

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND  
Form N-CSRS  
September 03, 2004

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-CSR

CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED  
MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES

Investment Company Act file number 811-4809  
-----

Liberty All-Star Equity Fund  
-----

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

One Financial Center, Boston, Massachusetts 02111  
-----

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

Vincent Pietropaolo, Esq.  
Columbia Management Group, Inc.  
One Financial Center  
Boston, MA 02111  
-----

(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 1-617-772-3698  
-----

Date of fiscal year end: 12/31/04  
-----

Date of reporting period: 06/30/04  
-----

Form N-CSR is to be used by management investment companies to file reports with the Commission not later than 10 days after the transmission to stockholders of any report that is required to be transmitted to stockholders under Rule 30e-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30e-1). The Commission may use the information provided on Form N-CSR in its regulatory, disclosure review, inspection, and policymaking roles.

A registrant is required to disclose the information specified by Form N-CSR, and the Commission will make this information public. A registrant is not required to respond to the collection of information contained in Form N-CSR unless the Form displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") control number. Please direct comments concerning the accuracy of the information collection burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing the burden to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549-0609. The OMB has reviewed this collection of information under the clearance requirements of 44 U.S.C. Section 3507.

ITEM 1. REPORTS TO STOCKHOLDERS.

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

[GRAPHIC]

SECOND QUARTER REPORT - JUNE 30, 2004

[ALL STAR(R) EQUITY FUND LOGO]

Q2

MULTI-MANAGEMENT

[GRAPHIC]

CLOSED-END STRUCTURE

[GRAPHIC]

PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT

[GRAPHIC]

ACCESS TO LEADING INVESTMENT MANAGERS

[GRAPHIC]

ONGOING MONITORING AND REBALANCING

[GRAPHIC]

DISTRIBUTION POLICY

[GRAPHIC]

LIBERTY ALL-STAR EQUITY FUND

LIBERTY ALL-STAR EQUITY FUND

FUND STATISTICS AND PERFORMANCE	2ND QUARTER 2004	YEAR-TO-DATE
Period End Net Asset Value (NAV)	--	\$9.17
Period End Market Price	--	\$9.21
Period End Premium	--	0.4%
Distributions	\$0.22	\$0.46
Market Price Trading Range	\$8.26 to \$10.49	\$8.26 to \$10.49
Premium Range	0.2% to 13.6%	0.2% to 13.6%
Shares Valued at NAV	2.6%	5.6%
Shares Valued at NAV with Dividends Reinvested	2.6%	5.6%
Shares Valued at Market Price with Dividends Reinvested	(6.4)%	2.3%

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

Lipper Large-Cap Core Mutual Fund Average	0.9%	2.0%
S&P 500 Index	1.7%	3.4%

Figures shown for the Fund and the Lipper Large-Cap Core Mutual Fund Average are total returns, which include dividends, after deducting fund expenses. Figures shown for the unmanaged S&P 500 Index are total returns, including income. Past performance cannot predict future results.

ON THE COVER

THE PHOTOGRAPHS NEXT TO LADY LIBERTY'S TORCH SYMBOLIZE THE FUND'S UNIQUE ATTRIBUTES THAT WERE DESCRIBED IN THE FUND'S 2003 ANNUAL REPORT.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

FELLOW SHAREHOLDERS:

JULY 2004

The stock market posted a modest advance during the second quarter, as the S&P 500 Index gained 1.7 percent during the period. The gain duplicated the index's 1.7 percent advance in the first quarter, bringing its first half return to 3.4 percent. The S&P 500 declined in April, but gained ground in May and June to conclude the half.

The quarter was marked by the prospect of higher interest rates, rising oil prices, fears surrounding the handover of power in Iraq and concerns over a slowdown in global economic growth. All contributed to sluggishness in share prices. With this uncertainty as a backdrop, small cap stocks underperformed large cap stocks; energy stocks advanced, and financial stocks declined owing to concerns over higher interest rates. Stocks have experienced a broad based decline thus far in July as the market has failed to overcome the aforementioned concerns.

On the positive side, the economy continued to expand and corporate earnings continued to rise. During the quarter, the government reported a 4.4 percent rise in first quarter GDP, up from the solid 4.1 percent pace registered in the fourth quarter of 2003. By the time all reports are in, year-over-year second quarter corporate earnings are expected to be ahead by more than 20 percent for the fourth quarter in a row--a rare event.

We continued to see a gradual rotation toward higher quality stocks--those companies that exhibit sustainable earnings growth, strong balance sheets and solid cash flow. However, for the entire first half the lowest quality stocks still narrowly outperformed the highest quality ones. In terms of style, value outperformed growth across the board--large, mid and small-cap--during the first half.

Liberty All-Star Equity Fund posted a generally positive quarter. With shares valued at net asset value (NAV) with dividends reinvested, the Fund gained 2.6 percent. This result topped the S&P 500 Index and was ahead of the Fund's primary benchmark, the Lipper Large-Cap Core Mutual Fund Average, which advanced 0.9 percent. For the first half, the Fund gained 5.6 percent with shares valued at NAV with dividends reinvested. By comparison, the S&P 500 Index, as mentioned, gained 3.4 percent for the half, while the Lipper Large-Cap Core Mutual Fund Average advanced 2.0 percent.

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

The sole reversal for the quarter was a 6.4 percent decline in the market value of Fund shares with dividends reinvested. This was in sharp contrast to the solid NAV

1

investment performance. During the quarter, the premium at which Fund shares traded above NAV reached a high of 13.6 percent which, history shows, was unsustainably high. By quarter-end, the Fund continued to trade at a modest premium to NAV, and its market price return for the first half was on the positive side at 2.3 percent.

Long term, the Fund continues to perform well. The Fund ranks in the top 20 percent of funds in the Lipper Large-Cap Core Mutual Fund universe since the Fund's first full calendar year of operation, more than 17 years ago. One-, three- and five-year Fund returns are all in the top 5 percent of that Lipper universe.

In other Fund news, the offering to shareholders of rights to purchase additional shares of the Fund was completed successfully. The offering, which allowed investors to subscribe for one additional share for each 10 shares owned, was oversubscribed. In accord with previously announced terms of the offering, the number of shares offered was increased by an additional 25 percent to cover a portion of the over-subscription requests. This brought the total value of the offering to approximately \$132 million. We at Liberty Asset Management Company (LAMCO) are gratified by this response, and thank shareholders for their confidence in the Fund.

We invite you to read the interview with investment manager Arnold Schneider of Schneider Capital Management beginning on page 8. This is the first interview of this manager since we introduced him to Fund shareholders in the first quarter report of 2002. We believe you'll find his comments to be interesting and insightful.

