

BULLS vs BEARS

MPC Markets - Weekly edition



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MPC IN THE MEDIA

Jonathan joined Nadine and Michael Gable on The Call on Wednesday for a Technical Analysis Special. It has become a regular segment on Ausbiz as viewers are requesting chart analysis. For this segment the stocks chosen were the 5 worst and 5 best performers for FY25. No surprise that finance, gold and defense were part of the best performers for the year. Lithium was the biggest loser for the year taking out the silver and gold spots. For stock of the day Jonathan talked about engineering stocks and made a case for Civmec (CVL)



the call: Wednesday July 02nd | REH DMP SMR PLS MIN GDG SIG GMD RRL ASB

TRADE DEAL DEALINE APPROACHING

With the August 9th trade deal deadline approaching, global markets are bracing for heightened volatility and uncertainty. Investors and businesses are closely watching negotiations between the United States and major trading partners, as the threat of significant tariff hikes looms if agreements aren't finalized. The prospect of increased tariffs could disrupt supply chains, raise costs for manufacturers and consumers, and potentially dent corporate earnings. This uncertainty has already led to increased demand for safehaven assets like gold and government bonds, reflecting traders' concerns about potential market downturns. If the deadline passes without resolution, tariffs could rise sharply possibly up to 20% or more on certain goods—which would likely slow global trade, increase input costs, and weigh on economic growth, especially in sectors such as automotive, technology, and consumer electronics that rely heavily on international supply chains. Export-dependent economies could see reduced demand, while multinational companies might delay investments or pass higher costs onto consumers. Beyond immediate market reactions, the outcome of the August 9th deadline will influence future trade relations and global economic policy. Failure to reach deals may trigger retaliatory measures and prolong market uncertainty, while successful negotiations or deadline extensions could help restore confidence and stabilize markets. In summary, the looming deadline is a pivotal moment with the potential to significantly impact markets and the broader global economy.





ASX STOCKS

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Domino's (ASX: DMP) shares plunge 17% on CEO departure. DMP shares fell sharply today, dropping 17.3% to \$16.66, despite the broader ASX 200 gaining 0.5%. The sell-off followed news that CEO and MD Mark van Dyck will step down on 23 December 2025. Chairman Jack Cowin has assumed the role of executive chair on an interim basis, with a global search underway for a new CEO. Van Dyck described it as the right time to transition leadership, while Cowin praised his role in stabilising operations during a reset period. Domino's reaffirmed its strategic focus on franchisee profitability, operational simplicity, and cost efficiency. With today's decline, shares are down 43.4% year-to-date. Despite Cowin's leadership credentials and prior success with Hungry Jack's and Domino's expansion abroad, investor concerns over executive uncertainty have weighed heavily on sentiment.

Helia (ASX: HLI) shares slump 23% on contract loss, strategic review. HLI plunged 23% to \$4.21 after the lenders mortgage insurer revealed ING Bank plans to shift its LMI business to a rival. This follows the earlier loss of its largest client, Commonwealth Bank, in March. Together, the two contracts represent a material portion of Helia's earnings, with ING alone accounting for 17% of 2024 gross written premium. In response, the board has launched a comprehensive strategic review, assessing the impact of lost business and changes to the government's expanded Home Guarantee Scheme, which is expected to weigh on industry demand. The company is also undergoing leadership transition, with CEO Pauline Blight–Johnston stepping down and CFO Michael Cant appointed interim CEO.Despite clearing Blight–Johnston of wrongdoing related to a prior share sale, investor confidence remains shaken amid rising competitive pressures and operational uncertainty.

Qantas (QAN) Qantas has confirmed a significant data breach affecting up to six million customers, following a social engineering attack on one of its call centre employees. The attackers, believed to be linked to the cybercrime group Scattered Spider, gained access via third-party Salesforce software used by the airline. While Qantas says no operational systems were impacted and no ransom has been demanded, the stolen data likely includes customer names, contact details, birthdates, and frequent flyer numbers. Credit card and payment information were stored separately and remain secure. The breach mirrors similar incidents targeting North American carriers and comes amid broader warnings from the FBI about Aldriven voice impersonation scams. Qantas has engaged cybersecurity firm CyberCX, led by former national cybersecurity adviser Alastair MacGibbon, to assist with its investigation and response.



