

**WARNING: They didn't ALL go to jail! You'll make 10 times more money in the months ahead if you give up listening to the rest of the scoundrels still loose on Wall Street!!**

# **Never Fall Victim to Wall Street's Crooks Again.**

**You Can Take Back Control Of Your Portfolio And Make 73%, 147%, even 300% In The Next 12 Months!**

Rediscover simple, time-honored



investment tools that never lie,  
that empower YOU and that have  
generated an average profit of  
50.6% over the life of a brutal  
bear market.

**Andrew Fastow faces up  
to 140 years in prison on  
charges of fraud, money  
laundering and conspiring  
to inflate Enron's profits.**

While former WorldCom CFO Scott Sullivan was duping investors with \$7.1 billion in phantom profits... Arthur Andersen admitted to shredding Enron documents... Tyco's Dennis Kozlowski was charged with looting the company to fund his lavish life style... and MCI agreed to pay back shareholders \$500 million to settle its fraud case...

Distrustful investors who relied instead on my honest, sensible, old-fashioned investment tools found:

- 88% on an office products company
- 137% profit on a leading defense contractor
- 147% profit on a financial services company
- 189% profit on a home builder.

Dear Investor:

Putting Andrew Fastow, Dennis Kozlowski and maybe Bernie Ebbers and the rest of the high-profile corporate hooligans behind bars won't solve the fundamental reason why investors have lost \$5.9 trillion!

The job of every Wall Street broker, the investment banking community and CFOs of big corporations is to persuade you to buy stocks. And any salesman worth his salt is always going to paint as pretty a picture as possible. Many more than you probably think have lied and committed

criminal fraud in a selfish effort to get you to buy this or that stock.

And if you think the scandals are over... you're wrong! Just this week, six top officials at Xerox Corporation agreed to pay more than \$22 million to settle accusations that they participated in a large accounting fraud that allowed the Xerox to overstate its profits by \$1.4 billion over four years! It's not ever going to change. **There's an inherent conflict of interest in the system !**

It should be painfully evident that YOU need to be in control of your investment decisions... not your broker... not your money manager... not the talking heads on the financial channels... not the accountants who put together a company's quarterly earnings report... not the investment guru who writes the advisory you may rely upon... and not me either!

I will never ask you to trust me. You may decide down the road, after you've gained confidence in the system you're about to discover, that I can save you time and effort. But basically, this is about you being in control.

The truth is that you can out-profit the best of the flashy money managers and highly visible investment gurus by following some basic tenants of sound investing. You can beat 'em with a lot less risk! And you can do it quickly, easily and without becoming a full-time investment junkie.

**Would you be happy to be ahead by 50.6% for the last 3 years? (While the S&P *Fell* 39%...and the Nasdaq *tumbled* 62%!)**

You don't need to wait for a bull market to come back to make lots of money! The simple TUFF system of

**"I've been a  
financial advisor**

safe investing you'll discover in this report generated an average of 50.6% profits over the life of this extended bear market. This is about an honest, time-honored method of finding safe, profitable investments that is updated, fortified and improved... with the addition of some hard work on my part!

Am I being hypocritical when one moment I espouse fiscal self-determination and then turn around and tout my own investment advisory, the *Fleet Street Letter*?

for many years now  
and subscribe to  
many different  
newsletters. I can  
definitely say that  
the *Fleet Street  
Letter* is one of the  
best!"

– G.W.N.,  
Massachusetts

You decide after reading on. But my hope is that you'll take hold of my TUFF system... make it work for you... so YOU'LL be the one who's calling the shots, so YOU'LL never be "Enroned"... or taken to the cleaners by Wall Street's liars and crooks.

## How Much Has Trusting Wall Street Cost Your Portfolio Over the Last Few Years?

My name is Lynn Carpenter and I am most definitely *not* a "Wall Street type." I write a decidedly different newsletter called the *Fleet Street Letter*. At *Fleet Street* we take great pride in our own independent research that relies on a nearly infallible TUFF system to identify solid well-run companies capable of delivering honest profits... and outstanding returns to investors.

