements were offset by curtailed orders. We note that management is engaged in a number of initiatives, such as supply chain optimization, the implementation of enterprise resource planning systems, and expanding production capacity. In that vein, Lancaster expects capital expenditures to range between $80 million to $100 million in fiscal 2020 (it has spent $58 million on capital in the current fiscal year.)

We have lowered our fiscal 2020 sales and share-net calls by $90 million and $0.80 a share, to $1.28 billion and $5.00, respectively. Management's outlook calls for the Retail segments to grow in the low-to-mid single digits, driven by a robust pipeline of product development, which is expected to come to market in the third quarter. In fact, it plans to ship a new line of shelf-stable dressings under the *Marzetti* brand. Foodervice business is expected to have more muted growth due to the impact of a second-sourcing initiative being rendered by one of its national accounts. While some of the company's shelf-stable and food offerings fall under consumer staples, unfavorable traffic trends among a shrinking restaurant sector, prior to COVID-19, is a notable concern here. Moreover, social distancing measures imposed across the U.S. (accounts for 95% of its operations) as a result of the escalating coronavirus pandemic, has further limited demand amid restaurant closures. We are cautiously optimistic for a partial top- and bottom-line recovery next fiscal year.

These neutrally ranked shares have lackluster 3- to 5-year recovery potential at the recent quotation.

Oriatal J. Haiby *April 17, 2020*

(A) Fiscal year ends June 30. (B) Based on diluted shares. Excl. nonrecur. charges: '14, $0.95; '17, $0.42. Excl. nonrecur gains: '03, $0.67; '04, $0.03; '05, $0.47; '06, $0.22; '07, $0.01. Incl. legal gain: '11, $0.34. Next egs. report due April 23rd. May not sum due to rounding. (C) Div'ds paid in late Mar., June, Sept., and Dec. Excl. $2.00 special paid 12/05, $5.00 paid 12/12, $5.00 paid 12/15.■ DRIP available. (D) Incl. intangibles. At 6/30/19: $278.6 mill., $10.13/share. (E) In millions.

Company's Financial Strength	A
Stock's Price Stability	85
Price Growth Persistence	85
Earnings Predictability	80

ELI LILLY AND CO. NYSE-LLY

RECENT PRICE	P/E RATIO	RELATIVE P/E RATIO	DIV'D YLD	VALUE LINE
119.05	17.7 (Trailing: 19.7) (Median: 17.0)	1.61	2.5%	1626

TIMELINESS 3 Lowered 6/14/19
SAFETY 1 Raised 10/21/05
TECHNICAL 3 Lowered 3/13/20
BETA .75 (1.00 = Market)

18-Month Target Price Range

Low-High	Midpoint (% to Mid)
$113-$180	$147 (25%)

2023-25 PROJECTIONS

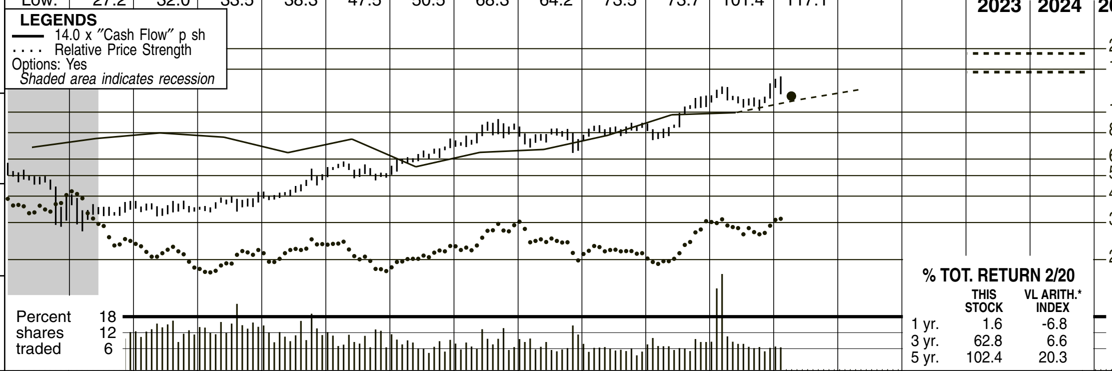
	Price	Gain	Ann'l Total Return
High	190	(+60%)	14%
Low	155	(+30%)	9%

Institutional Decisions

	2Q2019	3Q2019	4Q2019
to Buy	556	583	719
to Sell	800	694	639
Hld's(000)	743960	742756	744828

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
High:	40.8	38.1	41.9	54.0	58.4	75.1	92.9	85.4	89.1	119.8	137.0	147.9	
Low:	27.2	32.0	33.5	38.3	47.5	50.5	68.3	64.2	73.5	73.7	101.4	117.1	

Target Price Range
2023 | 2024 | 2025



% TOT. RETURN 2/20

	THIS STOCK	VL ARITH.* INDEX
1 yr.	1.6	-6.8
3 yr.	62.8	6.6
5 yr.	102.4	20.3

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018E	2019	2020	2021	© VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	23-25
12.24	12.96	13.87	16.43	17.94	19.00	20.03	20.98	19.76	20.70	17.66	18.06	19.28	20.79	23.23	23.31	**25.55**	**27.70**	Sales per sh	**33.35**
3.24	3.43	3.76	4.33	4.86	5.35	5.70	5.43	4.59	5.33	3.93	4.60	4.75	5.54	6.95	7.10	**8.20**	**9.20**	"Cash Flow" per sh	**11.40**
2.82	2.88	3.18	3.54	4.02	4.42	4.74	4.41	3.39	4.15	2.78	3.43	3.52	4.28	5.55	6.04	**6.80**	**7.70**	Earnings per sh A	**9.50**
1.42	1.52	1.60	1.70	1.88	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	2.00	2.04	2.08	2.25	2.58	**2.96**	**3.16**	Div'ds Decl'd per sh B■	**3.76**
1.68	1.15	.95	.95	.83	.67	.60	.58	.79	.91	1.05	.96	.94	.98	1.15	1.08	**1.10**	**1.10**	Cap'l Spending per sh	**1.15**
9.65	9.55	9.70	12.05	5.93	8.29	10.77	11.69	12.92	15.80	13.86	13.18	12.72	10.54	9.30	2.72	**4.25**	**6.50**	Book Value per sh	**13.35**
1131.9	1130.1	1131.7	1134.3	1136.1	1149.0	1152.3	1157.8	1143.6	1116.8	1110.6	1105.3	1100.9	1100.0	1057.0	957.53	**940.00**	**920.00**	Common Shs Outst'g C	**900.00**
23.4	19.1	17.3	15.7	11.4	7.8	7.4	8.4	12.9	12.7	22.2	22.9	21.7	19.1	16.9	19.4	*Bold figures are*	*Value Line estimates*	Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	**18.0**
1.24	1.02	.93	.83	.69	.52	.47	.53	.82	.71	1.17	1.15	1.14	.96	.91	1.05			Relative P/E Ratio	**1.00**
2.2%	2.8%	2.9%	3.1%	4.1%	5.7%	5.6%	5.3%	4.5%	3.7%	3.2%	2.5%	2.7%	2.5%	2.4%	2.2%			Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	**2.2%**