US STOCK NEWS

Global Earnings and News

Northrop Grumman (NYSE:NOC) Northrop Grumman has secured a \$38.96 million contract from the U.S. Department of Defense to provide electronic warfare engineering services. The indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity agreement supports the Electronic Warfare Avionics Integrated Support Facility and covers recurring and non-recurring engineering tasks for systems such as Combat Electromagnetic Environment Simulators and Real Time Infrared/electro-optic Scene Simulator. Work will be performed at Robins Air Force Base, Georgia, and in Buffalo, New York, through March 2030

L3Harris Technologies (NYSE:<u>LHX</u>) L3Harris Technologies has secured a \$28.39 million contract from the U.S. Department of Defense to provide engineering support for the Commercial Broadband Satellite Program (CBSP). The contract covers maintenance, repair, and technical assistance for Navy satellite communications systems, including the AN/USC-69(V)2 and (V)3 variants. Work will be conducted in San Diego, California, through June 2030.

RTX Corporation (NYSE:RTX) Raytheon has been awarded a \$77.2 million contract by the U.S. Department of Defense for production, sustainment, and engineering services related to Miniaturized Airborne Global Positioning System Receivers (MAGR-2K and 2K-M). Work will take place in El Segundo, California, and Huntsville, Alabama, through June 2031, with potential for Foreign Military Sales. The Air Force Life Cycle Management Center manages the contract.

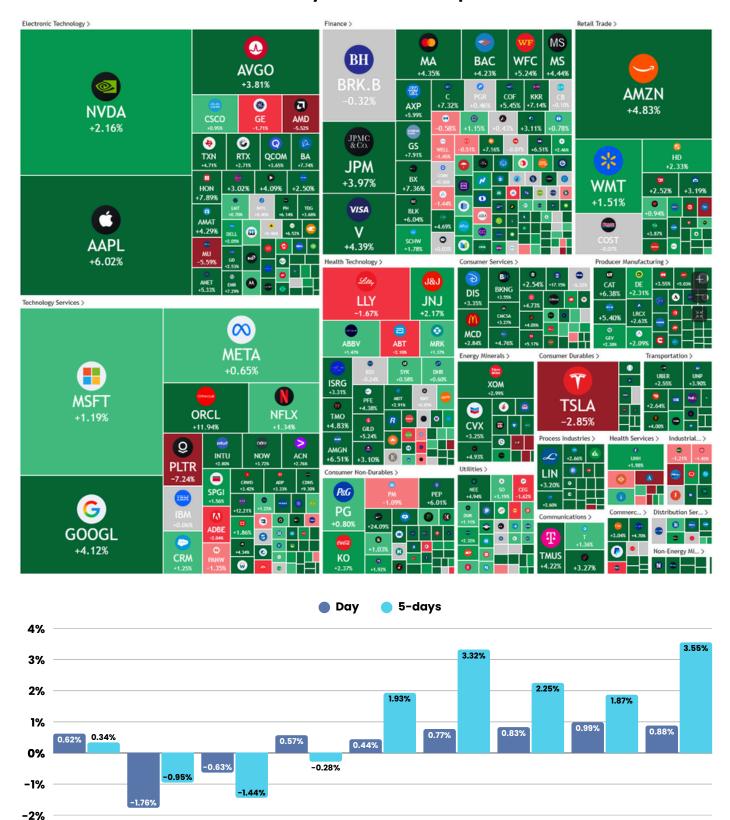
Boeing Co (NYSE:BA) Boeing has received a \$61.18 million contract modification from the U.S. Department of Defense for anti-submarine warfare equipment, including production of High Altitude Anti-Submarine Warfare weapon capability air launch accessories and related support. The contract includes options that could raise its total value to \$349.15 million. Work will be performed mainly in St. Charles, Missouri, and other U.S. locations, with completion expected by January 2028. The Naval Sea Systems Command manages the contract.



US STOCK NEWS

US & Global indices

Weekly S&P500 heatmap



Hang Seng China A50 Euro StoXX

Dow

S&P500

Nasdaq

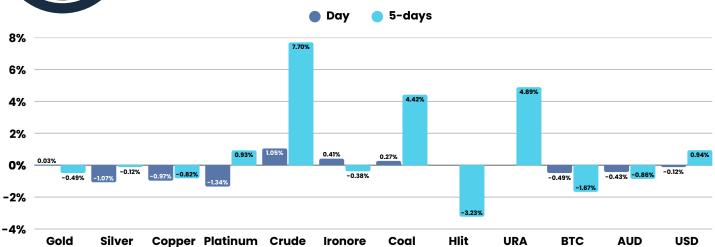
Russell

ASX200

Nikkei



COMMODITIES & FX



Gold: Gold futures have experienced notable volatility since last Friday. Prices initially climbed above \$3,350 per ounce midweek, buoyed by geopolitical tensions and a weaker US dollar. However, a strong US jobs report triggered a sharp pullback, with futures falling to around \$3,322 by Thursday, reflecting shifting rate cut expectations