Most investors I talk with agree in theory that Wall Street has a conflict of

interest... that lying, manipulating the numbers and over-selling are everyday occurrences but they just find it difficult to *let go of old habits*.

- They excuse their friendly, good-guy broker for pushing WorldCom, Enron and Tyco... and their brokerages' own funds to meet their quotas...
- They dismiss as history the criminal behavior of pond scum like Bernie Ebbers and Dennis Kozlowski...
- They naively assure themselves that the SEC will be able to eliminate criminal fraud, and
- They continue to look for stock market profits in all the old familiar places, relying upon all of the same old methods. And they have continued to lose tons and tons of money!

**One definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results. This report is about doing something different.**

Your investment money is about as serious as it gets. And yes, it's scary to do something different when so much is at stake. But I ask you: how much pain do you need to feel before you acknowledge that Wall Street can't be trusted? And that you need to take control of your money?

I'm sure you're honest and trusting by nature.

That's why you expected the truth from:

- your stock broker who told you to "buy more Enron on the dips"...
- from the certified accountants who were supposedly policing the

numbers...

- the Wall Street analysts who maintained all those "strong buys"...
- the once-respected heads of some of the largest corporations in the world...
- the financial media that assured you recovery was just around the corner...
- and yes, we all had a right to expect the truth from (above all others) the SEC -- the government body charged with protecting us all from the kind of criminal fraud that has cost U.S. investors over \$5.9 trillion in stock market losses!

All failed miserably!

The truth is, no one in the Wall Street community puts your profits ahead of their own.

Wall Street brokers, the independent accountants, the analysts and the financial types within big business are all intent on convincing you to invest in this stock or that. They're salesmen. And as we've seen, a lot of the stock-peddlers have been doing an awful lot of lying and cheating so that you and the rest of the trusting investing public would buy stocks.

Ok now... along comes me (whom you never heard of)... offering you promises of substantial profits that sound disturbingly like the hollow lies of the bad guys. Yes, I am talking about stock investments (not just shorts) that turned in profits of 73%... 99%... even 147% and more, as the S&P gave up nearly a third of its value and the Nasdaq dropped 62%!

I hope you *are* skeptical! You *should* be.

But, this isn't about me, it's about a **system**. An unemotional, cold-blooded system that does not lie, exaggerate nor embellish. When the market was

going insane in the late '90s, it was the *system* that warned my readers to stay clear of the dot-bomb fiasco! Last year, it warned that Enron was going to tank! Readers who trusted the system and took my advice to buy puts on Enron picked up profits THREE TIMES as the stock collapsed. One of my readers wrote to tell me that he was "up 200% with the options he played against Enron" just before the slide. All thanks to my early warning signal.

**The system never lies. The system has no quota to sell, has no ego to protect. The system sees only the truth!**

When every broker on Wall Street had them rated a strong buy, I pleaded with readers to sell Tyco and Global Crossing, not because I am clairvoyant, but because the system exposed their shaky numbers!

So I am not asking you to trust me so much as my TUFF system of evaluating stocks. It's an all-new and proprietary iteration of a time-honored system that's worked for decades. Computers and software have made a classic system even better, I've updated it and improved upon it and I do add my own conclusions and individual stock recommendations based upon what the system tells me.

"Even though I am quite knowledgeable about economics and investing, the *Fleet Street Letter* gives me info I simply can't find anywhere else. Keep up the good work and keep telling the truth -- a rare commodity in today's casino-like investing climate."

- Tim Campbell,  
Wyoming

## **The system puts you in total control of your investments.**

You can use my TUFF system's proprietary "four-point B.S. detector" to end your dependence on the talking heads... the bad numbers... the duplicitous analysts... and the whole rotten bunch that has lost investors \$5.9 trillion over the last two-and-a-half years.

While Wall Street was in a death spiral, the TUFF system generated solid, steady profits. It wasn't me. It wasn't knowledge of insider secrets as promised by so many Wall Street frauds. It wasn't good luck or intuition. It was the years of hard work that went before... to create the unique system that evolved through both bull and bear markets. That's what saved my readers from the catastrophic effects of these ongoing frauds and made them a pile of money. I'll give you plenty of specific examples in a moment.

