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We've posted a [*Business of Comedy* podcast](#) with *Dave Merheje*, comedian, actor, and winner of the 2019 Juno Award for Best Comedy Album.

You might call Merheje, a late blooming success after nearly 20 years honing his craft.

Merheje opens up about his childhood as the son of naturally funny Lebanese immigrants, his comedic influences, internal struggles, why

he cried when he got his first Netflix special, and how getting mugged in Los Angeles led him to find his authentic onstage voice.

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Morning Need to Know

Getting you ready for your investing day

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Capital Ideas Media



CANADIAN ANALYSTS' CALLS INITIATIONS

Spark Power (TSX:SPG). Raymond James says this company is a “*sustainable growth story for patient investors*” and starts coverage with an “outperform” rating and a price target of \$2 (Canadian).

The analyst is projecting EBITDA growth for Spark of 26% annually between 2018 and 2021.

Spark was a Digest cover story in early July and the stock has not performed well. Raymond James says:

"While shares have been under pressure of late, we see a roadmap to addressing this weakness."

Akumin (TSX:AKU.UN). Canaccord Genuity starts coverage with a "buy" and a price target of \$5.75 on the diagnostic imaging services company on strong revenue and improved EBITDA margins.

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Zymeworks (TSX:ZYME:NYSE:ZYME) gets upgraded to "strong buy" by Raymond James with the target boosted to \$40 (U.S.) from \$36.

Brookfield Infrastructure Partners (TSX:BIP.UN;NYSE:BIP). CIBC raises the price target to \$53 from \$48 and maintains "outperformer" following the company's investor day.

Trilogy Int'l Partners (TSX:TRL). RBC upgrades to "outperform" with a \$3.50 (Canadian) target citing market share gains and a rising probability of a sale of its Bolivian unit.

U.S. ANALYSTS' CALLS

Apple (NASDAQ:AAPL).

J.P. Morgan establishes a \$265 (U.S.) December 2020 target, up from \$243, due to its outlook for iPhone, services and double digit earnings growth.

Emerson Electric (NYSE:EMR). RBC upgrades to "outperform".

AT&T (NYSE:T) gets its target raised by Evercore ISI to \$40 from \$34.

STOCKS THAT MAY MOVE

AltaGas (TSX:ALA) is selling its interest in the Central Penn Pipeline to a subsidiary of NextEra Energy Partners, for \$870 million (Canadian).

iAnthus (CSE:IAN) Gotham Green Partners is investing an additional \$20 million (U.S.) through senior secured convertible notes as part of a broader \$100 million financing.

Rio Tinto (NYSE:RIO) has scrapped plans for the sale or an IPO of its Canadian iron ore unit.

Anheuser Busch Inbev (NYSE:BUD). Shares of Budweiser APAC rose 6% in their Hong Kong debut with the parent company raising about \$5 billion.

Sempra Energy (NYSE:SRE) is selling some of its assets in Peru to a unit of China Yangtze

Power for \$3.59 billion in cash.

BP (NYSE:BP) Chief Executive Officer Bob Dudley remains on track to retire at the age of 65, taking him into 2020, according to Reuters.

MARKETS

S&P/TSX and U.S. equity futures are higher to start the week as manufacturing reports in China were stronger than estimated.

The Shanghai Composite fell nearly 1% in overnight trading as President Trump threatened to limit capital flows to U.S.-listed Chinese companies although the White House says there's no plan in place.

Chinese financial markets will be closed the rest of the week as the country marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

CURRENCIES

The Canadian dollar is steady at \$0.7546 (U.S.).

COMMODITIES

West Texas Intermediate is down 1.4% to \$55.14 a barrel.

Gold is off 1% TO \$1,491.10 an ounce.

Please email questions, comments or concerns to: customercare@capitalideasresearch.com

Access, insight and ideas.

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