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## Stock picks by the pros



January 23, 2002: 2:02 p.m. ET

Strategists look to security, medical device, and retail stocks for growth.

NEW YORK (CNN/Money) - The chip sector led the Nasdaq into positive territory Wednesday, while the Dow shook off its morning doldrums with a modest early-afternoon rally of its own.

A positive report on the chip industry from J.P. Morgan and strong results from semiconductor equipment maker Novellus Systems boosted stocks in the tech sector.

For those investors looking to enter the markets, analysts and strategists appeared on CNNfn to suggest positions in security, medical device, and retail stocks.

**Peter Cardillo**, chief partner with Global Partner Securities, recommends Identix for a security play. "Identix does biometric fingerprinting and in the past several months have gotten a tremendous amount of publicity and a lot of new orders coming in, obviously, for surveillance," he said. "They have now branched out to various facets of transportation and I think that the stock will do nicely going forward."

### ▶ PETER CARDILLO'S PICKS

- Identix (IDNX)
- BioLase (BLTI)

Cardillo's second selection is the laser company BioLase. "For the first time they're really going to post some

good profits. I believe they could earn somewhere between 10 cents and 12 cents in fiscal 2002," he said. "The company has strong management and they have made a nice turnaround and the product is becoming very, very much intensified throughout Europe and I think that's where they're going to get a lot of their sales."

Shares of [Identix \(IDNX\)](#): down \$1.43 to \$10.54, [Research, Estimates](#)) are in a 52-week range of \$15.74 to \$3.75.

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[BioLase](#) ([BLTI](#): up \$0.48 to \$5.59, [Research](#), [Estimates](#)) shares have been between \$6.97 and \$1.53 in the last year.

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**Howard Rosencrans**, director of research for HD Brous & Co., advises clients to carefully research and pick stocks.

"If you're doing your homework and you're really paying attention, there's a tremendous amount of opportunity and it's almost a unique market opportunity that exist today," he said. "So I would get aggressive. Look for things in your portfolio to do; take advantage of where you see opportunities."

"I think you have a great opportunity in today's markets to both buy selectively to take advantage of some opportunities in

smaller cap stocks," Rosencrans continued. "In particular, we like Dave's, which is a barbecue restaurant chain. We also like Christopher & Banks, those are two retail names that we're pretty enthusiastic about."

#### ▶ HOWARD ROSENCRANS' PICKS

- Dave's (DAVE)
- Christopher & Banks (CHBS)
- THQ (THQI)

In the retail sector, Rosencrans likes video game maker THQ. "They're a player in the Xbox, Gamecube market, which is very exciting and Wall Street is jumping up and own about," he said. "The reality is that you have to buy a game for \$50. There's only so much of a market."

Shares of [Dave's](#) ([DAVE](#): up \$0.13 to \$8.63, [Research](#), [Estimates](#)) are in a 52-week range of \$11.84 to \$3.37.

[Christopher & Banks](#) ([CHBS](#): up \$0.48 to \$33.98, [Research](#), [Estimates](#)) shares have been between \$35.76 and \$14.81 in the last year.

Shares of [THQ](#) ([THQI](#): down \$0.39 to \$41.91, [Research](#), [Estimates](#)) are in a 52-week range of \$65.10 to \$24.18. ■

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