I hope you are not one of the millions of battered and bloodied investors whose portfolios are down 50%...75%... even 80% or more from previous highs.

If you are, I am truly sorry.

But don't be too discouraged. Do not throw in the investing towel. You can fix your broken portfolio. You can steadily gain back your losses. No matter how the market goes or what happens on the world stage, your dreams and your retirement are not gone forever. I promise you. And I am an uncompromising realist, not some naïve (or intentionally deceptive) optimist.

It's a shame that so many investors had to learn the "trust lesson" the hard



way.

But hey...who, in March 2000, could possibly have imagined the extent of the criminal fraud? The distortions? The cover-ups? The duplicity of the Wall Street community... that's still going on! Well, I could tell the numbers weren't right. My readers and I managed to avoid scandal-induced losses and to actually make money in this bear market, but it still makes me sick.

And if you think for a second that the new and much-hyped SEC regulation requiring CEOs to sign off on company earnings reports is going to change anything, you're sadly mistaken. As one under-investigation Wall Streeter said in his own defense: "This kind a stuff has been going on forever... everybody was doing it." A few new laws can't change a culture built on deceit. Some things will never change. As the Greek playwright Aristophanes observed some 2200 years ago:

**"No man is really honest. None is above the influence of gain."**

That, I fear, is a timeless truth that many trusting investors have been slow to accept. The lesson it leaves is: when it comes to investing your money, trust no one but yourself! And that is why I want you to empower yourself with...

## **The TUFF system of value investing!**

This practical tool is your safeguard against corporate fraud, deceit and broker duplicity. You'll know how to make safe certain profits, with a lot whole lot less risk! You can even use it to reduce the risk of short-term speculative buys.

When you understand how the system works and how it arrives at its

recommendations, you will gain a sense of confidence and enjoy a feeling of security that comes in knowing you're doing the right things. Once you've tested the system a few times, you can give up your 28-button financial calculator. You won't need a 3-foot stack of financial reports that clutters your desk and falls on the floor to find the truth about a company. You won't even need hours and hours of time to spot a problem -- even a potential fraud, as I did with Enron in minutes of deploying the system. This same TUFF system will also identify the few really stellar investments as if they were underlined in red ink. And on the infrequent occasion when the system requires sifting through reams of fine print, my staff and I will have already done the grunt work for you.

From now on, when you consider an investment, I want you to see your stocks through a *different and better set of lenses powerful enough to see through corporate walls*. I'm talking about a super-charged version of the traditional value investing model -- the safe, time-honored formula that seems to go out of favor whenever the market lapses into temporary insanity. Only I want to show you how to take advantage of my updated version, the one that has generated some really impressive profits for my readers during the almost three years of this horrific bear market.

You'll also discover that my updated value system is not limited to the long-term outlook, and how you can use it for souped-up short-term profits as well. During the volatile markets of 2000 to 2002, the system generated amazing profits of 260% in just two days... 300% in just two weeks... and 131% in three days... and more! (Later, you'll learn how to get a FREE BONUS report, *The Safest Way To Multiply Your Money By As Much As 300% -- In Just A Few Weeks!*) that tells you how to apply the TUFF system to more speculative, short-term trades.

**Here's evidence the TUFF system made huge**

## **profits even in this bear market:**

**Almost double our money in a year!** While most investors were losing their shirts on airline stocks, we were making a fortune on Air Express, one of the more solid players in the fast freight-delivery industry. In one year, it shot up 93% -- *and it was still a bargain!*

**Turned every \$10,000 into \$40,000 in just 2 weeks!** Sometimes, when circumstances are just right, the system will alert you to a more speculative opportunity. With Pier 1, subscribers to our premium service locked in an astonishing 300% profit in just 2 weeks.

**Triple-Digit gains on Mellon Bank -- Twice!** Talk about fast profits, I led my private group of investors to a five-week, 155% return on Mellon Bank. Then we did it again for another 183%!