Once again, we at LAMCO thank shareholders for their ongoing support of the Fund. We believe that the Fund is properly structured with a quality team of investment managers, giving us confidence as we move into the future.

Sincerely,

/s/ William R. Parmentier, Jr.  
William R. Parmentier, Jr.  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Liberty All-Star Equity Fund

2

### INVESTMENT MANAGERS/PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS

THE FUND'S ASSETS ARE EQUALLY DISTRIBUTED AMONG  
THREE VALUE MANAGERS AND TWO GROWTH MANAGERS:

[CHART]

MASTRAPASQUA ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC.	GROWTH/Companies whose valuations do not reflect the potential for accelerated earnings and cash flow growth.
TCW INVESTMENT	GROWTH/Companies that have superior sales growth,

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

MANAGEMENT COMPANY	leading and/or rising market shares, and high and/or rising profit margins.
MATRIX ASSET ADVISORS, INC.	VALUE/Companies that are financially strong and trade below their enterprise value.
PZENA INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT, LLC	VALUE/Companies with low price-to-normalized earnings ratios that have the ability to generate earnings recovery.
SCHNEIDER CAPITAL MANAGEMENT	VALUE/Companies that are overlooked and undervalued where the firm expects a rebound in earnings.

MANAGERS' DIFFERING INVESTMENT STYLES ARE REFLECTED IN PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS:

The portfolio characteristics table below is a regular feature of the Fund's shareholder reports. It serves as a useful tool for understanding the value of a multi-managed portfolio. The characteristics are different for each of the Fund's five investment managers. These differences are a reflection of the fact that each pursues a different investment style. The shaded column highlights the characteristics of the Fund as a whole, while the final column shows portfolio characteristics for the S&P 500 Stock Index.

### INVESTMENT STYLE SPECTRUM

PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS  
AS OF JUNE 30, 2004  
(UNAUDITED)

VALUE                      GROWTH  
[GRAPHIC]

	SCHNEIDER	PZENA	MATRIX	MASTRA- PASQUA	TCW	TOTAL FUND
Number of Holdings	60	35	36	40	26	168*
Percent of Holdings in Top 10	36%	42%	37%	34%	58%	17%
Weighted Average Market Capitalization (billions)	\$ 17	\$ 43	\$ 81	\$ 35	\$ 55	\$ 45
Average Five-Year Earnings Per Share Growth	1%	11%	5%	8%	26%	11%
Dividend Yield	1.1%	2.0%	1.6%	0.4%	0.3%	1.1%
Price/Earnings Ratio	19x	13x	18x	28x	29x	19x
Price/Book Value Ratio	2.4x	2.6x	3.3x	4.6x	6.7x	3.9x

\*Certain holdings are held by more than one manager.

3

INVESTMENT GROWTH AS OF JUNE, 2004

GROWTH OF A \$10,000 INVESTMENT

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

The graph below illustrates the growth of a \$10,000 investment assuming the purchase of shares of beneficial interest at the closing market price (NYSE: USA) of \$6.00 on December 31, 1987, and tracking its progress through June 30, 2004. This covers the period since the Fund commenced its 10 percent distribution policy in 1988.

[CHART]

	BOTTOM PLOT POINTS -----	TOP PLOT POINTS -----
31-Dec-87	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
31-Jan-88	\$11,666.67	\$0.00
29-Feb-88	\$11,666.67	\$0.00
31-Mar-88	\$11,316.67	-\$1.32
30-Apr-88	\$10,900.00	-\$3.74
31-May-88	\$10,900.00	-\$3.74
30-Jun-88	\$12,066.67	\$1.61
31-Jul-88	\$11,858.34	-\$5.56
31-Aug-88	\$11,441.67	-\$19.91
30-Sep-88	\$12,400.00	\$7.17
31-Oct-88	\$12,191.67	-\$6.05
30-Nov-88	\$12,608.34	\$20.40
31-Dec-88	\$13,150.00	\$50.20
31-Jan-89	\$13,358.34	\$69.45
28-Feb-89	\$12,733.34	\$11.68
31-Mar-89	\$13,308.34	\$48.90
30-Apr-89	\$13,933.34	\$126.92
31-May-89	\$14,350.00	\$178.93
30-Jun-89	\$14,541.67	\$190.51
31-Jul-89	\$14,958.34	\$256.86
31-Aug-89	\$15,583.34	\$356.39
30-Sep-89	\$15,791.67	\$379.16
31-Oct-89	\$15,375.00	\$298.26
30-Nov-89	\$15,791.67	\$379.16
31-Dec-89	\$16,400.00	\$492.68
31-Jan-90	\$15,775.00	\$349.82
28-Feb-90	\$15,983.34	\$397.43
31-Mar-90	\$16,141.67	\$426.64
30-Apr-90	\$15,933.34	\$371.99
31-May-90	\$16,975.00	\$645.27
30-Jun-90	\$17,183.34	\$684.99
31-Jul-90	\$17,183.34	\$684.99
31-Aug-90	\$15,725.00	\$248.19
30-Sep-90	\$15,466.67	\$151.74
31-Oct-90	\$15,883.34	\$292.87
30-Nov-90	\$16,300.00	\$434.01
31-Dec-90	\$17,066.67	\$686.26
31-Jan-91	\$17,483.34	\$842.27
28-Feb-91	\$19,150.00	\$1,466.30
31-Mar-91	\$19,983.34	\$1,777.03
30-Apr-91	\$20,191.67	\$1,862.77
31-May-91	\$21,233.34	\$2,291.40
30-Jun-91	\$20,608.34	\$2,024.65
31-Jul-91	\$20,608.34	\$2,024.65
31-Aug-91	\$21,041.67	\$2,190.00
30-Sep-91	\$22,083.34	\$2,697.12

