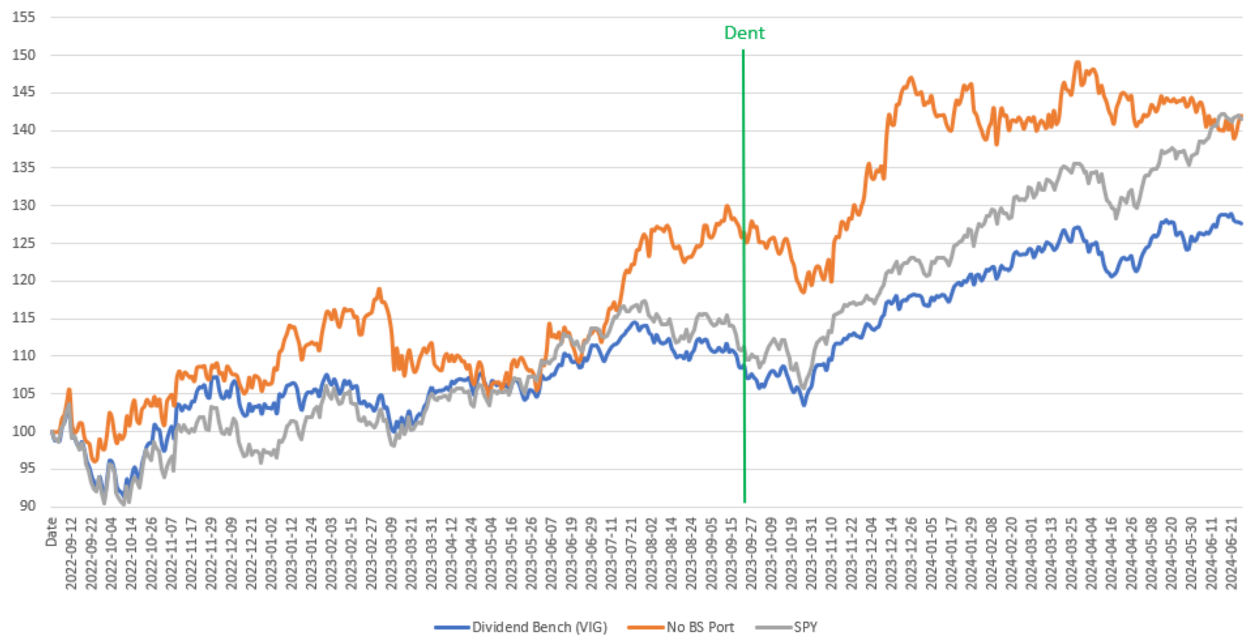
July 1, 2024

The NO BS Growth and Income Portfolio

By John Del Vecchio



New Trades this week:

No Trades

Current Portfolio July 1, 2024

Ticker	Name	Return	Days Held	Sector
ADM	Archer-Daniels-Midland Co.	-1.47%	4	Consumer Non-Cyclicals
BURCA	Burnham Holdings, Inc.	0.00%	81	Industrials
CBFV	CB Financial Services, Inc.	7.90%	4	Finance
CBKM	Consumers Bancorp, Inc.	-3.36%	39	Finance
CGEAF	Cogeco Communications, Inc.	1.34%	4	Telecommunications
FUSB	First US Bancshares, Inc.	-0.24%	88	Finance
MCEM	The Monarch Cement Co.	39.29%	291	Non-Energy Materials
RSKIA	George Risk Industries, Inc.	3.28%	53	Technology
THFF	First Financial Corp. (Indiana)	10.02%	395	Finance
WEYS	Weyco Group, Inc.	23.20%	228	Consumer Cyclicals

The Nvidia Effect

I'm back after a restful holiday in Europe.

I never imagined, though, that I'd wake up in Porto, Portugal, to head home and rest my head that night in East Orange, NJ, due to inclement weather and flight cancellations.

I strongly suggest East Orange, NJ, ***not*** be part of your next travel itinerary.

Something about the crack dens is not that charming. I had to lubricate my left eyeball from keeping it open all night as I "slept," thinking that some nefarious characters would bust through the door at any moment.

This happens when flights get canceled at midnight, you're traveling with a foreigner who has yet to learn that Newark, NJ, isn't Mayberry, USA, and they book the hotel!

Nonetheless, I am home and ready to rock!

As you may have noticed in your investments in 2024, it's become increasingly difficult to keep up with the S&P 500. I've always thought the S&P 500 isn't a good benchmark, but it is the standard.

One reason it could be a better benchmark, among several, is due to what we are seeing in 2024.

I call it the "Nvidia Effect".

