

## Market Update



| Benchmark                          | <b>February Performance</b> | Year-to-Date Performance |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| S&P500 Index                       | -8.23%                      | -8.27%                   |
| Nasdaq Composite Index             | -6.27%                      | -4.37%                   |
| Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index | 1.80%                       | 3.76%                    |
| Russell 2000 Index                 | -8.42%                      | -11.36%                  |
| MSCI EAFE Index                    | -8.06%                      | -9.18%                   |
| MSCI Emerging Martkets Index       | -3.83%                      | -6.99%                   |

- Volatility has returned to the market in 2020 with some unusually large swings to end the month of February
- The Democratic Primary race is off and running, and Bernie looks to have taken the early lead at the end of the month
- Coronavirus (COVID-19) has had a negative impact on global markets as the virus spreads from mainland China to other countries
- Interest rates have declined since the start of 2020 with the 10-year U.S. Treasury Note yielding 1.156% at the end of February compared to 1.920% at the beginning of the year
- It is expected that the Federal Reserve may cut rates again in 2020, especially if concerns over the Coronavirus linger
- Van Leeuwen & Company remains focused on the economic fundamentals to drive returns in the market and continues to focus on high quality companies with a history of weathering different economic cycles

## VLC News

- On Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, Ken was featured on Yahoo Finance's "On the Move" program with Anthony Scaramucci to discuss the Coronavirus and Democratic Primary season
- Ken also appeared on the TD Ameritrade Network with Nicole Petallides on Tuesday, February
  25<sup>th</sup> to discuss his thoughts and insight on the markets
- Track the Coronavirus live on the Johns Hopkins <u>COVID-19 Dashboard</u>

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