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018E	2019	2020	2021		23-25
23076	24287	22603	23113	19616	19959	21222	22871	24556	22320	**24000**	**25500**	Sales ($mill)	**30000**
36.2%	31.7%	29.4%	30.3%	24.0%	25.2%	25.3%	28.4%	31.7%	31.5%	**32.0%**	**32.5%**	Operating Margin	**33.5%**
1328.2	1373.6	1462.2	1445.6	1379.0	1427.7	1496.6	1567.3	1609.0	1232.6	**1300**	**1400**	Depreciation ($mill)	**1700**
5239.5	4913.5	3784.0	4502.6	2987.6	3656.3	3735.6	4530.4	5734.6	5568.2	**6390**	**7080**	Net Profit ($mill)	**8550**
22.6%	20.0%	22.8%	19.2%	19.2%	20.9%	20.1%	20.5%	16.0%	11.8%	**15.0%**	**15.0%**	Income Tax Rate	**15.0%**
22.7%	20.2%	16.7%	19.5%	15.2%	18.3%	17.6%	19.8%	23.4%	24.9%	**26.6%**	**27.8%**	Net Profit Margin	**28.5%**
7738.6	5317.3	4649.2	4188.1	972.3	4344.0	4114.8	4666.2	8661.5	1934.4	**3000**	**4000**	Working Cap'l ($mill)	**5000**
6770.5	5464.7	5519.4	4200.3	5367.7	7972.4	8367.8	9940.5	11640	13818	**13000**	**12000**	Long-Term Debt ($mill)	**10000**
12413	13536	14774	17641	15388	14571	14008	11592	9828.7	2606.9	**4000**	**6000**	Shr. Equity ($mill)	**12000**
27.6%	26.1%	18.9%	20.8%	14.6%	16.5%	17.1%	21.6%	27.3%	35.1%	**39.0%**	**40.5%**	Return on Total Cap'l	**40.0%**
42.2%	36.3%	25.6%	25.5%	19.4%	25.1%	26.7%	39.1%	58.3%	NMF	**NMF**	**NMF**	Return on Shr. Equity	**71.5%**
24.8%	20.2%	10.8%	13.5%	5.8%	10.5%	11.3%	20.2%	34.8%	NMF	**90.0%**	**70.0%**	Retained to Com Eq	**43.0%**
41%	44%	58%	47%	70%	58%	58%	48%	40%	43%	**44%**	**41%**	All Div'ds to Net Prof	**40%**

CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 12/31/19
Total Debt $15317.2 mill. **Due in 5 Yrs** $3551 mill.
LT Debt $13817.9 mill. **LT Interest** $400 mill.
(84% of Cap'l)

Leases, Uncapitalized Annual rentals $138.1 mill.

Pension Assets-12/19 $12.9 bill. **Oblig.** $16.3 bill.

Pfd Stock None

Common Stock 956,382,203 shs.
as of 2/13/20
MARKET CAP: $114 billion (Large Cap)

CURRENT POSITION ($MILL.)	2017	2018	12/31/19
Cash Assets	8034.1	8086.4	2438.5
Receivables	4546.3	5246.5	4547.3
Inventory (LIFO)	4458.3	4111.8	3190.7
Other	2163.4	3104.9	3533.1
Current Assets	19202.1	20549.6	13709.6
Accts Payable	1410.7	1412.3	1405.3
Debt Due	3706.6	1131.2	1499.3
Other	9418.6	9344.6	8870.6
Current Liab.	14535.9	11888.1	11775.2

ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)	Past 10 Yrs.	Past 5 Yrs.	Est'd '17-'19 to '23-'25
Sales	2.5%	3.0%	7.0%
"Cash Flow"	3.0%	7.0%	9.5%
Earnings	3.0%	9.0%	10.0%
Dividends	2.0%	3.5%	8.5%
Book Value	-1.5%	-12.0%	10.0%

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY SALES ($ mill.) Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2017	5228	5824	5658	6161	22871
2018	5700	6355	6062	6439	24556
2019	5092	5637	5477	6114	22320
2020	**5450**	**6010**	**5920**	**6620**	**24000**
2021	**5830**	**6390**	**6290**	**6990**	**25500**

Cal-endar	EARNINGS PER SHARE A D Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2017	.98	1.11	1.05	1.14	4.28
2018	1.34	1.50	1.39	1.33	5.55
2019	1.33	1.50	1.48	1.73	6.04
2020	**1.51**	**1.71**	**1.77**	**1.81**	**6.80**
2021	**1.78**	**1.92**	**1.97**	**2.03**	**7.70**

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B■ Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2016	.51	.51	.51	.51	2.04
2017	.52	.52	.52	.52	2.08
2018	.563	.563	.563	.563	2.25
2019	.645	.645	.645	.645	2.58
2020	.74				

BUSINESS: Eli Lilly and Company discovers, develops, manufactures, and markets human pharmaceutical products. Completed spinoff of Elanco Animal Health business (3/19). Pharmaceutical segments include Diabetes/Endocrinology, Neuroscience, Oncology, Immunology, and Other. Manufacturing and distribution facilities located in the U.S., Puerto Rico, and 8 other countries. Products sold in 120 countries. Top-grossing franchises in 2019: *Trulicity*, *Humalog*, *Alimta*, *Forteo* and *Taltz*. Has 33,625 employees. Lilly Endowment Inc. owns 11.9% of comm. stock; Vanguard, 7.3%; BlackRock, 6.3%; PNC Financial, 5.4% (3/20 proxy). Chairman/CEO: David A. Ricks. Inc.: IN. Addr.: Lilly Corporate Center, Indianapolis, IN 46285. Tel.: 317-276-2000. Internet: www.lilly.com.

