Daily ETF Roundup: PBW Rises With Optimism, VXX Turns Lower

Markets finally caught their break today, as positive reports from both sides of the Atlantic helped boost investors' confidence. When Euro Zone central bankers called for more unified efforts towards staving off sovereign-debt defaults, investor fears seemingly vanished, making yesterday's rapid and panicked sell off "old news". Optimism from the Federal Reserve helped bolster this renewed enthusiasm on Wall Street, pushing domestic equities into positive territory; the Dow Jones Industrial Average rallied 0.9%, while the S&P 500 and Nasdaq charged ahead with a 0.8% and 0.7% gain respectively.

Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago President Charles Evans announced today his expectations for the future of the U.S. economy, citing that he is "hopeful, but it could get rocky". Evans further expressed his confidence in the strength of the U.S. economy and its continued resilience against the Euro Zone debt crisis, but stressed that further monetary stimulus should be made. The U.S. monthly budget statement was also reported today, coming in at -\$124.6 billion, an alarming increase from previous \$58 billion reported.

The Invesco PowerShares WilderHill Clean Energy Portfolio (PBW) was one of the best performers, gaining 2.88% on the day. With uncertainty seemingly vanishing from the markets, this ETF surged higher as investors increased their risk appetites, shifting allocations towards more lucrative segments of the market.



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