



McD's hits 5½-year high on spinoff spec

By Julie Jargon
 Dec. 05, 2005

McDonald's stock hit its highest price since June 2000 last week on speculation that the company will be pressured to spin off most of its company-operated restaurants.

The shares hit \$35.33 Thursday, the same day Wendy's International Inc. filed for an IPO of its Tim Hortons chain. William Ackman, the New York hedge fund manager who's pushing for McDonald's to spin off 65% of its company-operated locations, pressured Ohio-based Wendy's last spring to spin off Tim Hortons. (See related story, this issue.)

"People may have seen the Wendy's news and are thinking Ackman will have similar success with McDonald's," says Jeffrey Malcom, portfolio manager at Maryland-based Horan Capital Management LLC, which holds 179,000 McDonald's shares.

McDonald's stock settled back down Friday to close at \$34.91.

WEEKLY CLOSE

For the week ending Friday, Dec. 2, 2005

S&P 500
1,265.08
 -0.25%

Russell 2000
690.57
 +1.02%

Winners	Close	Percent change
1. Littelfuse Inc.	\$27.12	+15.4
2. Lifeway Foods Inc.	\$12.08	+12.6
3. OptionsXpress Holdings	\$25.20	+12.3
4. Ryerson Tull Inc.	\$23.88	+10.7
5. Tellabs Inc.	\$10.79	+9.5
6. Cobra Electronics Corp.	\$11.07	+9.1
7. A. M. Castle & Co.	\$21.47	+6.8
8. Brunswick Corp.	\$42.09	+5.9
9. Schawk Inc.	\$19.20	+5.6
10. Nanophase Technologies	\$5.95	+5.1

Losers	Close	Percent change
1. American Pharmaceutical	\$34.01	-28.6
2. Click Commerce Inc.	\$23.68	-7.7
3. Playboy Enterprises (class A)	\$12.11	-7.6
4. Midas Inc.	\$18.97	-7.2
5. Chicago Merc Exchange	\$369.80	-6.8
6. NeoPharm Inc.	\$9.15	-6.6
7. Playboy Enterprises (class B)	\$14.00	-6.0
8. Vasco Data Security	\$11.04	-5.9
8. Allscripts Healthcare	\$13.65	-5.9
10. Richardson Electronics Ltd.	\$7.25	-5.3

Only stocks trading for \$5.00 or more are listed

Survey of 173 companies

Copyright Associated Press

©2005 by Crain Communications Inc.
