## ASX SHEDS 14.5 PER CENT FOR THE YEAR

# Signs of hope amid market gloom

have been oversold and will rally in the second half of 2012

## TIM BOREHAM

MARKET watchers expect an improved 2012 after the local bourse's abysmal showing in calendar 2011 but warn that trading may get worse before it gets better as the error crisis unfolds. The S&P/ASX 200 index yested upon 14.5 points to close at 40.56.6, taking its loss for the year to 14.5 per cent, after a 2 per cent loss in 2010, a 28 per cent rebound in 2009 and a GFC-driven loss of 41 per cent in 2008.

The closing level was not far above its low for the year of 3863 on September 26 but well off the high of 4971 on April II.

Despite our safe-haven status the global market average, which wadown 13 per cent, and was easily outperformed by the strife-prone US, the only major market to show growth.

With one trading session to go, the benchmark Dow Jones in dustrial index will register a surprisingly robust 6 per cent gain this year.

Rather than buttressing the local market from weak industrial index will register as going through the safe of the far and the facility of the color may be a sourced and the safe of the provention of the shape of the jaw-dropping GDP proposed for the per cent gain this year.

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He said that "while not discounting the seriousness of the counting the seriousn

#### Signs of hope amid gloom

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manufacturing turnaround

manufacturing turnaround and good news on exports and on the energy front."

Commonwealth Securities says only three of the 21 industry sectors gained this year, led by the Telstra-heavy teleo index (up 18.7 per cent), the defensive food, beverages and tobseco(4) ner cent) and and tobacco (4 per cent) and utilities (3 per cent). The worst performer by far was consumer durables and

apparel, down 64 per cent, followed by retail (down 41 per cent) and diversified financials (29 per cent). Of the individual ASX200

Of the individual ASX200 stocks, the worst performers were coal processing play White Energy (down 88 per cent), Energy Resources Australia (83 per cent) and steelmakers BlueScope Steel and OneSteel, down 78 per cent

and OneSteel, down 78 per ce and 72 per cent respectively. Among the few highlights, Sigma Pharmaceuticals returned 100 per cent. Iluka Resources and Aurora Oil & Gas soared 69 per cent and 52 per cent, respectively.

## Weekend Australian Saturday 31/12/2011

### GLOBAL MARKETS

## TOP 10 STOCKS

US US	▲ +6.B%
NEW ZEALAND	▼ -1%
UK	▼ -5.6%
SFAIN	<b>▼</b> -13.91%
australia	▼ -14.5%
GERMANY	▼ -15.4%
FRANCE	<b>▼</b> -17.8%
<ul><li>JAPAN</li></ul>	▼ -17.5%
MONG KONG	<b>▼</b> -19.8%
CHINA	▼ -22%

SIGMA PHARMA	A+99.07%
ILUKA RESOURCES	A+68.11%
AURORA OIL & GAS	<u>*</u> +51.34%
MESOBLAST	A+48.17%
BEACH ENERGY	<u>*</u> +41.95%
REGIS RESOURCES	<u>*</u> +40.82%
ENVESTRA	A+37.50%
SILVER LAKE	A+28.09%
QR NATIONAL	A+25.74%
TELECOM NZ	A +25.42%

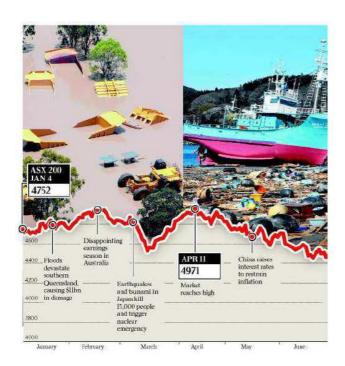
Source: Bloomberg

## WORST 10 STOCKS

### SECTORS

WHITE ENERGY	▼ -88.27%
ERA	▼ -83.45%
BLUESCOPE	▼ - 79.03%
BILLABONG	▼ -78.20%
ONESTEEL	▼ -73.48%
PALADIN	▼ -72.21%
DART ENERGY	▼ -68.21%
KAGARA	▼ -68.13%
GOODMAN FIELD	ER V -65.74%
AFN NEWS	▼ -64.05%

TELECOMS	▲ +18.3%
UTILITIES	<u>+2.97</u> %
RETAIL	<b>▼</b> -41%
MATERIALS	▼ -25.3%
IT	▼ -22%
CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY	▼ -21.8%
ENERGY	▼ -20.4%
INDUSTRIAL	▼ -10.6%
HEALTH	▼ -10.5%
FINANCIAL	▼ -10.45%



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