



# GRS ASSET CONSULTING GROUP

# MARKET SNAPSHOT

#### **3RD QUARTER 2003 INDEX RETURNS**

	<b>Q</b> TR	YTD
S&P 500	2.65%	14.72%
S&P 500 Equal Wt.	4.92%	21.89%
S&P/Barra Growth	2.75%	14.31%
S&P/Barra Value	2.54%	15.15%
S&P Midcap 400	6.59%	19.82%
MSCI EAFE	8.18%	18.84%
Lehman Aggregate	14%	3.78%

## **Major Economic Indicators**

- ♦ The CPI-Urban/1982-84=100 for the 12-month period ended September 2003 rose 2.3%. In the third quarter, consumer prices rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 3.1%.
- ♦ The Producer Price Index (PPI) for finished goods rose 3.5% for the 12-month period ended in September. The seasonally adjusted annual rate for the 3 months ended in September was 3.4%.
- ♦ Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 3.3% (final) for the second quarter 2003. Real GDP rose 1.4% (final) in the first quarter of 2003.
- ◆ The Unemployment Rate was 6.1% in September. The rate was 6.1% in August, 6.2 % in July, and 6.4% in June.

### **Federal Reserve News**

- ♦ During the third quarter, the Federal Reserve Board maintained the primary discount rate at 2%. The primary discount rate is a result of the new discount rate program approved by the Federal Reserve Board on October 31, 2002. The primary discount rate is the interest rate the Federal Reserve charges banks for short-term loans.
- ♦ The Federal Reserve Open Market Committee maintained its target for the federal funds rate at 1% during the third quarter. The federal funds rate is the interest rate banks charge each other for overnight loans.

## **Sector Trends**

- ◆ Best Performing Sector: Information Technology rose 10.77% in the third quarter.
- ♦ Worst Performing Sector: Telecommunication Services declined 10.09% in the third quarter.

Source: Standard & Poors (Performance reflects Price Returns Only)