

## **Bill Noonan Appears on CNBC's Closing Bell**

On Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, Contravisory Vice President Bill Noonan appeared on CNBC's Closing Bell with Maria Bartiromo. Bill was invited to participate in a "bull/bear debate" with Robert Olstein, manager of the Olstein Financial Alert Fund.

Bill and Bob each discussed their respective approach to stock selection, specifically as it relates to Tyco (TYC) and Pier One (PIR). Mr. Olstein presented his bullish view on both stocks, while Bill presented his bearish opinion on each.

While Mr. Olstein stressed the importance of fundamental analysis, Bill stressed the importance of identifying the long-term relative price trends of stocks. Bill, having conceded that both Tyco and Pier One have some redeeming fundamentals, noted that each stock continues to display relative price weakness:

*"We wait for the trend direction of stocks to change before buying. Consequently, we will never get in at the bottom, but that's okay, we look to buy high and sell higher. Currently, we don't see any evidence of a trend change for either of these stocks."*

Bill also stressed the importance of investor sponsorship:

*"I certainly agree that fundamentals are important, but even more important is investor sponsorship. The important question is 'Does the market care?'. We all know that a company can have great fundamentals, but if you don't have investor sponsorship, your stock price is going nowhere, and vice versa."*

Only time will tell who is right and who is wrong! Either way, it was a good, spirited debate on the importance of technicals vs. fundamentals. If you are interested in a copy of the interview, please feel free to contact us at 781-740-1786.