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

31-Oct-91	\$21,875.00	\$2,595.70
30-Nov-91	\$21,891.67	\$2,564.52
31-Dec-91	\$23,766.67	\$3,548.04
31-Jan-92	\$23,766.67	\$3,548.04
29-Feb-92	\$24,633.34	\$4,037.35
31-Mar-92	\$23,800.00	\$3,567.46
30-Apr-92	\$23,800.00	\$3,699.54
31-May-92	\$24,216.67	\$3,937.63
30-Jun-92	\$24,041.67	\$3,829.68
31-Jul-92	\$25,083.34	\$4,467.01
31-Aug-92	\$24,891.67	\$4,366.57
30-Sep-92	\$24,266.67	\$3,958.93
31-Oct-92	\$24,683.34	\$4,230.69
30-Nov-92	\$25,966.67	\$5,080.08
31-Dec-92	\$26,175.01	\$5,224.57
31-Jan-93	\$25,966.67	\$5,080.09
28-Feb-93	\$26,175.01	\$5,224.58
31-Mar-93	\$26,216.67	\$5,273.59
30-Apr-93	\$26,000.01	\$5,113.98
31-May-93	\$26,850.01	\$5,779.70
30-Jun-93	\$26,641.67	\$5,617.23
31-Jul-93	\$26,850.01	\$5,779.68
31-Aug-93	\$27,508.34	\$6,317.91
30-Sep-93	\$27,300.01	\$6,146.17
31-Oct-93	\$27,508.34	\$6,441.37
30-Nov-93	\$27,750.01	\$6,675.71
31-Dec-93	\$28,258.34	\$7,121.90
31-Jan-94	\$28,258.34	\$7,121.90
28-Feb-94	\$28,066.67	\$6,976.50
31-Mar-94	\$26,816.67	\$5,781.64
30-Apr-94	\$27,650.01	\$6,578.22
31-May-94	\$28,066.67	\$7,019.42
30-Jun-94	\$27,233.34	\$6,181.99
31-Jul-94	\$27,441.67	\$6,391.35
31-Aug-94	\$27,441.67	\$6,406.67
30-Sep-94	\$27,233.34	\$6,374.45
31-Oct-94	\$26,608.34	\$5,706.82
30-Nov-94	\$25,966.67	\$5,045.74
31-Dec-94	\$25,550.01	\$4,576.35
31-Jan-95	\$25,966.67	\$5,045.76
28-Feb-95	\$26,991.67	\$6,158.91
31-Mar-95	\$27,825.01	\$7,142.06
30-Apr-95	\$28,033.34	\$7,387.85
31-May-95	\$28,033.34	\$7,333.37
30-Jun-95	\$28,866.67	\$8,361.45
31-Jul-95	\$29,075.01	\$8,618.47
31-Aug-95	\$29,733.34	\$9,418.54
30-Sep-95	\$29,941.67	\$9,687.66
31-Oct-95	\$29,941.67	\$9,687.66
30-Nov-95	\$30,825.01	\$10,804.18
31-Dec-95	\$31,241.67	\$11,367.01
31-Jan-96	\$31,450.01	\$11,648.42
29-Feb-96	\$31,658.34	\$11,929.86
31-Mar-96	\$32,558.34	\$13,139.74
30-Apr-96	\$32,141.67	\$12,552.06
31-May-96	\$32,225.01	\$12,683.61
30-Jun-96	\$32,016.67	\$12,375.77
31-Jul-96	\$30,766.67	\$10,528.64
31-Aug-96	\$32,483.34	\$13,039.13
30-Sep-96	\$32,900.01	\$13,681.13
31-Oct-96	\$33,108.34	\$14,002.14
30-Nov-96	\$33,833.34	\$15,119.21

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

31-Dec-96	\$34,050.01	\$15,468.24
31-Jan-97	\$34,675.01	\$16,493.83
28-Feb-97	\$35,091.67	\$17,177.55
31-Mar-97	\$35,416.67	\$17,680.44
30-Apr-97	\$35,625.01	\$18,036.96
31-May-97	\$37,200.01	\$20,690.20
30-Jun-97	\$37,929.17	\$21,987.19
31-Jul-97	\$38,970.84	\$23,840.02
31-Aug-97	\$39,137.51	\$24,077.79
30-Sep-97	\$40,491.67	\$26,581.84
31-Oct-97	\$38,616.67	\$23,114.71
30-Nov-97	\$39,704.17	\$25,133.28
31-Dec-97	\$40,304.17	\$26,286.62
31-Jan-98	\$40,408.34	\$26,495.09
28-Feb-98	\$41,658.34	\$28,996.70
31-Mar-98	\$42,450.01	\$30,568.38
30-Apr-98	\$41,825.01	\$29,271.83
31-May-98	\$41,191.67	\$28,496.95
30-Jun-98	\$42,129.18	\$30,546.09
31-Jul-98	\$41,816.68	\$29,863.01
31-Aug-98	\$37,383.34	\$19,989.37
30-Sep-98	\$39,258.34	\$24,261.45
31-Oct-98	\$39,779.17	\$25,448.16
30-Nov-98	\$41,700.01	\$29,861.81
31-Dec-98	\$42,012.51	\$30,601.70
31-Jan-99	\$41,908.34	\$30,355.07
28-Feb-99	\$41,595.84	\$29,615.19
31-Mar-99	\$42,370.84	\$31,418.74
30-Apr-99	\$42,891.68	\$32,697.64
31-May-99	\$43,300.01	\$33,660.12
30-Jun-99	\$44,550.01	\$36,850.10
31-Jul-99	\$44,133.34	\$35,786.75
31-Aug-99	\$42,720.84	\$32,192.34
30-Sep-99	\$41,783.34	\$29,707.43
31-Oct-99	\$42,408.34	\$31,364.06
30-Nov-99	\$41,725.01	\$29,635.55
31-Dec-99	\$41,204.17	\$28,195.89
31-Jan-00	\$40,891.67	\$27,332.13
29-Feb-00	\$40,683.34	\$26,756.30
31-Mar-00	\$41,962.51	\$30,286.59
30-Apr-00	\$41,962.51	\$30,286.59
31-May-00	\$42,666.68	\$32,068.95
30-Jun-00	\$44,437.51	\$37,356.45
31-Jul-00	\$44,854.18	\$38,600.61
31-Aug-00	\$46,200.01	\$42,645.12
30-Sep-00	\$46,408.34	\$43,291.03
31-Oct-00	\$46,095.84	\$42,322.09
30-Nov-00	\$45,133.34	\$39,227.62
31-Dec-00	\$45,758.34	\$41,238.90
31-Jan-01	\$47,633.34	\$47,272.73
28-Feb-01	\$47,266.68	\$46,314.98
31-Mar-01	\$46,100.01	\$42,423.19
30-Apr-01	\$47,583.34	\$47,371.33
31-May-01	\$47,866.68	\$48,445.28
30-Jun-01	\$48,033.34	\$49,019.44
31-Jul-01	\$47,133.34	\$45,918.83
31-Aug-01	\$46,466.68	\$44,360.15
30-Sep-01	\$44,416.68	\$36,982.60
31-Oct-01	\$45,216.68	\$39,861.69
30-Nov-01	\$45,883.34	\$42,392.69
31-Dec-01	\$45,616.68	\$41,403.89
31-Jan-02	\$46,000.01	\$42,825.28



Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

28-Feb-02	\$45,883.34	\$42,382.35
31-Mar-02	\$45,883.34	\$42,382.35
30-Apr-02	\$44,200.01	\$35,961.30
31-May-02	\$44,266.68	\$37,182.75
30-Jun-02	\$42,250.01	\$29,132.59
31-Jul-02	\$40,550.01	\$22,346.56
31-Aug-02	\$41,183.34	\$24,972.59
30-Sep-02	\$39,266.67	\$17,059.87
31-Oct-02	\$40,000.01	\$20,087.35
30-Nov-02	\$41,083.34	\$24,656.19
31-Dec-02	\$39,666.67	\$18,612.41
31-Jan-03	\$40,150.01	\$20,674.42
28-Feb-03	\$39,966.67	\$19,834.56
31-Mar-03	\$40,100.01	\$20,420.64
30-Apr-03	\$41,116.67	\$24,889.50
31-May-03	\$42,333.34	\$30,209.75
30-Jun-03	\$42,950.01	\$32,999.28
31-Jul-03	\$43,733.34	\$36,542.77
31-Aug-03	\$43,616.68	\$35,997.72
30-Sep-03	\$43,583.34	\$35,842.61
31-Oct-03	\$45,283.34	\$43,752.83
30-Nov-03	\$45,633.34	\$45,513.88
31-Dec-03	\$45,666.68	\$45,673.69
31-Jan-04	\$46,266.68	\$48,549.64
29-Feb-04	\$47,033.34	\$52,393.52
31-Mar-04	\$47,100.01	\$52,722.97
30-Apr-04	\$47,183.34	\$53,134.75
31-May-04	\$45,783.34	\$46,252.79
30-Jun-04	\$46,016.68	\$47,440.13

The dark blue region of the graph above reflects the growth of the investment assuming all distributions were received in cash and not reinvested back in the Fund. The value of the investment under this scenario grew to \$46,017 (this value includes distributions per share totaling \$18.40 during the period, including tax credits of \$0.67 per share on retained capital gains).

The light blue region of the graph depicts additional value realized through reinvestment of all distributions and participation in all the rights offerings under the terms of each offering. On five occasions, the Fund has conducted rights offerings that allowed shareholders to purchase additional shares at a discount. The value of the investment under this scenario grew to \$93,457.

4

TABLE OF DISTRIBUTIONS AND RIGHTS OFFERINGS

YEAR	PER SHARE DISTRIBUTIONS	MONTH COMPLETED	RIGHTS OFFERINGS		
			SHARES NEEDED TO PURCHASE ONE ADDITIONAL SHARE	SUBSCRIPTION PRICE	TAX CREDITS*
1988	\$ 0.64				
1989	0.95				
1990	0.90				

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

1991	1.02				
1992	1.07	April	10	\$ 10.05	
1993	1.07	October	15	10.41	0.18
1994	1.00	September	15	9.14	
1995	1.04				
1996	1.18				0.13
1997	1.33				0.36
1998	1.40	April	20	12.83	
1999	1.39				
2000	1.42				
2001	1.20				
2002	0.88	May	10	8.99	
2003	0.78				
2004					
1st Quarter	0.24				
2nd Quarter	0.22				

\*The Fund's net investment income and net realized capital gains exceeded the amount to be distributed under the Fund's 10 percent distribution policy. In each case, the Fund elected to pay taxes on the undistributed income and passed through a proportionate tax credit to shareholders.

5

TOP 50 HOLDINGS

RANK AS OF 6/30/04	RANK AS OF 3/31/04	SECURITY NAME	MARKET VALUE (\$000)	PERCENT OF NET ASSETS
1	1	The Boeing Co.	\$ 26,642	2.3%
2	2	Genentech, Inc.	23,064	2.0
3	4	Intel Corp.	21,520	1.8
4	5	Morgan Stanley	21,221	1.8
5	16	Bank of America Corp.	20,419	1.7
6	3	The Progressive Corp.	19,799	1.7
7	18	Yahoo! Inc.	18,096	1.5
8	14	Amazon.com, Inc.	17,218	1.5
9	6	Citigroup, Inc.	15,997	1.4
10	8	Freddie Mac	15,168	1.3
11	25	eBay, Inc.	15,061	1.3
12	10	Baxter International, Inc.	14,762	1.3
13	7	Amgen, Inc.	14,630	1.2
14	12	Cisco Systems, Inc.	14,374	1.2
15	15	The Gap, Inc.	14,017	1.2

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

16	21	Tyco International Ltd.	13,803	1.2
17	30	Loews Corp.	13,606	1.2
18	9	Applied Materials, Inc.	13,564	1.2
19	20	CIT Group, Inc.	13,097	1.1
20	17	Novellus Systems, Inc.	12,711	1.1
21	24	General Electric Co.	12,237	1.0
22	22	American International Group, Inc.	12,128	1.0
23	29	Hewlett-Packard Co.	11,552	1.0
24	34	Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	11,498	1.0
25	26	Network Appliance, Inc.	11,219	1.0
26	23	Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.	11,120	0.9
27	28	Sara Lee Corp.	11,010	0.9
28	33	Maxim Integrated Products, Inc.	10,919	0.9
29	13	Liberty Media Corp., Class A	10,375	0.9
30	27	Aon Corp.	10,360	0.9
31	38	QUALCOMM, Inc.	10,115	0.9
32	95	MetLife, Inc.	10,104	0.9
33	35	Computer Associates International, Inc.	9,980	0.8
34	39	Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc.	9,874	0.8
35	40	The Walt Disney Co.	9,559	0.8
36	43	ConocoPhillips	9,180	0.8
37	59	Whirlpool Corp.	8,767	0.7
38	37	Symantec Corp.	8,756	0.7
39	44	BP p.l.c.	8,506	0.7
40	74	Reliant Energy, Inc.	8,381	0.7
41	50	Dell, Inc.	8,335	0.7
42	11	CIGNA Corp.	8,092	0.7
43	51	MedImmune, Inc.	7,839	0.7
44	19	J.C. Penney Co., Inc.	7,752	0.7
45	41	Pfizer, Inc.	7,713	0.7
46	48	XM Satellite Radio Holdings, Inc., Class A	7,646	0.7
47	42	Xilinx, Inc.	7,635	0.6
48	99	Union Pacific Corp.	7,586	0.6
49	68	CVS Corp.	7,538	0.6
50	93	Johnson Controls, Inc.	7,461	0.6

6

MAJOR STOCK CHANGES IN THE SECOND QUARTER

The following are the major (\$4.0 million or more) stock changes - both purchases and sales - that were made in the Fund's portfolio during the second quarter of 2004.

