



CFA Society of Mississippi

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SERIOUS INVESTORS AND BUSINESS LEADERS ATTEND FOURTH ANNUAL CFA SOCIETY OF MISSISSIPPI FORECAST DINNER

JACKSON, MISS., February 5, 2007 – The Fourth Annual CFA Society of Mississippi Forecast Dinner, was held at the Country Club of Jackson last week. More than 440 attended to hear experts provide their outlooks on the economy and stock and bond markets in 2007.

Roger Muns, CFA, CFA Society of Mississippi president, welcomed guests to the premier event in Mississippi for serious investors and business leaders. Vincent Catalano, CFA, past president of the New York Society of Financial Analysts, was the moderator.

In opening remarks, James Barksdale, president of the Barksdale Management Corporation, gave a brief overview of the Barksdale Reading Institute and how teaching our children to read better now will benefit Mississippi over the next twenty years. Better educated students reflect a better workforce.

Harry Dent, president of the HS Foundation, commented on the strength of the stock market and discussed his outlook on the economy, “We forecast the Dow Jones Industrial Average Index will hit 20,000 by the end of this decade.” He also reiterated Barksdale’s comments on a better Mississippi and spoke of demographic migration trends in the Southeast. His demographic models are showing a positive shift in population in the Southeast and this could be a plus for Mississippi in our rebuilding efforts.

Robert Hagstrom, CFA, senior vice president of Legg Mason Growth Trust, made remarks about equities stating, “... we like large capitalization companies that are undervalued. If the large capitalization stocks in your portfolio give you discomfort, they are likely to be your winners this year.”

Dave Rolley, CFA, vice president of Loomis Sayles, provided cautious guidance on the fixed income market. Public companies are finding more innovative ways to invest their excess capital in our current economic environment that are not always favorable to bond holders. Moreover, he does not foresee a drastic change in interest rates this year.

The CFA Society of Mississippi is one of 131 CFA Institute affiliated professional societies in 52 countries. The society’s mission is to foster a community of investment and financial professionals in Mississippi with the highest levels of ethics and competence. The society promotes participation in the Chartered Financial Analyst® (CFA®) Program, a graduate-level, self-study curriculum and examination program for investment specialists. The Chartered Financial Analyst® designation, one of the most trusted credentials in the investment world, is held by more than 67,000 investment professionals in 121 countries. More information about CFA Society of Mississippi may be found at www.cfamississippi.org.

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Photo 1 caption: The speakers at the Fourth Annual CFA Society of Mississippi Forecast Dinner in Jackson, Miss., provide their outlooks for financial markets in 2007. Pictured at the event (from left to right) are: James Barksdale, president of Barksdale Management Company; Robert Hagstrom, CFA, senior vice president of Legg Mason Growth Trust; and Dave Rolley, CFA, vice president of Loomis Sayles.



Photo 2 caption: Economists discussed their outlooks for financial markets in 2007 at the Fourth Annual CFA Society of Mississippi Forecast Dinner in Jackson, Miss. Pictured at the event are: State Treasurer Tate Reeves, CFA (left) and Harry Dent, president of HS Foundation.



Photo 3 caption: CFA charterholders host the Fourth Annual CFA Society of Mississippi Forecast Dinner for 2007. Pictured at the event (from left to right) are: L. Alan Smith, CFA, vice president of the CFA Society of Mississippi; Vincent Catalano, CFA, event moderator and president of iViewResearch; and Roger Muns, CFA, president of the CFA Society of Mississippi.

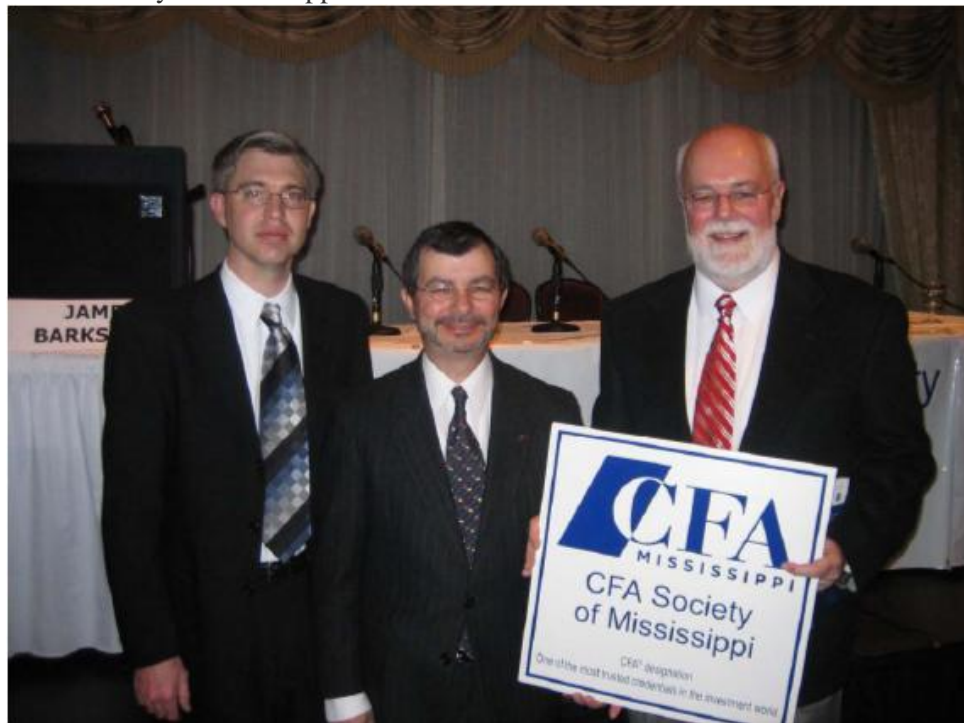


Photo 4 caption: More than 440 people attended the Fourth Annual CFA Society of Mississippi Forecast Dinner, to hear experts provide their outlooks on the economy and stock and bond markets in 2007. Dinner guests listen as James Barksdale comments on his outlook for Mississippi.