Eli Lilly is poised for some bottom-line acceleration in 2020. Management's current guidance calls for full-year adjusted earnings in a range of $6.70-$6.80 a share, implying annual growth of 12% at the midpoint. We anticipate much of the improvement will be driven by continued momentum in the drugmaker's top-selling *Trulicity* franchise (roughly 20% of the top line), where sales surged 29% year over year in 2019 on the back of strong volume trends in several key markets. Further development of Lilly's other diabetes asset *Basaglar* (+39%) and standout psoriasis drug *Taltz* (+46%) ought to provide additional support to comparisons in 2020.

The rapid spread of the coronavirus has created a degree of uncertainty. At this time, it's difficult to determine what, if any, type of impact the virus will have on Lilly's underlying business. In our view, consumers are unlikely to stop buying prescription pharmaceuticals, however, recent lockdown initiatives could lead to potential delays or logistical issues.

The company closed its acquisition of Dermira in late February. The two sides agreed to merge earlier this year in an all-cash transaction valued at about $1.1 billion. The move helps strengthen Lilly's immunology pipeline with the addition of *lebrikizumab*, which is currently being evaluated in Phase 3 trials for the treatment of atopic dermatitis. Analysts are forecasting peak annual sales in the range of $500 million-$600 million.

We are encouraged with the long-term story. Lilly has a relatively young portfolio with many of its top assets still in their early growth phases. As a result, we believe that the strong volume trends seen in the fourth quarter should be sustainable over the next three to five years. The pipeline is also well stocked and appears poised to produce several meaningful contributors during the pull to 2025. Management expects up to three new product launches this year.

The stock is ranked 3 (Average) for Timeliness. Based on our system, LLY shares are pegged as market performers in the year ahead. For longer-term investors, price appreciation potential over the 18-month and 3- to 5-year time frames is below the current *Value Line* medians.

Michael Ratty *April 3, 2020*

(A) Diluted earnings (adjusted). Excludes nonrecurring gains/(losses): '08, ($5.91); '11, ($0.51); '12, $0.27; '13, $0.17; '14, ($0.55); '15, ($1.17); '16, ($0.94); '17, ($4.47); '18, ($2.42); '19, $2.85. Next earnings report due April 23rd.
(B) Dividends historically paid in mid-March, June, Sept. and Dec. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan available.
(C) In millions.
(D) Earnings may not sum due to rounding.
(E) Data post-2018 reflect completed spinoff of Elanco Animal Health business.

Company's Financial Strength	A++
Stock's Price Stability	85
Price Growth Persistence	85
Earnings Predictability	70

LAMB WESTON NYSE-LW

RECENT PRICE 51.82 | P/E RATIO 14.7 (Trailing: 15.9 / Median: NMF) | RELATIVE P/E RATIO 1.10 | DIV'D YLD 1.8% | VALUE LINE

TIMELINESS	2 Lowered 4/17/20
SAFETY	3 New 1/19/18
TECHNICAL	1 Raised 4/3/20
BETA .65 (1.00 = Market)	

18-Month Target Price Range

Low-High	Midpoint (% to Mid)
$41-$104	$73 (40%)

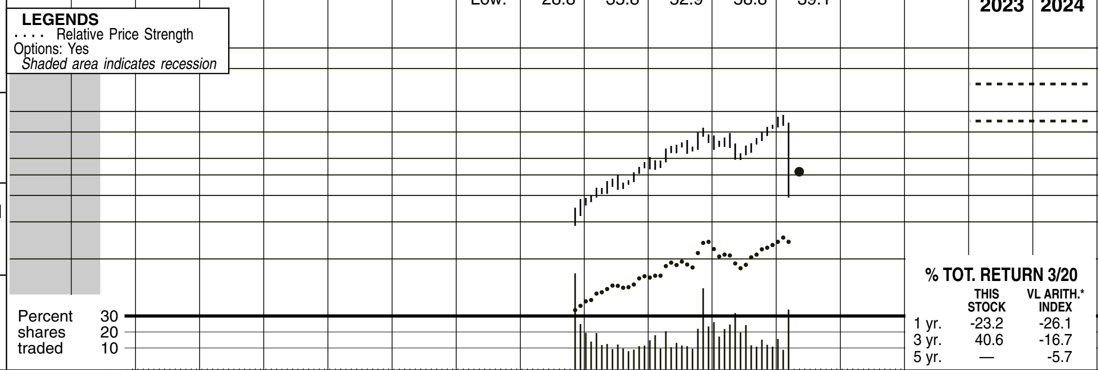
2023-25 PROJECTIONS

	Price	Gain	Ann'l Total Return
High	135	(+160%)	*28%*
Low	90	(+75%)	*16%*

Institutional Decisions

	2Q2019	3Q2019	4Q2019
to Buy	277	252	284
to Sell	286	276	277
Hld's(000)	128714	130008	125067

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
High:	38.5	57.5	83.9	86.6	96.3
Low:	28.8	35.8	52.9	58.8	39.1



Target Price Range

2023	2024	2025

% TOT. RETURN 3/20

	THIS STOCK	VL ARITH.* INDEX
1 yr.	-23.2	-26.1
3 yr.	40.6	-16.7
5 yr.	—	-5.7

Prior to November 9, 2016, Lamb Weston Holdings was a wholly owned subsidiary of Conagra Brands (NYSE: CAG). At that time, Conagra spun off Lamb Weston to its shareholders, who received one share of Lamb for every three shares of Conagra held. On November 10th, Lamb Weston began trading as an independent public company on the NYSE under the ticker LW.