SECURITY NAME	PURCHASES (SALES)	SHARES AS OF 6/30/04
PURCHASES		
Adobe Systems, Inc.	135,000	135,000
HCA, Inc.	122,250	122,250
MetLife, Inc.	129,850	281,850
Morgan Stanley	84,000	402,150
SALES		
AT&T Wireless Services, Inc.	(442,700)	285,575
BellSouth Corp.	(334,425)	0
CIGNA Corp.	(128,225)	117,600
CONSOL Energy, Inc.	(189,375)	0

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

Expeditors International of Washington, Inc.	(116,000)	0
Kerr-McGee Corp.	(112,100)	0
Manpower, Inc.	(98,600)	0
Monsanto Co.	(123,175)	0
J.C. Penney Co., Inc.	(150,450)	205,300
PG&E Corp.	(165,650)	178,450

7

### MANAGER INTERVIEW

PHOTO OF ARNOLD C. SCHNEIDER, III  
ARNOLD C. SCHNEIDER, III  
President and Chief Investment Officer  
Schneider Capital Management Corporation

WHEN A STOCK IS OUT OF FAVOR, IT MIGHT FIND A FRIEND IN SCM--IF THERE'S REASON TO ANTICIPATE A REBOUND IN FUNDAMENTALS

SCHNEIDER CAPITAL MANAGEMENT (SCM) IS A VALUE STYLE MANAGER PRACTICING A DISCIPLINED FUNDAMENTAL APPROACH TO ADD VALUE OVER TIME. A RESEARCH-INTENSIVE MANAGER, SCM FOCUSES ON UNCOVERING NEW IDEAS IN THE BELIEF THAT THE BROADER MARKET IS SLOW TO REACT TO CHANGE, PARTICULARLY WHERE OUT-OF-FAVOR STOCKS ARE CONCERNED. OWNING THESE STOCKS BEFORE THEY EXPERIENCE A REBOUND IN EARNINGS AND COME TO THE ATTENTION OF OTHER INVESTORS CREATES THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PRICE APPRECIATION BEFORE FUNDAMENTALS WARRANT THE STOCK BE SOLD. RECENTLY, WE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK WITH ARNOLD C. SCHNEIDER, III, CFA, THE FIRM'S FOUNDER, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THIS INTERVIEW REPRESENT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGER'S POSITION AT THE TIME OF THE DISCUSSION (JULY 2004) AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

LAMCO: THE LAST TIME WE SPOKE IN DEPTH FOR A SHAREHOLDER REPORT WAS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2002, AND THAT WAS ALSO YOUR FIRST INTERVIEW FOR LIBERTY ALL-STAR EQUITY FUND. AS A REFRESHER AND FOR THE BENEFIT OF NEW FUND SHAREHOLDERS, TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT SCM.

SCHNEIDER: We started Schneider Capital Management in 1996. We're located in Wayne, Pennsylvania, and the firm is 100 percent employee owned. We have about \$3 billion in total assets under management. Our clients are mostly institutions, including corporations, endowments, foundations and public retirement systems.

As to our investment philosophy, it's one of deep value. We focus on companies that are out-of-favor in the marketplace but that, in our assessment, have the ability to repair their current performance and return to former levels of earnings. We generally expect to see improvement in these companies' fundamentals around a year after their purchase. SCM has a solid research foundation focused on new idea generation, and we believe in managing relatively concentrated portfolios that are focused on the best ideas our research process can produce.

LAMCO: You describe Schneider Capital Management as "research intensive." Given that many, if not most, managers use or rely on research, what is unique or differentiating about SCM's research?

SCHNEIDER: For one thing, we try to

[SIDENOTE]

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

"WE FOCUS ON COMPANIES THAT ARE OUT-OF-FAVOR IN THE MARKETPLACE BUT THAT...HAVE THE ABILITY TO REPAIR THEIR CURRENT PERFORMANCE AND RETURN TO FORMER LEVELS OF EARNINGS."

8

focus on the future. Spending time on the past or present simply isn't productive because all of that is already fully discounted in the marketplace. We also try to be relatively efficient by focusing only on those elements of a company's business that will ultimately drive its profitability. Finally, ours is very much a hands-on process. We're quite independent, we have our own point of view and we don't rely on quantitative research or computer screens.

LAMCO: YOUR "SCM VALUE CYCLE" ILLUSTRATES YOUR PHILOSOPHY QUITE WELL. WOULD YOU DESCRIBE IT FOR US?

SCHNEIDER: There are five phases to the SCM value cycle--reject, consider, buy, hold and sell.

Taking them in order, the "reject" stage is what's sometimes called the "value trap" stage. That's when a company's stock appears to be cheap but really isn't, either because earnings are unsustainably high or because the industry is about to undergo secular change that's going to cause returns to permanently decline. The "consider" stage is the reject stage after some of the negative elements have been disseminated in the marketplace. At this point, the stock is even cheaper. The negative cards have been turned over and it's now obvious that company fundamentals are deteriorating and the stock is now out of favor and completely friendless. No one is recommending it. We wouldn't buy in the consider stage, however, until we feel that there's a bottom and the fundamentals are no longer declining. That's the point when we move into the "buy" stage--when the stock is undervalued but the fundamentals have at least stopped deteriorating. We aren't necessarily looking for an immediate first leg up. But, we do expect the fundamentals to begin to improve over the ensuing year. The "hold" stage phases in as the fundamentals are starting to turn up. The stock price may be higher, but mostly fundamentals are getting better. Typically, however, the kinds of companies that we own still have a long way to go at this stage, so we let our winners run and we hold our stocks in this category. Ultimately, we move into the "sell" stage either because the stock hits our price target or because the positive fundamentals have now run their course and aren't going to get any better.

LAMCO: IS THERE SUCH A THING AS A TYPICAL HOLDING PERIOD?

SCHNEIDER: We really don't have a typical holding period. If we miss on a stock and it turns out to be a loser, we will hold it for a very short period of time. On the other hand, we will hold some of our winners for five years or longer. If pressed, I would say that our successful investments most often fall into the three- to four-year timeframe.

LAMCO: INVESTORS READ AND HEAR A LOT ABOUT MACRO FACTORS THESE DAYS. THEY INCLUDE INFLATION, HIGHER INTEREST RATES, HIGH OIL PRICES, PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS AND GEOPOLITICAL TENSIONS. TO WHAT EXTENT DO YOU FACTOR TOP-DOWN CONCERNS INTO YOUR THINKING, OR ARE YOU STRICTLY BOTTOM-UP?

SCHNEIDER: We do use macro factors to provide a framework for our decision-making, but macro factors don't play a

[SIDENOTE]

"...WE BELIEVE IN MANAGING RELATIVELY CONCENTRATED PORTFOLIOS THAT ARE FOCUSED ON THE BEST IDEAS OUR RESEARCH PROCESS CAN PRODUCE."

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

9

significant role in our stock selection process. We're primarily a bottom-up stock picker. We mostly use macro factors to keep us away from certain areas as opposed to guiding us towards areas for investment.

LAMCO: EARLIER, YOU MENTIONED YOUR BELIEF IN CONCENTRATED PORTFOLIOS WHERE YOU CAN LET YOUR BEST IDEAS IMPACT OVERALL PERFORMANCE. CAN YOU DESCRIBE A TYPICAL SCHNEIDER PORTFOLIO?

