

 Receivables Inventory (FIFO) Other
 1319.8 123.7 110.0 99.3 0783.2 804.6 4492.6
 1110.0 99.3 807.9 783.2 804.6 4492.6
 99.3 804.6 4492.6

 Current Assets Accts Payable Debt Due
 1086.0 1086

 ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)
 Past 10 Yrs.
 5 Yrs.
 to '19-'21 to '19-'21 to '19-'21 september 5 yrs.

 Revenues ("Cash Flow")
 7.5%
 6.5%
 3.5%

 "Cash Flow"
 11.0%
 8.0%
 4.0%

 Earnings
 13.0%
 8.5%
 4.5%

 Dividends
 23.0%
 12.5%
 5.0%

 Book Value
 4.5%
 3.5%
 -5.5%

Cal- endar	QUART Mar.31	ERLY RE\ Jun.30	/ENUES (\$ Sep.30	mill.) ^E Dec.31	Full Year
2013	6605	7083	7323	7093	28106
2014	6700	7181	6987	6572	27441
2015	5959	6498	6615	6341	25413
2016	5950	6300	6400	6100	24750
2017	5450	5750	5700	5400	22300
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE AE Ful				
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2013	1.26	1.38	1.52	1.39	5.55
2014	1.21	1.40	1.09	1.12	4.82
2015	1.01	1.26	1.40	1.31	4.97
2016	1.17	1.38	1.47	1.43	5.45
2017	1.29	1.54	1.65	1.57	6.05
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B =				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2012	.70	.70	.70	.77	2.87
2013	.77	.77	.77	.81	3.12
2014	.81	.81	.81	.85	3.28
2015	.85	.85	.85	.89	3.44
2016					

68% of systemwide sales and 56% McDonald's stock rose to an all-time high after the restaurant operator released fourth-quarter financials that were a trifecta of better-thanexpected sales, earnings, and comps. Unfavorable foreign exchange was still an issue, but broad-based strength at home and abroad was a testament to management's turnaround efforts, which continue to gain traction. Although revenues fell 3.5% year to year, the figure topped our call and actually rose 5% on a currencyneutral basis. Moreover, global sales climbed comparable-store 5.0%. reflecting positive results from all geographic segments. Domestic figures were the most impressive, in our view, as samestore sales jumped 5.7% thanks to the introduction of All Day Breakfast in October. Mild weather across much of the country also helped, albeit to a lesser extent. Å 300-basis-point decrease in total operating costs and expenses as a percentage of sales, a 174-basis-point decline in the tax rate, and a lower share count helped earnings to come in 16% higher than the depressed year-earlier figure and \$0.11

ahead of our call. Foreign currency trans-

lation weighed on the bottom line by \$0.11 per share in the fourth quarter.

met: www.mcdonalds.com.

Plaza, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523, Tele-

We now look for the company to earn \$5.45 a share this year, up from our previous forecast of \$5.25. All Day Breakfast has clearly been well received by customers in the United States and should continue to support comps at home over the next several quarters. Meantime, sales in China and other parts of Asia will likely continue to rebound as the supplier issue in that nation moves further into the rear view mirror. Too, foreign exchange should be less of a headwind in 2016 than in 2015, and commodity cost inflation ought to be benign. From an operational standpoint, management's plans to trim SG&A spending and refranchise restaurants should support margins, while stock repurchases ought to buoy share earnings. Our preliminary 2017 earnings estimate is \$6.05 a share.

After timely MCD's recent gains, it is not cheap. But, conservative momentum investors may find the dividend yield, top marks for Safety and Price Stability, and low Beta worth the premium.

Matthew Spencer, CFA February 26, 2016

(A) Based on diluted shares. Excl. nonrecur. gain/(loss): '01, (11¢); '02, (55¢); '03, (25¢); '04, (6¢); '05, 3¢; '06, 53¢; '07, (93¢); '08, 9¢; '09, 13¢; '10, (2¢); '15 (17¢). Excl. cum. effect

of accting change: '02, (7¢); '03, (3¢); '04, (8¢). Incl. tax benefit '05, 7¢. Excl. tax benefit '05, 4¢. Next egs. report due late April. (B) As of 3/08 div'ds paid mid-Mar., Jun., Sep., Dec.

under the control of the company.

■ Div'd. reinvestment plan available. (C) Incl. intang. At 12/31/14: \$2,735.3 mill. \$2.84/share. (D) In mill., adj. for splits. (E) May not sum due to rounding.

Company's Financial Strength A++
Stock's Price Stability 100
Price Growth Persistence 55
Earnings Predictability 90