Nvidia's stock is on a tear. It's surged due to the hype around artificial intelligence, and as a result, its market cap has exploded.

The S&P 500 is a market-cap-weighted index.

When a massive company such as Nvidia becomes an even more massive company, the performance of the index is skewed.

Nvidia's performance in 2024 accounts for nearly 40% of all of the gains in the S&P 500.

One stock.

Out of 500.

The S&P 500 performance doesn't tell you much about what's happening in the stock market right now regarding the average stock.

The average stock is lagging badly.

And, if you're not heavily invested in Nvidia, it's impacting you too.

Now, this will go the other way.

At some point, Nvidia stock will sell off.

Hard!

Then, the S&P 500 will take it on the chin.

Your other investments may start to outperform, possibly dramatically, as Nvidia cools off and money rotates to different asset classes.

It’s just the way it is.

This happens over and over again in market cycles.

It’s nothing new.

The two main retirement systems, *The Simple Retirement System* and *50X Fortunes* have held their own because they were either invested mainly in the S&P 500 or the leveraged version of the S&P 500.

So, the leveraged version benefitted from Nvidia’s surge times two!

Again, that can go the other way, too.

However, as trends follow systems, those models will adjust.

Microcap Millions was up 9% last week.

Yet, *Megatech Trends* continues to be in a defined downtrend.

I received a question from a subscriber about volatility in the models because the models show stocks down 10% weekly.

While that's a fair question, you're doing it wrong if you're looking at the individual stocks.

Strategies need to be followed.

Through thick and thin.

A stock is just a means to allocate to a strategy.

While *Microcap Millions* may have had a *stock* down 10%, the *strategy* was up 9% for the week and continues to do well in 2024.

Meanwhile, the *NO BS* dividend strategy has flat-lined.

That’s what’s happened with dividend strategies in 2024.

No one cares about a 5% yield when Nvidia can go up 20% weekly.

However, compared to the VIG benchmark, the NO BS portfolio has performed solidly.

VIG is a watered-down S&P 500 version with a 1.8% yield.

Compared with SCHD, the *NO BS* portfolio has been up 25% over the past 12 months compared with 12% for SCHD, and *NO BS* has been up 42% since inception compared with 15% for SCHD.

(Note…for some reason, we cannot display SCHD as a benchmark in the software; otherwise, we could use that instead of VIG, which is less of a dividend-oriented benchmark).

Now, all I care about is *you* achieving *your* financial goals.

Your success is far more important to me than selling newsletters.

To steal a quote from Julia Child, “The only brand I’m selling is honesty.”

If you want to invest in the S&P 500 and do nothing else, go for it!

That's not for me, so I don't.

Your life will be much easier.

Most of the time.

Your life will be miserable the numerous times going forward that you suffer 50% drawdowns if you cannot mentally and emotionally handle the Mike Tyson-esque punch in the nose of bear markets.

Most people can’t.

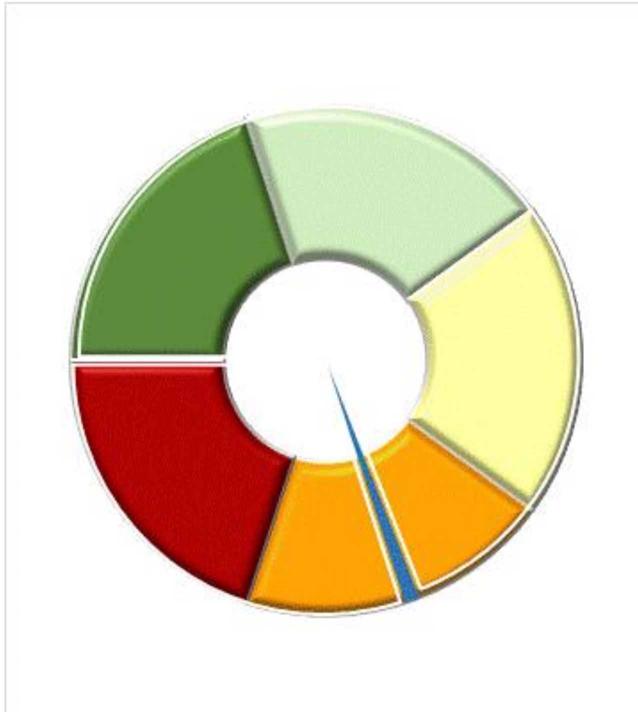
Possibly, you can.

If you can stick with it, the S&P 500 may be the easiest path to padding your retirement savings.

Either way, I’ll end with another quote I stole.

This time, it was from the real Wolf on Wall Street, Jordan Belfort.

In an interview I watched, he recently said, "You can get rich in the stock market…just not overnight."



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