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	© VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	23-25
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	21.69	23.40	25.72	***26.55***	***29.40***	Sales per sh A	***35.50***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.98	3.83	4.39	***4.30***	***5.00***	"Cash Flow" per sh	***6.30***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.22	2.82	3.18	***3.10***	***3.70***	Earnings per sh AB	***4.70***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	.38	.76	.78	***.95***	***1.00***	Div'ds Decl'd per sh C	***1.35***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.97	2.10	2.29	***.80***	***.90***	Cap'l Spending per sh	***1.05***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	d4.43	d2.29	d.03	***1.65***	***2.90***	Book Value per sh D	***7.15***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	146.08	146.33	146.07	***146.00***	***142.00***	Common Shs Outst'g E	***131.00***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	17.7	18.9	22.3	***Bold figures are***		Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	***24.0***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	.89	1.02	1.22	***Value Line***		Relative P/E Ratio	***1.35***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.0%	1.4%	1.1%	***estimates***		Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	***1.2%***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3168.0	3423.7	3756.5	***3875***	***4175***	Sales ($mill)	***4650***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	19.8%	21.1%	22.1%	***22.5%***	***23.0%***	Operating Margin	***24.0%***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	109.1	143.3	162.4	***174.0***	***180***	Depreciation ($mill)	***200***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	326.9	416.8	478.6	***455***	***530***	Net Profit ($mill)	***625***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	37.2%	25.7%	23.8%	***23.0%***	***23.0%***	Income Tax Rate	***25.0%***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	10.3%	12.2%	12.7%	***11.7%***	***12.7%***	Net Profit Margin	***13.4%***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	302.8	411.7	408.7	***70.0***	***195***	Working Cap'l ($mill)	***455***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2365.0	2336.7	2280.2	***2150***	***2100***	Long-Term Debt ($mill)	***2000***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	d647.2	d334.8	d4.6	***240***	***410***	Shr. Equity ($mill)	***935***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	20.8%	23.5%	23.4%	***19.0%***	***21.0%***	Return on Total Cap'l	***21.0%***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	***NMF***	***NMF***	Return on Shr. Equity	***66.5%***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	***NMF***	***95.5%***	Retained to Com Eq	***47.5%***
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	8%	26%	24%	***30%***	***26%***	All Div'ds to Net Prof	***29%***

CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 11/24/19
Total Debt $2249.7 mill. **Due in 5 Yrs** $623 mill.
LT Debt $2203.7 mill. **LT Interest** $100 mill.
(99% of Cap'l)
Leases, Uncapitalized: Annual rentals $20.7 mill.

Pension Assets-5/19 $18.6 mill.
Oblig. $13.8 mill.

Pfd Stock None

Common Stock 146,092,112 shares out.
as of 12/27/19
MARKET CAP: $7.6 billion (Large Cap)

CURRENT POSITION ($MILL.)	2018	2019	11/24/19
Cash Assets	55.6	12.2	23.8
Receivables	225.9	340.1	399.7
Inventory (FIFO)	549.7	498.3	636.0
Other	99.2	110.9	47.8
Current Assets	930.4	961.5	1107.3
Accts Payable	254.4	289.2	406.0
Debt Due	48.3	46.4	46.0
Other	216.0	217.2	217.4
Current Liab.	518.7	552.8	669.4

ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)	Past 10 Yrs.	Past 5 Yrs.	Est'd '17-'19 to '23-'25
Sales	--	--	*7.0%*
"Cash Flow"	--	--	*9.0%*
Earnings	--	--	*9.5%*
Dividends	--	--	*13.5%*
Book Value	--	--	*NMF*

Fiscal Year Ends	QUARTERLY SALES ($ mill.) A Aug.Per	Nov.Per	Feb.Per	May.Per	Full Fiscal Year
2017	776.3	790.7	768.5	832.5	3168.0
2018	817.5	824.6	863.4	918.2	3423.7
2019	914.9	911.4	926.8	1003.4	3756.5
2020	989.0	1019.2	937.3	***929.5***	***3875***
2021	***1015***	***1050***	***1000***	***1110***	***4175***

Fiscal Year Ends	EARNINGS PER SHARE AB Aug.Per	Nov.Per	Feb.Per	May.Per.	Full Fiscal Year
2017	.54	.59	.57	.52	2.22
2018	.56	.52	1.06	.68	2.82
2019	.73	.74	.95	.75	3.18
2020	.79	.95	.77	***.59***	***3.10***
2021	***.81***	***1.02***	***1.03***	***.84***	***3.70***

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID C Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2016	--	--	--	--	--
2017	.188	.188	.188	.188	.75
2018	.191	.191	.191	.191	.76
2019	.20	.20	.20	.20	.80
2020	.23	.23			

BUSINESS: Lamb Weston Holdings is a global producer, distributor, and marketer of frozen potato products. French fries represent the majority of its potato products portfolio. Its offerings are available in more than 100 countries, and McDonald's accounted for 10% of total sales in fiscal 2019. Spun off from Conagra Brands 11/16. Has manufacturing plants located in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, China, Japan, Singapore. Has 7,600 employees. Executive Chairman: W.G. Jurgensen. President & CEO: Thomas P. Werner. Off./dir. own less than 1% of the common stock; BlackRock, 7.5%; Vanguard Group, 11.4%; Capital Research, 6.7% (8/19 proxy). Inc.: DE. Address: 599 S. Rivershore Lane, Eagle, ID 83616. Phone: 208-938-1047. Internet: www.lambweston.com

Lamb Weston stock has plunged in price since our January review. Investor concerns about the impact of the coronavirus have likely been the primary reason. While the market has declined sharply, LW shares have fallen harder. The company cited in its financial reporting that pandemics are a risk. A decline in business activity would hurt sales in its two largest operating segments. Note that this equity was trading at a fairly rich valuation prior to the stock market volatility, which likely added to selling.

We have reined in our top- and bottom-line targets for fiscal 2020 (year ends May 31st). The unfavorable market conditions related to the coronavirus are tough to quantify, but will definitely be a drag on results. Further, Lamb Weston is contending with higher input costs. In all, we look for sales of $3.88 billion and earnings of $3.10 a share for this year. Note: Even with the more conservative stance, the company is on track to deliver solid results this year thanks to pricing strategies and strength in its retail business.