Silver: Silver futures have climbed since last Friday, rising from around \$35.80 to \$36.40 per ounce by Thursday. The rally was fueled by robust industrial demand and a weaker dollar midweek, but gains moderated after a strong US payroll report boosted the dollar, capping further upside for silver prices

Platinum: Platinum futures surged from around \$1,366 last Friday to settle above \$1,420 per ounce by Thursday, marking a strong rally. The price action was driven by sustained supply deficits, robust investment demand, and safe-haven flows following credit rating concerns in the US, supporting platinum's upward momentum

Copper: Copper futures have shown resilience since last Friday, rising from about \$5.07 to \$5.15 per pound by Thursday. Prices hovered near three-month highs, supported by tightening global supplies and a weaker US dollar, while market participants awaited potential tariff changes and key economic data for further direction

Crude Oil (WTI): Since last Friday, crude oil futures have shown mixed price action amid geopolitical tensions and supply concerns. Prices briefly surged above \$63 per barrel midweek on reports of a potential Israeli strike on Iranian nuclear sites, raising fears of Middle East supply disruptions. However, gains were tempered by rising U.S. crude inventories and ongoing uncertainty in Ukraine ceasefire talks, with prices falling back to around \$62.70 by Thursday

Bitcoin: Bitcoin has traded in a tight range since last Friday, holding above \$107,000 and rebounding toward \$110,000 midweek. The price action reflected cautious optimism, with strong ETF inflows and institutional buying offsetting macroeconomic uncertainty. Resistance remains near \$110,000, with investors watching for a breakout or renewed volatility



ECONOMY & POLITICS

TRADE DEALS!

VIETNAM

President Donald Trump announced a new trade agreement between the United States and Vietnam, under which the US will impose a 20% tariff on Vietnamese imports—significantly lower than the tariffs previously set to take effect next week. Earlier this year, Trump had introduced steep tariffs on global trading partners, citing a lack of "reciprocity" in trade relationships. In response to these measures, he temporarily reduced tariffs to 10%, encouraging several countries to enter negotiations with the US. According to the White House, since these reductions, the US has only finalized a trade agreement with the UK and reached a temporary arrangement with China regarding retaliatory tariffs.

The new US-Vietnam deal is a notable development, as it reflects the ongoing strategy of using tariffs as leverage to secure more favorable trade terms. The 20% tariff rate is less than half of what was originally planned, signaling a willingness to compromise in exchange for broader trade cooperation. This move is expected to have significant implications for Vietnamese exporters, who now face higher costs but avoid the even steeper tariffs that were initially threatened.

The announcement comes amid a period of heightened trade tensions and shifting alliances, with the US seeking to renegotiate terms with several key partners. The administration's approach has drawn both support and criticism, with advocates arguing it protects American industries and critics warning of potential retaliation and higher consumer prices. The White House maintains that these measures are necessary to address longstanding trade imbalances and ensure fair treatment for US businesses in the global marketplace.

CHINA

The U.S. has lifted restrictions on ethane exports to China, allowing companies like Enterprise Products Partners and Energy Transfer to resume shipments without needing special licenses. These curbs were imposed in late May and June amid trade tensions, after the U.S. accused China of slowing rare earth shipments vital to key industries.

The move follows a recent agreement between the two countries resolving issues over rare earth and magnet exports to the U.S.. About half of U.S. ethane exports—used as a petrochemical feedstock—go to China, so the halt had impacted both American producers and Chinese manufacturers.

Ethane shipments had dropped sharply in June, with vessels idling along the Gulf Coast or diverted to other markets. Now, at least eight ships are en route to China following the policy reversal. Analysts expect U.S. ethane exports to China to return to normal seasonal levels, easing supply chain disruptions and supporting both countries' petrochemical sectors



TRADE OF THE WEEK

Global Alpha – BUY Micron MU:NASDAQ

Investment Thesis: 50% leap versus the prior three months in quarterly sales of its high-bandwidth memory chips, which are key components in AI data centers that help power the nascent technology.

The company added that it will continue to spend on improving its chips, a decision that comes as cloud companies like Google and others are pursuing heavy investments in their Al capabilities.



Trade Plan:

- Expected Timeframe 1-6 months
- Entry:119-123
- Stop-loss/trimzone:110-115
- Target:\$145-150

GENERAL ADVICE ONLY



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