**Reader, J. Redmond was up fivefold in a month!** Here's part of the unsolicited note which we have on file: *"Lynn, I took your advice... (he means the system)... and I've grown my small \$5,000 investment by fivefold in a month! I really look forward to your communiqués -- keep up the good work!"*

Yes, I have cherry-picked a bit and highlighted some of the system's better results. But the facts are that overall...

**If you had used my TUFF system and followed the buy/sell recommendations made in *Fleet Street* that were generated by the system, over the life of this brutal bear market, you would have realized a gain of 50.6%.**

That means that back in January 2000...

- had you left \$20,000 parked in all those "safe, solid" blue chip Dow growth stocks the brokerage houses were rating a "strong buy," you'd have \$14,800 left as of January 1, 2003...
- Had you left your \$20,000 in an S&P index fund, you'd now be down to about \$12,200...
- Had you had your \$20,000 in the NASDAQ, your money would have evaporated to just about \$7,600!
- BUT... had you followed the TUFF system, your \$20,000 would now be worth a very respectable \$30,120! Not bad for this market and think what it might do in a good market.

**This system never lies! And now *you* too can use this simple, honest, time-honored investment to make profits of 73%... 147%... even 300% or more, regardless of the market!**

## **"Let's put some lipstick on this baby!"**

Remember the TV commercial in which the shift-boss tells his hungry young brokers to get on the phones and sell some dog of a stock? The "lipstick" referred to in the commercial doesn't necessarily have to be illegal. Every CFO knows plenty of ways to manipulate the numbers to make earnings look a lot prettier than is fact. I call it "**cosmetic accounting**," not that I ever allowed it in anything with which I was ever involved!

I am a former, and successful,

"I took your advice and through careful and constant attention... I've grown my small \$5,000 investment by over fivefold in a month... I enjoy and look forward to your monthly communiqués. Keep up the good work!"

business executive. I spent a lot of years up to my eyeballs in corporate budgets, sales projections and numbers. I know every detail of how a quarterly earnings report gets put together. I know how easy it is to use perfectly legal and hard-to-detect tricks to make earnings look better than they are.

– J. Redmond, New Jersey

My point is that lots of widely-held blue chip companies, as well as smaller ones too, still haven't gotten the message that honesty pays, or are so irreversibly committed to the earnings-growth game that they still have no choice but to use "creative accounting" to attract new shareholders and bolster their stock's price. You've seen how convincing Wall Street can be when it's saying one thing and doing (or thinking) another.

Now that we all know the truth, the lesson from all of the recent scandal is... don't get suckered. Trust no one but yourself! Use the TUFF system. It makes it easy to get beyond the Wall Street hype.

I've been tracking Wall Street's reaction to all the frauds, and I can tell you nothing has changed! The earnings game is still going on. People are still damning the analysts on one hand and following their directions like sheep. The frenzy hasn't cleaned house. It never will.

Fortunately, there's a simple, thorough system to help you reach your own valid investment conclusions:

**The TUFF system gives you the benefit of *forensic accounting* so you can determine a stock's real value yourself!**

Now, you're no longer helplessly at the mercy of lying, deceptive analysts, duplicitous brokers and greedy corporate officers who apparently will do anything for personal gain.

Now, profitable investing -- in any market -- needn't be a crapshoot! And making profitable, safe investment decisions does not need to be complicated, nor time consuming.

I've spent the past three years of this horrific market fine-tuning what I now know is the safest and best system for making money in any market. The TUFF system has worked magnificently. It has RELENTLESSLY guided investors who follow my *Fleet Street* advisory to far greater, more consistent profits.

With information from this nearly foolproof system to guide you, you can literally pile up a fortune. I won't kid you (why should I when I'm proud of it); this is about un-sexy, out-of-favor value investing. You remember back in the late '90s when the tech bubble was inflating and everyone was saying the "rules have changed," the few stick-in-the-mud value investors like Warren Buffett took a lot of grief.

