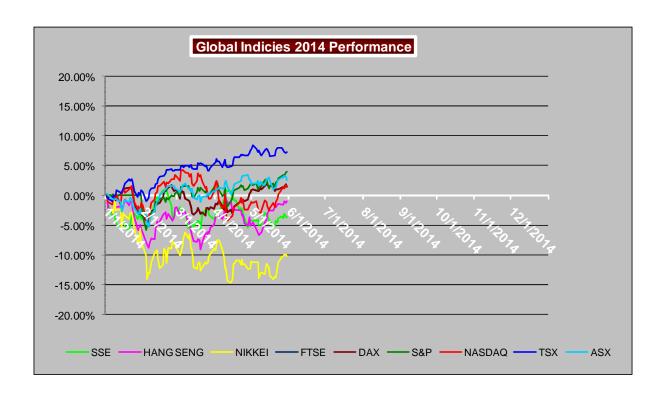


GDB June 2014 Newsletter

Monthly Market Summary:

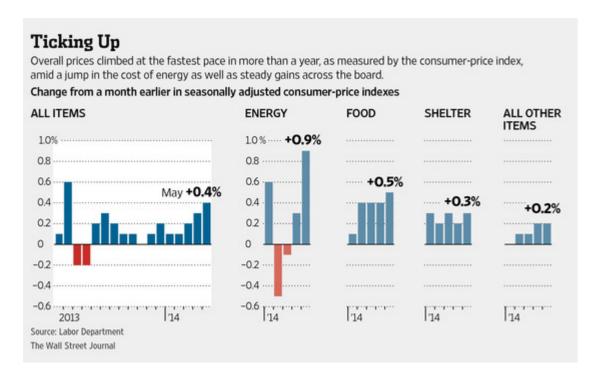
2014 May Market Activity		
SSE COMPOSITE	2,039.21	+12.85 (0.63%)
HANG SENG	23,081.65	+947.68 (+4.28%)
NIKKEI 225	14,632.38	+328.27 (+2.29%)
FTSE 100	6,844.50	+64.50 (0.95%)
DAX	9,943.27	+340.04 (3.54%)
DOW	16,717.17	+136.33 (+0.82%)
S&P 500	1,923.57	+39.62 (+2.10%)
NASDAQ COMPOSITE	4,242.62	+128.06 (+3.11%)
ASX 200	5,492.50	+3.40 (+0.06%)
TSX COMPOSITE	14,604.20	-47.70 (-0.33%)





Investment Themes:

One piece of economic data that is generating some hawkish signal of late is the latest inflation data coming out from the US. In the latest report in May, consumer prices rose 0.4% from a month earlier, the most in more than a year. Annualized, consumer-price index is up 2.1% from a year ago period.



Inflation is an "invisible enemy" to returns generated by financial assets. It chips away at the purchasing power from the investment return earned. This is where central banks come in and use monetary policies to maintain price stability. However, raising the interest rate will increase the cost of fund for traders/investors; it will also increase the discount rate used for asset pricing. As a result, increase in interest rates, especially if it deviates from investors' expectations, can negatively impact the markets.

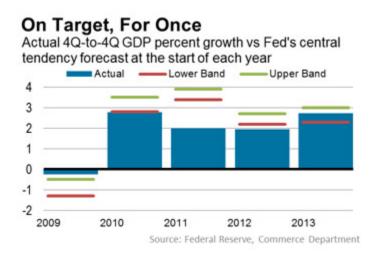
With May's figure coming in at 2.1% and above the Fed targeted inflation of 2%, many investors were wary that the Fed could shift up their timeline for raising the federal funds rate. However, in their latest meeting and decision in June, the Fed Chairwoman Janet Yellen brushed off the recent inflation data as "noise" in the market and announced that



the committee will likely maintain the current target range of federal funds rate for a considerable time even after the asset purchase program ends.

This dovish tone from Yellen signals to investors that the Fed between ending the stimulus too early which may jeopardize growth and letting inflation get beyond its targeted range of 2%, the Fed would rather choose the former. The smart investors see this as a show of hand and after the decision announced on June 19, US, European, Asian equity markets all rose in tandem.

Now we know that Fed does not have the conviction to increase rates until the US economy starts firing on all cylinders. In the same FOMC meeting, Janet Yellen and company just slashed US GDP forecast by 0.7% for 2014. By looking at Fed's previous forecast at start of the year and where actual GDP percentage growth at end of year, we can see that the with the exception of 2013, the Fed's forecasts have consistently been overly optimistic when GDP is rising and pessimistic when GDP is falling:



Our guess is that the US economy although recovering, still may not meet the Fed's projection. The Fed is backed into a corner in terms of raising interest rates. Without hitting growth projections, they are telling the market they will continue with the ultra easy monetary policy. But if inflation continues to rise, this means they are restricted in their ability to maneuver. If they choose to change their dovish course, it will cause a large enough negative jolt to the market to stall growth. So in the meanwhile, they are willing to tolerate inflation, even if it reaches beyond the Fed's target level.



Investment Opportunities:

1. GDB Monthly Income Fund

Fund managed by GDB Capital. Event-driven investments using hedging strategies and combinations of long/short positions in equities, futures, and commodities and their derivatives. Fund targets gross pre-tax IRR of 20% per annum, and returned 108% in 2012 and 194% in 2013. Following are the benchmark comparisons of GDB Fund performance against the major US Indices.