Results should bounce back in fiscal 2021. It is quite likely Lamb Weston will benefit from improved market conditions, given the extenuating circumstances, at present. Strategic partnerships should further bolster the top and bottom lines. Thus, we are introducing our sales and earnings targets at $4.2 billion and $3.70 a share, which would represent solid gains in fiscal 2021. Looking further out, we expect momentum to continue in the years out to 2023-2025.

Share buybacks have been suspended. Management cited the market uncertainty as the reason to preserve capital. The quarterly dividend should help reward investors for their patience.

This equity is appealing for a variety of investors. This stock is ranked Above Average (2) for Timeliness. Thus, near-term investors may want to take a look. Moreover, this issue's sharp drop in price may put it on the radar of value-oriented accounts as it is trading at an attractive valuation. Further, the buying opportunity is also attractive for long-term investors. Shares of LW offer above-average recovery potential for the 3- to 5-year pull.

Richard J. Gallagher *April 17, 2020*

(A) Quarters end near Aug. 31st, Nov. 30th, and Feb. 28th. Years end on the last Sunday in May.
(B) Fully diluted earnings. Quarterly eps may not sum to total due to changes in shares outstanding. Next earnings report due late July.
(C) Dividends paid early March, June, September, and December.
(D) Includes intangibles. In 2019: $243.5 million, or $1.66 a share.
(E) In millions.

Company's Financial Strength	B+
Stock's Price Stability	80
Price Growth Persistence	NMF
Earnings Predictability	NMF

ALTRIA GROUP, INC. NYSE-MO

RECENT PRICE	37.28	P/E RATIO	8.9 (Trailing: 8.9; Median: 16.0)	RELATIVE P/E RATIO	0.66	DIV'D YLD	9.0%	VALUE LINE

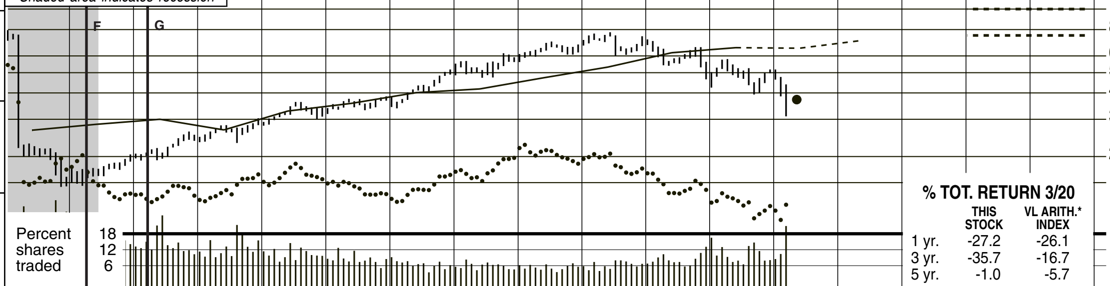
TIMELINESS	3	Raised 3/27/20
SAFETY	3	Lowered 4/17/20
TECHNICAL	4	Lowered 3/27/20

BETA .70 (1.00 = Market)

High:	20.5	26.2	30.4	36.3	38.6	51.7	61.7	70.1	77.8	71.9	57.9	51.8
Low:	14.5	19.1	23.2	28.0	31.8	33.8	47.3	56.2	60.0	46.5	39.3	31.0

Target Price Range 2023 | 2024 | 2025

LEGENDS
— 15.0 x "Cash Flow" p sh
.... Relative Price Strength
Options: Yes
Shaded area indicates recession



18-Month Target Price Range

Low-High	Midpoint (% to Mid)
$42-$68	$55 (50%)

2023-25 PROJECTIONS

	Price	Gain	Ann'l Total Return
High	105	(+180%)	35%
Low	70	(+90%)	22%

Institutional Decisions

	2Q2019	3Q2019	4Q2019
to Buy	722	625	752
to Sell	845	918	840
Hld's(000)	1195017	1181212	1190093

% TOT. RETURN 3/20

	THIS STOCK	VL ARITH.* INDEX
1 yr.	-27.2	-26.1
3 yr.	-35.7	-16.7
5 yr.	-1.0	-5.7

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008H	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	© VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	23-25
43.51	46.93	48.36	35.02	9.39	11.35	11.66	11.64	12.25	12.27	12.45	12.98	13.25	13.45	13.53	13.51	**13.40**	**13.75**	Sales per sh	**15.30**
5.35	5.92	6.59	4.81	1.78	1.89	2.00	1.78	2.19	2.38	2.68	2.79	3.15	3.55	4.14	4.37	**4.35**	**4.75**	"Cash Flow" per sh	**5.70**
4.57	5.15	5.76	4.36	1.66	1.76	1.87	1.64	2.06	2.26	2.56	2.67	2.73	3.39	3.99	4.22	**4.20**	**4.60**	Earnings per sh A	**5.55**
2.82	3.06	3.32	3.16	1.68	1.32	1.46	1.58	1.70	1.84	2.08	2.17	2.35	2.54	3.00	3.28	**3.38**	**3.60**	Div'ds Decl'd per sh B ■	**4.45**
.93	1.06	1.17	2.10	.12	.13	.08	.05	.06	.07	.08	.12	.10	.10	.13	.13	**.15**	**.15**	Cap'l Spending per sh	**.15**
14.91	17.13	18.89	8.80	1.37	1.96	2.49	1.80	1.58	2.07	1.53	1.47	6.57	8.09	7.89	3.35	**3.50**	**3.70**	Book Value per sh C	**4.60**
2059.5	2085.0	2097.1	2107.7	2061.4	2076.0	2088.7	2044.4	2009.9	1993.5	1969.3	1960.1	1943.3	1901.3	1874.1	1858.0	**1850.0**	**1840.0**	Common Shs Outst'g D	**1725.0**
11.4	13.2	13.4	16.3	11.9	9.9	11.8	16.2	15.7	15.7	16.5	20.1	23.4	20.6	15.1	11.6	*Bold figures are*		Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	**16.0**
.60	.70	.72	.87	.72	.66	.75	1.02	1.00	.88	.87	1.01	1.23	1.04	.82	.63	*Value Line*		Relative P/E Ratio	**.90**
5.4%	4.5%	4.3%	4.5%	8.5%	7.6%	6.6%	6.0%	5.3%	5.2%	4.9%	4.0%	3.7%	3.6%	5.0%	6.7%	*estimates*		Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	**5.0%**

CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 12/31/19
Total Debt $28042 mill. **Due in 5 Yrs** $10500 mill.
LT Debt $27042 mill. **LT Interest** $1250 mill.
(Total interest coverage: 8.6x) (81% of Cap'l)

Pension Assets-12/19 $8.2 bill. **Oblig.** $8.7 bill.
Pfd Stock None

Common Stock 1,857,981,554 shs.