Value investing is nothing fancy. In its simplest form, value investing is merely determining the true and realistic value of a company's stock and then shopping around for undervalued stocks that the market hasn't spotted yet or about which it disagrees. Value investing went out of vogue in the '90s for good reason -- in its classic form, it doesn't work when growth stocks are hot.

But the TUFF system goes way beyond the old-style of value investing. It works beautifully in growth and value cycles, in both bull and bear markets. Except, you need always to remember that...

## **Value investing doesn't work if the guys feeding you the numbers are crooks! Which is where the TUFF system of FORENSIC accounting goes one step farther.**

Warren Buffett has made billions by sticking to value investing through good times and bad. Remember when the Nasdaq was climbing relentlessly toward 5,000 how some of the talking heads smirked in disbelief over Warren Buffett's statement that he never invested in anything (i.e. technology) that he didn't understand?

Warren Buffett is generally acknowledged to be the most successful investor of all time. And I guess he probably is. But let me share a couple of secrets with you.

## **The TUFF system actually identified 7 of Warren Buffett's big winners before he did!**

The truth is, during the past several years, my TUFF system uncovered seven stocks that later -- after my readers had taken positions in them -- became Buffett favorites! My readers actually beat Warren Buffett to the punch and in some cases, that meant making more money than he did! Check it out:

- On April 7, 2000 my readers got TUFF results on **Centex** . I recommended a buy. Two months later, Buffett started secretly sucking up shares, only he didn't tell shareholders until Feb.14, 2001, almost a year after the TUFF system had given the buy signal. Buffett followers were up a nice 25%... investors who followed the TUFF alert were already up 138%!

- On Dec. 29, 2000, Buffett proudly announced to the public that he was buying shares of **Dunn & Bradstreet** . But the TUFF system had given me the signal two weeks earlier on Dec. 15!
- Thanks to the TUFF system, I put my readers into **Outback Steakhouse** as early as Nov. 22, 2000. But Warren Buffett didn't start buying the stock until Feb. 19. We made 42.2% before we sold!
- The TUFF system alerted us to buy **Moody's** on Oct. 30, 2000. Buffett didn't go public with his stake in Moody's until February 14, 2001.
- In December 2000, I told my readers, based on the TUFF analysis of H&R Block, that... "we see a potential 23-30% gain easily in the next year..." Warren Buffett didn't announce he was buying **H&R Block** until three months after. By the time we sold just 16 months later, we saw profits of 142%!
- Again, we beat Buffett to the punch -- this time with the clothier **Jones New York** -- On Dec. 29, 2000, Buffett revealed his huge stake... *two weeks after* I had told my *Fleet Street Letter* readers to load up!
- My favorite piece of one-upmanship is **Office Depot** . Maybe Buffett is reading someone else's copy of *Fleet Street* (I checked, and he's not on the subscriber list), but I told readers to buy Office Depot in the April 1, 2000 issue. Buffett started squirreling away big hunks of Office Depot about two months after that. Our shares took off then. You could have made 64.4% in the next 8 weeks!
- Okay... so he did beat us one time recently. Just once! Back on Feb. 23, 2000, Buffett bought 604,200 shares of **Robert Half International** , a stock my system had already pegged as a *probable* winner. I always want to be doubly safe, so I hadn't yet said buy. Six weeks later, after getting the all-clear sign, we got into the stock in time to enjoy a 2-for-1 split.

Am I saying that I'm a better investor than Warren Buffett?



No, I'm merely pointing out that Warren Buffett -- one of the all time great investors -- is also a staunch believer in the value school of investing. And that is why neither he, nor my *Fleet Street* readers, got wiped out by the tech bubble... the Dot-Bomb fiasco... and didn't lose a penny on WorldCom, Global Crossing or Enron. It's also why as the market bottoms and finally turns up, both Mr. Buffett and readers who use the TUFF system are going to make a ton of money!

You don't know me, but I am saying that my TUFF system of value investing is even better than whatever Mr. Buffett uses to identify value stocks.

As a subscriber to *Fleet Street*, you'll have access to my proprietary TUFF system of value investing, and the record shows that my system is faster to the mark than whatever Mr. Buffett uses. And mine won't cost you a bundle of money!

