



MAYER FUND
ROBERT H. SMITH SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Weekly Update



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SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Analyst: Kshitiz Udainiya
Sector: Consumer Staples

Date: Jan 25, 2025
MF Holding: 4.48%

Current Mayer Fund Holdings:

Company	Current Stock Price	Weekly Gain (Loss)	Mayer Fund Target Price	Target Price Updated
Albertsons Companies Inc	\$19.91	1.37%	\$30.15	2/2/21
Kimberly Clark	\$128.41	0.94%	\$147.49	12/10/24
PepsiCo Inc	\$149.12	0.59%	\$205.13	2/27/24
Hershey's	\$149.89	-1.41%	\$212.00	10/3/24

Sector News:

- **S&P500 Consumer staples sector index had a weekly return of 0.98%.**
- Consumer Staples Select Sector SPDR Fund (XLP) had a weekly return of 0.85%.
- Vanguard Consumer Staples Fund (VDC) had a weekly return of 1.04%.
- Mondelez continues significant operations in Russia, generating \$1B annually despite pledges to scale back and recently backtracked those pledges prompting transparency concerns.
- Target is the latest in reducing its DEI initiatives, following the trend seen in other companies.
- Ben & Jerry's has escalated its lawsuit against Unilever, accusing the parent company of suppressing a social policy statement regarding President Trump.
- Costco shareholders overwhelmingly rejected a proposal for a report on the risks of maintaining its DEI efforts, with 98% voting against it.
- Dollar General is expanding its private-label range, introducing over 100 new products in Q1 2025.
- Diageo is reportedly exploring an £8 billion sale of Guinness amid strong demand for the Irish stout. The company may spin off the brand while retaining a stake or sell it entirely as part of a strategic review to enhance performance.
- Procter & Gamble's Q2 2025 earnings beat expectations, with revenue of \$21.9B (up 2.1% YoY) and net income of \$4.56B (up 34%). Profit margin improved to 21%, driven by lower expenses. EPS and revenue both surpassed estimates. This quarter's sales were driven by volume instead of price which remained unchanged. The company expects 3.3% annual revenue growth over the next 3 years, slightly above the US household products industry's forecast of 3.2%.

Company news:

PepsiCo Inc

- Costco is switching its food court fountain drink business back to Coca-Cola, ending its partnership with Pepsi. Costco had switched to Pepsi in 2013 to preserve the price of its \$1.5 combo.
- PepsiCo plans to cut 250 jobs in Spain, affecting permanent and temporary workers, as it outsources local distribution, according to trade union UGT. The union has criticized the decision and is considering protests.

The Hershey Company

- No significant updates.

Albertsons Companies Inc

- Albertsons received two 2024 Progressive Grocer Impact Awards for its supply chain transparency and sustainability efforts.

Kimberly Clark

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- Kimberly-Clark will release its earnings report on 28th Jan. Q4 earnings are estimated at \$1.50 per share, down 0.7% year-over-year, with 2024 EPS projected at \$7.32, up 11.4%. The company faces soft demand, retail inventory reductions, and a challenging consumer environment.

Watch List:

<i>Company</i>	<i>Current Stock Price</i>	<i>Weekly Return</i>	<i>YTD</i>	<i>Beta</i>	<i>PE</i>
McCormick & Company	\$74.76	1.55%	7.51%	0.74	25.61
Archer Daniels Midlands	\$50.66	-0.69%	-30.37%	0.71	14.40
General Mills	\$59.56	0.68%	-10.77%	0.09	13.14