MARKET CAP: $69.3 billion (Large Cap)

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	© VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	23-25
24363	23800	24618	24466	24522	25434	25744	25576	25364	25110	**24800**	**25300**	Sales ($mill)	**26400**
25.8%	26.5%	30.5%	34.1%	31.9%	33.1%	35.5%	38.3%	41.7%	42.7%	**43.0%**	**45.0%**	Operating Margin	**47.0%**
276.0	253.0	225.0	212.0	208.0	225.0	204.0	209.0	227.0	226.0	**230**	**230**	Depreciation ($mill)	**250**
3905.0	3390.0	4180.0	4535.0	5070.0	5243.0	5925.0	6531.0	7539.0	7895.9	**7805**	**8520**	Net Profit ($mill)	**9615**
31.7%	39.2%	35.4%	34.7%	34.8%	35.1%	56.2%	33.5%	23.1%	23.8%	**24.0%**	**24.0%**	Income Tax Rate	**24.0%**
16.0%	14.2%	17.0%	18.5%	20.7%	20.6%	23.0%	25.5%	29.7%	31.4%	**31.5%**	**33.7%**	Net Profit Margin	**36.4%**
d859.0	d512.0	d1936	d468.0	d795.0	d992.0	d115.0	d2448	d16894	d3350	**d3500**	**d3650**	Working Cap'l ($mill)	**d4035**
12194	13089	12419	13992	13693	12915	13881	13030	11898	27042	**27000**	**27000**	Long-Term Debt ($mill)	**25000**
5192.0	3680.0	3168.0	4119.0	3014.0	2880.0	12770	15377	14787	6222.0	**6500**	**6800**	Shr. Equity ($mill)	**7900**
25.7%	23.7%	30.4%	27.9%	32.8%	35.8%	23.6%	24.2%	29.4%	25.5%	**23.5%**	**25.0%**	Return on Total Cap'l	**29.0%**
75.2%	92.1%	131.9%	110.1%	168.2%	182.0%	46.4%	42.5%	51.0%	NMF	**NMF**	**NMF**	Return on Shr. Equity	**NMF%**
18.2%	4.6%	24.6%	22.4%	39.1%	36.9%	11.1%	11.2%	14.4%	29.4%	**24.0%**	**27.5%**	Retained to Com Eq	**24.5%**
76%	95%	81%	80%	77%	80%	76%	74%	72%	77%	**80%**	**78%**	All Div'ds to Net Prof	**80%**

CURRENT POSITION E ($MILL.)	2017	2018	12/31/19
Cash Assets	1253	1333	2117
Receivables	142	142	152
Inventory (LIFO)	2225	2331	2293
Other	724	493	262
Current Assets	4344	4299	4824
Accts Payable	374	399	425
Debt Due	864	13848	1000
Other	5554	6946	6749
Current Liab.	6792	21193	8174

ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)	Past 10 Yrs.	Past 5 Yrs.	Est'd '17-'19 to '23-'25
Sales	-3.0%	2.0%	*2.0%*
"Cash Flow"	3.5%	10.5%	*8.0%*
Earnings	4.0%	11.0%	*8.5%*
Dividends	3.5%	9.5%	*9.0%*
Book Value	5.0%	30.0%	*5.5%*

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY SALES ($ mill.) Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2017	6083	6663	6729	6101	25576
2018	6108	6305	6837	6114	25364
2019	5628	6619	6856	6007	25110
2020	***5600***	***6400***	***6800***	***6000***	***24800***
2021	***5700***	***6600***	***6900***	***6100***	***25300***

Cal-endar	EARNINGS PER SHARE A Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2017	.72	.85	.90	.91	3.39
2018	.95	1.01	1.08	.95	3.99
2019	.90	1.10	1.19	1.02	4.22
2020	***.95***	***1.00***	***1.20***	***1.05***	***4.20***
2021	***1.05***	***1.15***	***1.30***	***1.10***	***4.60***

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B ■ Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2016	.565	.565	.565	.61	2.30
2017	.61	.61	.61	.66	2.49
2018	.66	.70	.70	.80	2.86
2019	.80	.80	.80	.84	3.24
2020	.84	.84			

BUSINESS: Altria Group, Inc. is the parent company of Philip Morris USA, John Middleton and Philip Morris Capital Corp. In 2020, the company operated 3 segments: Cigarettes (90% of operating profits) include *Marlboro, Benson & Hedges, Merit, Virginia Slims*; Smokeless products (8%); Other (2%). Sold *Miller*, 6/02. Has a 10.2% interest in *Anheuser-Busch In InBev*. Acq'd Nabisco, 12/00, Spun-off Kraft, 4/07; Spun-off Philip Morris Int'l, 3/08; Acq'd, UST, 1/09. Has 8,300 employees. Vanguard Group owns 7.8% of common shares; Vanguard Group owns 8.1%; officers and directors own less than 1.0% (4/20 proxy). Chairman & CEO: Howard A. Willard III. Inc.: VA. Address: 6601 W. Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia 23230. Telephone: 804-274-2200. Internet: www.altria.com.

Altria Group is well prepared to navigate the current challenging environment. Since our last full-page review in January, things have changed—quite drastically—for both the *Marlboro* maker and the world at large. The COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic has shut down wide swathes of the global economy, with many countries ordering businesses to close and consumers to remain in their homes. Economic conditions in the United States, where Altria generates nearly all of its sales, have deteriorated quite rapidly over the past few weeks. While recent channel checks suggest cigarette demand has held up fairly well, we think this will change as more restrictive measures are adopted to combat the virus and as more people lose their jobs because of the deteriorating economic conditions. Accordingly, we are lowering our 2020 share-net estimate by $0.30 (now at $4.20), to account for these factors. We think most of the damage will take place in the months ahead, with our models suggesting an earnings decline of around 9% in Q2 versus last year. Business should then rebound by the third quarter, as conditions slowly start to normalize.

