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www.TheAustinVillager.com

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Vol. 49 No. 31 Phone: 512-476-0082 Email: vil3202@aol.com March 17, 2023

RAPPIN' Thomas Wyatt

MICHAEL IRVIN

The release of Michael Irvin's Marriot lobby tape has opinions of the incident exploding with conspiracy theories abound. And, you all know me. I'm not one to shy away from a good conspiracy theory; especially the ones I carefully orchestrate myself.

I hope that you have already looked at the tape and have formed your own opinion. Believe me, I would love to hear it.

For those of you who haven't seen the tape, I have three words for you: Watch. The. Tape.

With that aside, let's jump into my conspiracy theory.

Let me begin by stating the obvious. I always go into these kinds of things like a three-prong fork. My first analysis is from the side of the victim. My second analysis is from the side of the perpetrator. My final analysis is as an innocent bystander dissecting all the evidence before me with no bias toward one side or the other.

After watching the tape – countless times – my conclusion is: The Marriot owes Irvin a bunch of money. I mean a whole bunch of money.

If you have watched that tape, and can find a shred of evidence of what the Marriot is claiming, then I need you to walk me through it frame by frame. Because, nothing the Marriot has stated comes close to what is on that tape. And I'll bet you a million-to-one that the statement made about Irvin was made before they even saw their own tape. Hence, the ridiculous and, quite frankly, insulting statements made after Michael's lawyers filed suit as to why the Marriot felt justified in their actions.

My theory: The young lady, who made the claim, is trying to keep from getting fired. The only way to do this is to throw Irvin under the bus.

See, the problem wasn't Michael Irvin. The problem was the young lady's co-worker who was irate with her for talking to Irvin for 2 minutes; rather than doing her job. If you watch the tape, pay attention to her and her male co-worker's interaction at the 2:26 mark. Case closed.

Banking Sector Seeing March Madness Of Its Own

Silicon Valley Bank collapsed Friday, March 10th, after depositors rushed to pull funds from the tech lender. (Getty Images)

BY SYLVAN LANE AND TOBIAS BURNS | THE HILL

(THE HILL) - Markets plummeted Wednesday as the financial sector took a double hit from the continuing fallout from the Silicon Valley Bank (SVB) collapse and the worries over the health of Europe's second largest bank, Credit Suisse, which appealed to the Swiss government for help.

The total market capitalization of the six biggest banks in the U.S. is down $183 billion from Feb. 1, driven by the SVB and Signature Bank failures and now by the European bank rout, Bloomberg has calculated.

While emergency U.S. government action over the weekend appeared to soothe some of the angst earlier this week about SVB and Signature Bank, investors and bankers are on high alert now for which segments of the banking sector could be the next to face peril.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average of stocks was down more than 1.6 percent, or 550 points, just before 2 p.m. Wednesday while the S&P 500 had lost more than 1.5 percent of its value.

The technology-heavy Nasdaq, which has seen a lot of volatility over the past six months, was down more than 140 points, or about 0.9 percent.

Here's what you need to know about how the downfall of Silicon Valley Bank lead to a the shaking of the entire financial system.

Credit Suisse is the latest major bank to face a crisis of confidence after the collapse of SVB boosted global concerns about the solvency of troubled financial firms.

Shares of Credit Suisse plunged more than 30 percent in European trading Wednesday after an official with the Saudi National Bank — Credit Suisse's largest shareholder — told Reuters it would not boost its funding of the beleaguered central bank.

The value of Credit Suisse bonds also plummeted and traders piled up on bets that the bank would default.

Credit Suisse officials insisted earlier in the day that the bank was in solid financial shape.

But the bank's late Wednesday call for help to the Swiss National Bank and the country's top bank regulator showed how dire the situation has become.

"Any distressed bank is going to see surging funding costs, so banking turmoil will remain the primary focus on Wall Street," wrote Edward Moya, senior market analyst at investment firm OANDA, in a Wednesday analysis.

Along with being Europe's second-largest bank, Credit Suisse has a substantial presence in the U.S. and is subject to strict Federal Reserve oversight and stress-testing.

Further troubles for Credit Suisse, which has been embroiled in scandal and financial woes for years, could prompt the Fed to get involved.

The collapse of Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank over the past weekend brought new scrutiny to other regional banks with similar financial concerns.

Moody's Analytics placed six major regional banks on watch for downgrades, citing their heavy reliance on uninsured deposits and the dwindling value of their long-term investments — two issues that sank SVB and Signature.

Traders analyzing the numbers on the floor at the New York Stock Exchange in New York, Monday, March 13, 2023.

Stocks of those banks have whipsawed throughout the week, falling Monday and recovering Tuesday before plunging again on Wednesday.

Shares of First Republic Bank, another California-based bank with tens of billions of dollars in uninsured deposits, were down more than 21 percent by Wednesday afternoon.

First Republic is one of six banks flagged by Moody's and investors are concerned it could be the next US firm to fall, even though bank officials have expressed confidence in its standing.

"This crisis will end when consumers and companies no longer have any doubts about the solvency of their banking institutions," Zachary Feinstein, an assistant professor at Stevens Institute of Technology and director of its financial technology program, told The Hill in an email.

"This event is really about confidence," he added. "The scale can primarily be measured by sentiment rather than figures that can be found on balance sheets."

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