I'll tell you in more detail how the TUFF system works and how you can get a FREE user's manual in a minute. But first, I want to show you some of the imminent dangers you may face if you've been trusting what you hear from Wall Street!

**Warning: Wall Street is lying to you about these 26 "GREAT" stocks. Our TUFF system and our forensic accounting show they're poised to plummet even more:**

Let's clarify one thing: Just because a \$60 stock becomes a \$10 stock does not make it a good value. Our kind of value

"I took your 'short' advice a month ago"

investing isn't just about picking through the rubble. The TUFF system puts a premium on quality and fair price rather than cheap stocks. We want sustainable growth rather than promises.

And promises are what Wall Street is still feeding you when it comes to many of the most widely held stocks out there. An awful lot of investors still haven't learned the lesson that Wall Street loves to push BAD stocks as GOOD investments.

**on JNIC... I doubled my money... You've easily paid for the cost of my *Fleet Street Letter* subscription!"**

**- Steve Edwards,  
South Carolina**

*Barron's*, certainly a name you think you can trust, published the names of 24 stocks they recommended solely on the basis that their trading prices had fallen so far off their peaks. There was no supporting evidence of earnings quality, just the argument that they were really cheap stocks.

The price tag for an expensive Mercedes Benz drops dramatically if it crashes into a brick wall. But does that mean it's necessarily a bargain? It's not going to regain its value on its own.

Are you beginning to get the message? Get this: the average P/E of those stocks recommended in *Barron's* was an absurd 54.8! That's the kind of ridiculous logic that accounts for the fact that the brokerage houses currently rank just 1% of the stocks they follow and rank as a "sell." Apparently Wall Street never sees a stock it doesn't like.

Don't trust them! The truth is all of these widely held (and mostly loved-by-Wall Street) stocks have real fundamental problems that will catch up to their stock prices soon. If you think stocks like AOL have already taken their licks and have no place now to go but up, think again!

Don't trust what you're hearing and reading. We've done the **forensics** on many big-name companies... torn their numbers apart... exposed the tricks they were using to disguise their real financial plights. If you own any of these stocks, get out now and then send for a FREE copy of my special *Fleet Street* report, ***Fort Knox Stocks: Low-Risk High Reward Companies that Can Make You Rich.*** But don't wait to get out of any of these 26 companies that we're warning are in for serious trouble:

- Ford Motor
- Schering-Plough
- National Semiconductor
- AOL Time Warner
- International Paper
- Tupperware Corp.
- Starbucks
- Visteon Corp.
- Micron Technologies
- Verisign
- Sprint
- Intel
- Unilever
- Lockheed Martin
- Allstate
- Applied Materials
- Vivendi Universal
- Sony Corp.
- Kerr-McGee
- Pixar
- Cox Communications
- Broadcom
- Saint Paul Cos
- Accenture

- Interpublic Group
- Campbell Soup

## **WARNING: Now is not the time to jump indiscriminately into the market looking for bargains!**

Maybe we've bottomed and maybe not. Prevailing logic -- i.e. the wisdom of the talking heads and Wall Street brokers (all of whom are really trying to persuade you to buy stocks) is that if we are not there, we're close.

*Look across the valley, they say, and in six months or a year at most, you will be rewarded. Buy the beat-up, undervalued stocks of great companies and before you know it your broken portfolio will be fixed. And actually, I agree that undervalued great companies are portfolio fixers. The problem is telling what's a great company. That's where Wall Street falls on its face and the TUFF system shines. To use the car analogy, the street can't tell a wrecked Mercedes from a new one. Heck, it can't tell a Hyundai from a stolen hood ornament!*

Don't trust *them*! Trust the system! TUFF shows that for many of the most-held blue chips a fast recovery is just not going to happen. This market reminds me of 1973-74. It took the broad market eight years to undo the damage of the preceding sell-off while the values of about 20% of listed stocks rocketed back to positive territory. The rising tide will not lift all ships. You need to be very selective.

Today our TUFF system has identified small targets of opportunity. There are a relatively few companies out there with real and significant earnings growth, while the majority of America's most widely held stocks still face a long upward climb.

