

Title: David (Onlinetrader) wins - Goliath (Melvin Capital) falls [Swiss News Media, Translated]

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A swiss news site that is read by a lot of people of my generation has posted an article. I don't see any "scientifically based" content, BUT it is still awesome to see this in "mainstream media" around the world. It is not the first article of them about GameStop.

I will try to link some in the comments, but if that is not allowed, I will of course delete them.

Translated with deepl:

>Melvin Capital, the hedge fund that antagonized amateur traders and trading forums with an enormous short position against video game retailer GameStop, must cease operations by the end of the year. The fund, which started with a seed capital of 12.5 billion, has shrunk to 7.8 billion. As Bloomberg reported, investors were told this in a letter from fund administrator Gabe Plotkin. The once-celebrated Wall Street star plans to retire: He realized, he said, that he should no longer manage external capital.

On the stock markets, the war between amateur traders and Melvin Capital has been the big David versus Goliath story of the last few decades. Hedge funds, led by Melvin Capital, "shorted" the stock of video game retailer GameStop. To wit: Melvin Capital was betting on falling prices of the stock with short sales. The reasoning was simple: GameStop had completely slept through the emerging online trade and continued to rely on an enormous store network. Dozens of GameStop branches had to close due to deep red figures. A drop in the share price was only logical.

But Melvin Capital had not done the math with the amateur traders.

For many Americans, GameStop is more than just a company. It is the nostalgically transfigured portal back to youth. Melvin Capital, on the other hand, embodies "evil Wall Street." And that's why it has become a sport in certain trader circles to acquire more and more GameStop stock.

The organized acquisitions, a promising change of personnel at the top and too many short positions (more than issued shares) subsequently caused a so-called short squeeze. This is the name given to a chain reaction that drives the price of a share ever higher. Because the shorters have to fill their empty positions, they even encourage the price increase. Melvin Capital lost around six billion in the process and needed financial injections from other hedge funds.

After that, it became quiet around Melvin and for a short time it even looked as if the hedge fund could recover. But the recent stock market crashes have also left their mark on Melvin Capital's portfolio - and are now causing its final liquidation.