SCHNEIDER: We usually have 50 to 60 stocks, with the top 10 holdings representing one-third of the market value of the portfolio. We have industry and sector weightings that are often meaningfully different from a large cap value benchmark, such as the Russell 1000 Value Index. We're not trying to replicate benchmarks because we don't closet index. We let bottom-up decisions lead us to our weightings.

LAMCO: YOU PRACTICE A RIGOROUS SELL DISCIPLINE. CAN YOU SUMMARIZE IT FOR US?

SCHNEIDER: I already mentioned two of the ways we sell: when a stock reaches its target price or when the fundamentals begin to deteriorate. A third way would be if a new idea has better investment potential versus an older idea that may not necessarily have reached its target but has lower potential than the new one. So, we would trim the existing holding to make room for the new one. The other scenario is just a matter of portfolio construction--if there's a certain industry exposure that becomes too great or if a single position just becomes too large. We don't want any single holding to exceed 5 percent of the portfolio at cost or 8 percent of the portfolio at market value.

LAMCO: CATCH US UP ON HOW, IN GENERAL, VALUE PERFORMED THROUGH 2003 AND THE FIRST HALF OF 2004.

SCHNEIDER: Two thousand three was a pretty broad-based rally, so growth and value did fairly similarly. This year, the value indices have resumed their outperformance of the earlier years of the decade, mostly because tech stocks have lagged and they are more widely represented in the growth indices.

LAMCO: AND HOW IS THAT INFLUENCED BY CAPITALIZATION IN TERMS OF LARGE CAP, MID-CAP AND SMALL CAP? IS THAT PRETTY MUCH TRUE ACROSS THE BOARD?

SCHNEIDER: Yes, it has just been an unbelievable five- to six-year period... very consistent beginning in late 1998. Small caps have beat mid-caps, which have beat large caps. We have been favorably disposed towards small cap stocks, but their terrific outperformance over mid-caps and the mid-caps' outperformance over large caps has narrowed the valuation gap. So, at least from a valuation standpoint, the gap has been closed, although the market can sometimes carry that beyond where it should go.

LAMCO: PERHAPS WE COULD CLOSE BY ASKING YOU TO DESCRIBE A COUPLE OF STOCKS THAT ARE IN THE PORTION OF THE LIBERTY ALL-STAR EQUITY FUND PORTFOLIO THAT YOU MANAGE AND WHY THEY EXEMPLIFY THE SCM APPROACH TO INVESTING.

[SIDENOTE]

"...WE TRY TO FOCUS ON THE FUTURE. SPENDING TIME ON THE PAST OR PRESENT SIMPLY ISN'T PRODUCTIVE BECAUSE ALL OF THAT IS ALREADY FULLY DISCOUNTED IN THE MARKETPLACE."

10

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

SCHNEIDER: J. C. Penney has been one of our best stocks since we've been managing for Liberty All-Star Equity Fund. It is a company that has been totally transformed over the last two and one-half years under the leadership of Chairman and CEO Allen Questrom. He has replaced virtually the entire executive management of the company. It was a company that had become moribund and lost its way--there was no vision or leadership. Questrom has brought in a plan and a strategy and now the company has become a real leader, gaining market share versus its competitors every year. Margins are in the process of moving from 2 percent in the department store division to the 6 to 7 percent range. It's just a tremendous turnaround. The stock has more than doubled in a period where the market has been relatively flat. This is a classic broken stock, not necessarily a broken company. It has been completely revitalized under new leadership and is now considered to be a very well run company. Now the stock is in favor, with a couple of people recommending it when no one recommended it three years ago. So, J.C. Penney is a stock that represents our style well.

LAMCO: WHERE DID QUESTROM COME FROM?

SCHNEIDER: He has a background with Federated Department Stores and Barney's, so he has been in the retail business his whole career, and has a very strong track record. Once again, he is achieving great results.

LAMCO: CAN YOU DESCRIBE ANOTHER STOCK?

SCHNEIDER: A second one would be Tyco International. Obviously, this is a company that has been under a lot of press scrutiny, given the issues surrounding former CEO Dennis Kozlowski, and it could be considered a controversial stock. But, the fact is that it is a company with leadership positions in most of its businesses and it generates strong free cash flow. The old management was forced out under the scandal and Edward Breen came in from Motorola to be chairman and CEO. He has a good reputation for operations, and that's what the company needed because a lot of its divisions had lost their way. And, even though the company had leadership positions in their industries, many divisions were underperforming. Breen has instituted six sigma quality programs and other initiatives to improve operations. Earnings were in the \$1.25 range when we bought the stock and we believe that they should improve to over \$2 a share in the next couple of years. The stock has not jumped as much as J. C. Penney but it has gone from the high teens to over \$30 a share today. So, it has been a good performer and, just like J. C. Penney, we think it has more upside potential.

LAMCO: THANK YOU FOR ANOTHER INTERESTING INTERVIEW.

[SIDENOTE]

"...WE WILL HOLD SOME OF OUR WINNERS FOR FIVE YEARS OR LONGER. IF PRESSED, I WOULD SAY THAT OUR SUCCESSFUL INVESTMENTS MOST OFTEN FALL INTO THE THREE- TO FOUR-YEAR TIMEFRAME."

"WE'RE PRIMARILY A BOTTOM-UP STOCK PICKER. WE MOSTLY USE MACRO FACTORS TO KEEP US AWAY FROM CERTAIN AREAS AS OPPOSED TO GUIDING US TOWARDS AREAS FOR INVESTMENT."

11

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS AS OF JUNE 30, 2004 (UNAUDITED)

COMMON STOCKS (98.5%)

SHARES

MARKET VALUE

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

### CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY (16.0%)

#### AUTO COMPONENTS (1.0%)

Johnson Controls, Inc.	139,775	\$	7,461,190
Visteon Corp.	402,975		4,702,718
			12,163,908

#### AUTOMOBILES (0.4%)

Harley-Davidson, Inc.	72,900		4,515,426
-----------------------	--------	--	-----------

#### HOTELS, RESTAURANTS & LEISURE (2.7%)

Carnival Corp.	147,850		6,948,950
International Game Technology	75,000		2,895,000
MGM Mirage (a)	50,000		2,347,000
Starbucks Corp. (a)	164,360		7,146,373
Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc.	220,150		9,873,727
Wendy's International, Inc.	65,000		2,264,600
			31,475,650

#### HOUSEHOLD DURABLES (1.1%)

Newell Rubbermaid, Inc.	175,150		4,116,025
Whirlpool Corp.	127,800		8,767,080
			12,883,105

#### INTERNET & CATALOG RETAIL (2.7%)

Amazon.com, Inc. (a)	316,500		17,217,600
eBay, Inc. (a)	163,800		15,061,410
			32,279,010

#### LEISURE EQUIPMENT & PRODUCTS (0.4%)

Brunswick Corp.	74,850		3,053,880
Mattel, Inc.	99,400		1,814,050
			4,867,930

#### MEDIA (3.6%)

Comcast Corp., Class A (a)	79,000		2,181,190
Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc. (a)	203,000		2,787,190
Liberty Media Corp., Class A (a)	1,154,092		10,375,287
Liberty Media International, Inc., Class A (a)	74,660		2,769,886
Pixar, Inc. (a)	98,000		6,811,980
The Walt Disney Co.	375,000		9,558,750
XM Satellite Radio Holdings, Inc., Class A (a)	280,180		7,646,112
			42,130,395

See Notes to Schedule of Investments.



Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

COMMON STOCKS (CONTINUED)	SHARES	MARKET VALUE
MULTI-LINE RETAIL (1.3%)		
J.C. Penney Co., Inc.	205,300	\$ 7,752,128
Kohl's Corp. (a)	61,600	2,604,448
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.	90,500	4,774,780
		-----
		15,131,356
		-----
SPECIALTY RETAIL (2.8%)		
Circuit City Stores, Inc.	88,600	1,147,370
The Gap, Inc.	578,000	14,016,500
The Home Depot, Inc.	143,000	5,033,600
Office Depot, Inc. (a)	238,400	4,269,744
RadioShack Corp.	187,700	5,373,851
TJX Companies, Inc.	130,000	3,138,200
		-----
		32,979,265
		-----
CONSUMER STAPLES (3.9%)		
FOOD & STAPLES RETAILING (1.0%)		
CVS Corp.	179,400	7,538,388
Walgreen Co.	123,200	4,461,072
		-----
		11,999,460
		-----
FOOD PRODUCTS (2.6%)		
Archer-Daniels-Midland Co.	145,450	2,440,651
General Mills, Inc.	128,700	6,117,111
Sara Lee Corp.	478,900	11,009,911
Smithfield Foods, Inc. (a)	140,525	4,131,435
Tate & Lyle PLC (b)	280,450	6,713,468
		-----
		30,412,576
		-----
TOBACCO (0.3%)		
Altria Group, Inc.	68,950	3,450,947
		-----
ENERGY (3.0%)		
ENERGY EQUIPMENT & SERVICES (1.1%)		
Halliburton Co.	140,000	4,236,400
Schlumberger Ltd.	60,000	3,810,600
Tidewater, Inc.	176,000	5,244,800
		-----
		13,291,800
		-----

See Notes to Schedule of Investments.

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

COMMON STOCKS (CONTINUED)	SHARES	MARKET VALUE
OIL & GAS (1.9%)		
BP p.l.c. (b)	158,775	\$ 8,505,577
ConocoPhillips	120,325	9,179,594
Premcor, Inc. (a)	130,475	4,892,813
		-----
		22,577,984
		-----
FINANCIALS (21.4%)		
CAPITAL MARKETS (3.7%)		
The Charles Schwab Corp.	683,620	6,569,588
Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.	45,000	4,237,200
Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.	206,000	11,119,880
Morgan Stanley	402,150	21,221,456
		-----
		43,148,124
		-----
COMMERCIAL BANKS (2.7%)		
Bank of America Corp. (c)	241,305	20,419,229
Bank of New York Co., Inc.	212,000	6,249,760
Comerica, Inc.	86,750	4,760,840
		-----
		31,429,829
		-----
DIVERSIFIED FINANCIAL SERVICES (2.9%)		
CIT Group, Inc.	342,050	13,097,095
Citigroup, Inc.	344,025	15,997,163
J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.	144,100	5,586,757
		-----
		34,681,015
		-----
INSURANCE (8.8%)		
AFLAC, Inc.	173,700	7,088,697
Allstate Corp.	141,525	6,587,989
American International Group, Inc.	170,150	12,128,292
Aon Corp.	363,900	10,360,233
Genworth Financial, Inc., Class A (a)	182,900	4,197,555
Loews Corp.	226,925	13,606,423
Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.	92,000	4,174,960
MBIA, Inc.	83,225	4,753,812
MetLife, Inc.	281,850	10,104,322
The Progressive Corp.	232,105	19,798,556
Torchmark Corp.	97,575	5,249,535
XL Capital Ltd., Class A	77,100	5,817,966
		-----
		103,868,340
		-----

See Notes to Schedule of Investments.

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

COMMON STOCKS (CONTINUED)	SHARES	MARKET VALUE
REAL ESTATE (0.9%)		
CB Richard Ellis Group, Inc., Class A (a)	170,325	\$ 3,253,208
Crescent Real Estate Equities Co.	236,125	3,806,335
The St. Joe Co.	101,475	4,028,557
		-----
		11,088,100
		-----
THRIFTS & MORTGAGE FINANCE (2.4%)		
Fannie Mae	97,700	6,971,872
Freddie Mac	239,625	15,168,262
The PMI Group, Inc.	79,150	3,444,608
Radian Group, Inc.	51,525	2,468,048
		-----
		28,052,790
		-----
HEALTH CARE (15.3%)		
BIOTECHNOLOGY (6.5%)		
Affymetrix, Inc. (a)	177,000	5,793,210
Amgen, Inc. (a)	268,100	14,630,217
Biogen Idec, Inc. (a)	112,000	7,084,000
Cephalon, Inc. (a)	100,000	5,400,000
Genentech, Inc. (a)	410,400	23,064,480
Genzyme Corp. (a)	138,000	6,531,540
Invitrogen Corp. (a)	87,000	6,263,130
MedImmune, Inc. (a)	335,000	7,839,000
		-----
		76,605,577
		-----
HEALTH CARE EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES (2.8%)		
Alcon, Inc.	74,000	5,820,100
Baxter International, Inc.	427,750	14,761,653
Fisher Scientific International, Inc. (a)	120,000	6,930,000
Guidant Corp.	99,000	5,532,120
		-----
		33,043,873
		-----
HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS & SERVICES (2.2%)		
Aetna, Inc.	24,750	2,103,750
AmerisourceBergen Corp.	43,550	2,603,419
CIGNA Corp.	117,600	8,092,056
HCA, Inc.	122,250	5,084,377
McKesson Corp.	71,300	2,447,729
Tenet Healthcare Corp. (a)	389,300	5,220,513
		-----
		25,551,844
		-----

See Notes to Schedule of Investments.