You can learn about them in my **FREE report: *Fort Knox Stocks: Low-Risk High Reward Companies that Can Make You Rich.***

**Buy these value stocks now and you'll make big money regardless of the rest of the market! Send today for your FREE copy of *Fort Knox Stocks: Low-Risk High Reward Companies that Can Make You Rich.***

Ok, this may appear at first as if I'm asking you to trust me. But I'm not. I also want to send you a FREE copy of *The TUFF System User's Guide* that explains our unique brand of value investing so that you can arrive at your own conclusions about some of the stocks now on our buy list. Use the system to validate our work, before you invest. Trust only yourself.

But, since I have your attention, let me tell you now just a bit about the some of the stocks in your FREE report and why they hit our radar.

- This builder has diversified into related services for homeowners, like lawn care, pest control, security systems and asset-backed mortgage services... while still maintaining its leadership in one of the fastest growing construction markets for healthcare facilities. We're up 185% on this one, and we're going to make more!
- This company makes bakery goods... but what many investors don't know is that they also have a lock on a huge chunk of high-volume consumer non-durables market (translation: low-priced things people buy over and over ). This may be the BEST stock you could own in the slower economy that's unfolded in the wake of September 11 and its debt crisis. Take a look at how it shines when I apply my stock-

evaluating system: This company's profit margins are high and their cash flow is excellent. Earnings are outstanding, with a beautiful return-on-equity of 58%. Price-to-sales? An ultra-cheap 1-to-1 ratio. We're hanging on to this one for at least 20% more gains over the rest of 2003!

And there's...

- The Japanese auto maker that had grown its earnings 34% a year in five years (compared to negative 3% for the rest of the industry).
- A leading office-products retailer that is also selling hundreds of millions of dollars of products online... profitably... an incredible value!
- The largest dental supply company in the world with over 1,000 patents with an astounding record of keeping its ROE above 20.5% for the last three years. And there's still plenty of room for its share price to grow.

Plus more...

To make our list (just several out of more than 1,500 companies we follow) requires more than just being a sound business. The first tenant of the TUFF system is that time matters. TIME is the "T" in TUFF, and what we mean is that you want buy a stock at the right time. That means when the price you can buy it for will leave room for profits.

Let me explain: because many of the truly great companies are high-profile (your GEs... your Home Depots... IBMs... and stocks like Disney, Citibank, and Merck) investors not only belly up to buy them, they willingly buy them at prices that include next year's growth... and growth

for the year after that... and even the year after that.

Why? Because Wall Street tells investors those are the new rules. And the new yardstick is a mile long! In truth, when prices get ahead of earnings, there is not enough safety left -- and often, the next move will be into losses, not profits...

## **TUFF would have saved you from a 99% loss!**

Case in point, here's how Wall Street snookered thousands of investors by claiming the "rules had changed." In 2000, just before the bear market began, I was looking for the "worst" stock on the market. By every measure (except those used by Wall Street) MicroStrategy was the winner. At \$150 it was absurdly overpriced, but Wall Street loved it. Following the greater-fool school of investing, more lemmings lined up to buy it at \$200... at \$240... and \$280 even though the company had never earned a penny in profit. On March 14, 2000 MicroStrategy hit a high of \$319.25. A month later it traded at \$33 and within a year it was down to \$3 a share.

That's what happens when you buy on hope. It's a pyramid scheme, a Ponzi, and when the hysterical momentum abates, the stock price collapses. The TUFF system won't let you fall prey to that kind of thinking.

It's easy to see how price matters with a bad stock, like a MicroStrategy, but here's what sets the *Fleet Street* and the TUFF system apart... if you want to beat the market and 90% of the professional fund managers, you must never forget that price matters when buying good companies too.

A value investor who follows our TUFF system will never get suckered into a MicroStrategy. But the real secret of the TUFF system is that it

doesn't *just* keep you out of overpriced stocks. Our system knows when one of those great company you'd love to own is priced to be a smart investment by incorporating the elements of risk into the analysis.

*read on*