In other news, the Federal Trade Commission has filed an administrative complaint against Altria. The agency alleges that Altria's 35% stake in JUUL Labs eliminated competition in violation of antitrust laws. More specifically, FTC officials believe that Altria's decision to pull its own e-cigarettes from the market shortly after the JUUL transaction met the definition of collaboration between two competitors. The agency is now suing Altria to try to unwind the agreement.

The company is expanding its test market for *iQOS* to a third market. *iQOS* is an electronic cigarette device that was created by Philip Morris International and has since been licensed to Altria for the exclusive right to sell in the United States. The product has been a hit overseas, particularly in Asia and Europe, and is now being rolled out to the U.S. market.

These shares are worth a closer look. The recent price dip has created an attractive entry point, in our view. Income-oriented accounts may want to start nibbling at these levels.

Daniel Henigson, CFA *April 17, 2020*

(A) Diluted earnings. Excl. nonrecur. gains (losses): '05, (12¢); '08, (17¢); '09, (21¢); '11, (21¢); '16, $4.55; '17, $1.92; '18, (31¢). Next egs. rpt due Apr. 30th. Quarterly totals may not sum due to changes in share count. **(B)** Divd's historically paid in mid-Jan., late-Apr., mid-Jul., and mid-Oct. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan available. **(C)** Incl. intangibles. '19: $17.86 bill., $9.62/sh. **(D)** In millions. **(E)** Excl. fin'l services and real estate subsidiary **(F)** Spun-off Kraft Foods. **(G)** Spun-off Philip Morris Int'l. **(H)** Pro forma, reflects spinoff of Philip Morris Int'l.

Company's Financial Strength	B++
Stock's Price Stability	85
Price Growth Persistence	60
Earnings Predictability	90

VALVOLINE INC. NYSE-VVV

RECENT PRICE 19.51 | P/E RATIO 13.0 (Trailing: 13.3 Median: NMF) | RELATIVE P/E RATIO 0.81 | DIV'D YLD 2.4% | VALUE LINE

TIMELINESS 3 Lowered 2/7/20
SAFETY 3 New 12/16/16
TECHNICAL 3 Lowered 3/13/20
BETA .75 (1.00 = Market)

18-Month Target Price Range

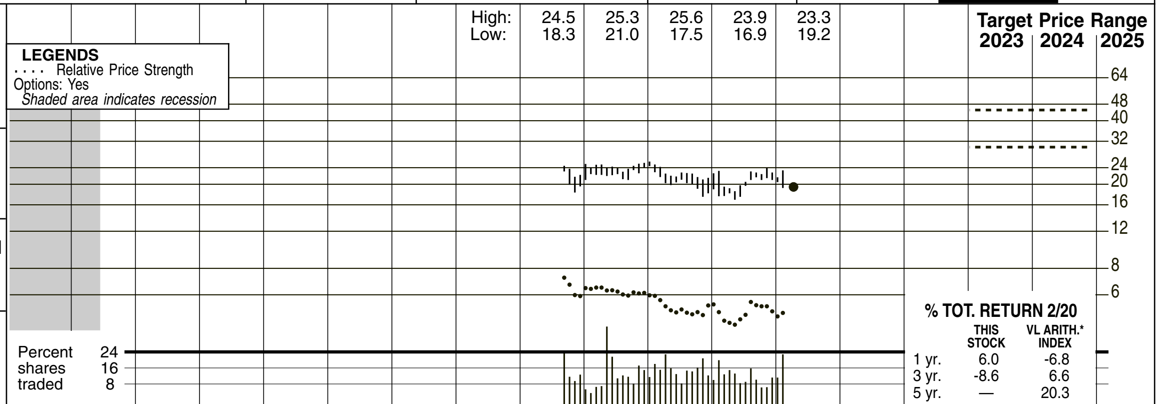
Low-High	Midpoint (% to Mid)
$18-$29	$24 (20%)

2023-25 PROJECTIONS

	Price	Gain	Ann'l Total Return
High	45	(+130%)	*24%*
Low	30	(+55%)	*13%*

Institutional Decisions

	2Q2019	3Q2019	4Q2019
to Buy	152	149	167
to Sell	129	138	134
Hld's(000)	178931	175033	174062



Valvoline Inc. completed its initial public offering on September 22, 2016. At that time, 34.5 million shares were sold to the public at an average price of $22.00 a share. The underwriting syndicate included Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, and Citigroup.

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016[D]	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	© VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	23-25
--	--	--	--	--	--	9.41	10.27	12.15	12.71	*13.30*	*13.95*	Revenues per sh [A]	*16.05*
--	--	--	--	--	--	1.52	1.60	1.64	1.72	*1.85*	*2.00*	"Cash Flow" per sh	*2.65*
--	--	--	--	--	--	1.33	1.39	1.29	1.39	*1.50*	*1.65*	Earnings per sh [AB]	*2.20*
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	.20	.30	.42	*.45*	*.48*	Div'ds Decl'd per sh [C]	*.60*
--	--	--	--	--	--	.32	.34	.49	.57	*.85*	*.90*	Cap'l Spending per sh	*1.00*
--	--	--	--	--	--	d1.61	d.58	d1.90	d1.37	*d.85*	*d.25*	Book Value per sh	*1.60*
--	--	--	--	--	--	205.00	203.00	188.00	188.00	*188.50*	*189.00*	Common Shs Outst'g [E]	*190.00*
--	--	--	--	--	--	17.9	16.2	17.6	14.3	*Bold figures are*		Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	*17.0*
--	--	--	--	--	--	.94	.81	.95	.78	*Value Line*		Relative P/E Ratio	*.95*
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	.9%	1.3%	2.1%	*estimates*		Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	*1.6%*
--	--	--	--	--	--	1929	2084	2285	2390	*2510*	*2640*	Revenues ($mill)	*3050*
--	--	--	--	--	--	27.4%	24.8%	20.4%	20.1%	*20.5%*	*21.0%*	Operating Margin	*23.0%*
--	--	--	--	--	--	38.0	42.0	54.0	61.0	*65.0*	*70.0*	Depreciation ($mill)	*85.0*
--	--	--	--	--	--	273.0	283.0	254.0	263.0	*285*	*310*	Net Profit ($mill)	*420*
--	--	--	--	--	--	35.2%	34.6%	27.6%	23.5%	*25.5%*	*26.0%*	Income Tax Rate	*26.0%*
--	--	--	--	--	--	14.2%	13.6%	11.1%	11.0%	*11.4%*	*11.7%*	Net Profit Margin	*13.8%*
--	--	--	--	--	--	330.0	312.0	314.0	374.0	*400*	*400*	Working Cap'l ($mill)	*500*
--	--	--	--	--	--	724.0	1034.0	1292.0	1327.0	*1325*	*1350*	Long-Term Debt ($mill)	*1500*
--	--	--	--	--	--	d330.0	d117.0	d358.0	d258.0	*d160*	*d50.0*	Shr. Equity ($mill)	*300*
--	--	--	--	--	--	70.4%	33.2%	30.6%	28.0%	*27.5%*	*26.5%*	Return on Total Cap'l	*25.5%*
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	*NMF*	*NMF*	Return on Shr. Equity	*NMF*
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	*NMF*	*NMF*	Retained to Com Eq	*NMF*
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	14%	23%	30%	*30%*	*29%*	All Div'ds to Net Prof	*27%*

CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 12/31/19

Total Debt $1342 mill. **Due in 5 Yrs** $950 mill.
LT Debt $1320 mill. **LT Interest** $70 mill.
(117% of Cap'l)

No Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Pfd Stock None

Common Stock 188,448,171 shares as of 1/31/20

MARKET CAP: $3.7 billion (Mid Cap)

CURRENT POSITION ($MILL.)	2018	2019	12/31/19
Cash Assets	96	159	162
Receivables	409	401	395
Inventory (FIFO)	176	194	194
Other	44	43	43
Current Assets	725	797	794
Accts Payable	178	171	153
Debt Due	30	15	22
Other	203	237	246
Current Liab.	411	423	421

ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)	Past 10 Yrs.	Past 5 Yrs.	Est'd '17-'19 to '23-'25
Revenues	--	--	*5.5%*
"Cash Flow"	--	--	*8.0%*
Earnings	--	--	*8.5%*
Dividends	--	--	*11.5%*
Book Value	--	--	*NMF*

Fiscal Year Ends	QUARTERLY SALES ($ mill.) [A] Dec.31	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Full Fiscal Year
2017	489	514	534	547	2084
2018	545	569	577	594	2285
2019	557	591	613	629	2390
2020	607	*618*	*635*	*650*	*2510*
2021	*640*	*650*	*665*	*685*	*2640*

Fiscal Year Ends	EARNINGS PER SHARE [AB] Dec.31	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Full Fiscal Year
2017	.35	.37	.34	.33	1.39
2018	.29	.34	.32	.34	1.29
2019	.27	.35	.37	.40	1.39
2020	.35	*.36*	*.38*	*.41*	*1.50*
2021	*.39*	*.40*	*.42*	*.44*	*1.65*

Cal-endar	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID [C] Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year
2016	--	--	--	.049	.05
2017	.049	.049	.049	.075	.22
2018	.075	.075	.075	.106	.33
2019	.106	.106	.106	.113	.43
2020	.113				

BUSINESS: Valvoline Inc. can trace its roots back to 1866. The founder, Dr. John Ellis, trademarked the *Valvoline* name in 1873. It is now a worldwide producer, distributor, and marketer of premium-branded automotive, commercial, and industrial lubricants and automotive chemicals, with annual sales over $2 billion and a presence in more than 140 countries. It also operates and franchises about 1,385 Valvoline Instant Oil Change centers in the U.S. and Canada. Acquired 89 Oil Can Henry stores, 2/16. Was a unit of Ashland Global Holdings and completed its IPO in 9/16. Has 7,900 employees. Off./Dir. own less than 1% of common (Proxy 12/19). CEO: Sam Mitchell. Inc.: KY. Addr.: 3499 Blazer Parkway Lexington, KY 40509. Tel.: 859-357-7777. Internet: www.valvoline.com.

Valvoline has gotten off to a strong start in fiscal 2020 (ends September 30th). In fact, December-period share net of $0.35 sailed past our $0.28 estimate and was a nickel ahead of Wall Street's consensus view, despite further volume unevenness across the core North American lubricant business. The upside was supported by another impressive showing from the Quick Lubes chain, where same-store sales advanced 8.3% during the quarter and unit development continued at a fairly aggressive pace. (The company now expects to add around 100 Quick Lubes locations annually over the next few years, including some via acquisitions.) Valvoline also made nice progress on the international front, with profitability metrics improving and volumes rising in key markets throughout Europe and Asia. And the domestic wholesale performance was not nearly as bad as we had feared, as new promotional initiatives helped to jump-start sales of branded products, partially offsetting heightened private-label pressures and volume declines in the challenging professional-installer channel. Looking ahead . . .

We think that moderate top- and bottom-line growth will prove to be sustainable here. The Quick Lubes concept should remain the primary catalyst, especially as newer stores mature (and become more profitable), and as the chain benefits from an uptick in non-oil change business and a greater mix shift toward premium items. Further strides overseas should also bolster results, however, even as the coronavirus outbreak slows things down in China. And we expect the North American segment to gradually rebound (or at least stabilize) over time, buoyed by higher branded volumes and healthy demand for synthetic motor oils. All in all, we look for share earnings to climb to $1.50 and $1.65 in fiscal 2020 and fiscal 2021, respectively. Plus, we see profits reaching about $2.20 a share by the 2023-2025 horizon, which should support a stock price in the $30-$45 range.
As presently valued, this mid-cap issue is a decent choice for long-term investors seeking some automotive exposure. Yet, the shares are merely Average (3) for Timeliness.

Justin Hellman *March 13, 2020*

(A) Fiscal years end September 30th.
(B) Fully diluted earnings. Next earnings report due early May.
(C) Quarterly dividend initiated in December of 2016. Payments typically made in March, June, September, and December.
(D) Pro forma.
(E) In millions.

Company's Financial Strength	B+
Stock's Price Stability	75
Price Growth Persistence	NMF
Earnings Predictability	NMF