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

COMMON STOCKS (CONTINUED)	SHARES	MARKET VALUE
PHARMACEUTICALS (3.8%)		
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	469,300	\$ 11,497,850
Eli Lilly and Co.	104,800	7,326,568
Merck & Co., Inc.	149,000	7,077,500
Pfizer, Inc.	225,000	7,713,000
Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. (b)	55,000	3,700,950
Wyeth	190,000	6,870,400
		-----
		44,186,268
		-----
INDUSTRIALS (9.7%)		
AEROSPACE & DEFENSE (2.5%)		
The Boeing Co.	521,475	26,642,158
Bombardier, Inc., Class B	942,450	2,830,730
		-----
		29,472,888
		-----
AIR FREIGHT & LOGISTICS (1.0%)		
FedEx Corp.	71,000	5,799,990
Ryder System, Inc.	136,000	5,449,520
		-----
		11,249,510
		-----
AIRLINES (0.2%)		
Southwest Airlines Co.	175,000	2,934,750
		-----
COMMERCIAL SERVICES & SUPPLIES (1.0%)		
Apollo Group, Inc., Class A (a)	58,400	5,156,136
Cendant Corp.	275,825	6,752,196
		-----
		11,908,332
		-----
ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT (0.6%)		
American Power Conversion Corp.	355,000	6,975,750
		-----
INDUSTRIAL CONGLOMERATES (2.2%)		
General Electric Co.	377,700	12,237,480
Tyco International Ltd.	416,500	13,802,810
		-----
		26,040,290
		-----
MACHINERY (0.6%)		
Navistar International Corp. (a)	170,900	6,624,084
		-----
ROAD & RAIL (1.6%)		
CSX Corp.	186,150	6,100,136
Swift Transportation Co., Inc. (a)	92,550	1,661,273

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

See Notes to Schedule of Investments.

16

COMMON STOCKS (CONTINUED)	SHARES	MARKET VALUE
ROAD & RAIL (CONTINUED)		
Union Pacific Corp.	127,600	\$ 7,585,820
Werner Enterprises, Inc.	168,450	3,554,295
		-----
		18,901,524
		-----
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (23.3%)		
COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT (2.9%)		
Adaptec, Inc. (a)	475,000	4,018,500
Cisco Systems, Inc. (a)	606,500	14,374,050
Nokia Oyj (b)	370,000	5,379,800
QUALCOMM, Inc.	138,600	10,115,028
		-----
		33,887,378
		-----
COMPUTERS & PERIPHERALS (3.5%)		
Dell, Inc. (a)	232,700	8,335,314
EMC Corp. (a)	547,500	6,241,500
Hewlett-Packard Co.	547,475	11,551,722
Network Appliance, Inc. (a)	521,100	11,219,283
Sun Microsystems, Inc. (a)	931,200	4,041,408
		-----
		41,389,227
		-----
ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT & INSTRUMENTS (3.6%)		
Agilent Technologies, Inc. (a)	219,050	6,413,784
Avnet, Inc. (a)	296,275	6,725,442
Celestica, Inc. (a)	53,700	1,071,315
Jabil Circuit, Inc. (a)	206,000	5,187,080
Sanmina-SCI Corp. (a)	717,275	6,527,202
Symbol Technologies, Inc.	505,000	7,443,700
Vishay Intertechnology, Inc. (a)	185,000	3,437,300
Waters Corp. (a)	121,000	5,781,380
		-----
		42,587,203
		-----
INTERNET SOFTWARE & SERVICES (1.5%)		
Yahoo! Inc. (a)	498,100	18,095,973
		-----
IT SERVICES (0.6%)		
BearingPoint, Inc. (a)	329,830	2,925,592
Electronic Data Systems Corp.	169,575	3,247,361
Ingram Micro, Inc., Class A (a)	38,300	554,201
		-----
		6,727,154

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

See Notes to Schedule of Investments.

17

COMMON STOCKS (CONTINUED)	SHARES	MARKET VALUE
SEMICONDUCTORS & SEMICONDUCTOR EQUIPMENT (7.3%)		
Analog Devices, Inc.	155,000	\$ 7,297,400
Applied Materials, Inc. (a)	691,320	13,563,698
Intel Corp.	779,700	21,519,720
Maxim Integrated Products, Inc.	208,300	10,919,086
Micron Technology, Inc. (a)	184,300	2,821,633
Novellus Systems, Inc. (a)	404,300	12,711,192
ON Semiconductor Corp. (a)	213,150	1,070,013
Teradyne, Inc. (a)	90,350	2,050,945
Texas Instruments, Inc.	240,000	5,803,200
Xilinx, Inc. (a)	229,200	7,634,652
		-----
		85,391,539
		-----
SOFTWARE (3.9%)		
Adobe Systems, Inc.	135,000	6,277,500
Computer Associates International, Inc.	355,675	9,980,241
Microsoft Corp.	254,800	7,277,088
Oracle Corp. (a)	550,000	6,561,500
Symantec Corp. (a)	200,000	8,756,000
VERITAS Software Corp. (a)	264,000	7,312,800
		-----
		46,165,129
		-----
MATERIALS (2.6%)		
CHEMICALS (1.0%)		
Bayer AG (b)	42,950	1,254,140
The Dow Chemical Co.	69,175	2,815,423
IMC Global, Inc.	551,425	7,389,095
		-----
		11,458,658
		-----
METALS & MINING (0.7%)		
Alcan, Inc.	113,675	4,706,145
Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc., Class B	91,686	3,039,391
		-----
		7,745,536
		-----
PAPER & FOREST PRODUCTS (0.9%)		
Abitibi Consolidated, Inc.	637,775	4,387,892
Domtar, Inc.	251,575	3,255,380
International Paper Co.	67,440	3,014,568
		-----
		10,657,840
		-----

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

See Notes to Schedule of Investments.

18

COMMON STOCKS (CONTINUED)	SHARES	MARKET VALUE
TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES (0.8%)		
WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES (0.8%)		
AT&T Wireless Services, Inc. (a)	285,575	\$ 4,089,434
Nextel Communications, Inc., Class A (a)	80,875	2,156,127
Telephone and Data Systems, Inc.	46,275	3,294,780
		-----
		9,540,341
		-----
UTILITIES (2.5%)		
ELECTRIC UTILITIES (1.2%)		
FirstEnergy Corp.	47,825	1,789,133
PG&E Corp. (a)	178,450	4,985,893
Wisconsin Energy Corp.	221,475	7,222,300
		-----
		13,997,326
		-----
MULTI-UTILITIES & UNREGULATED POWER (1.3%)		
NRG Energy, Inc. (a)	191,800	4,756,640
Reliant Resources, Inc. (a)	773,850	8,380,796
Scana Corp.	67,725	2,463,158
		-----
		15,600,594
		-----
TOTAL COMMON STOCKS (COST OF \$1,057,548,182)		1,159,165,598
		-----

CONVERTIBLE BONDS (0.1%)	INTEREST RATE	MATURITY DATE	PAR VALUE
INDUSTRIALS (0.1%)			
AIRLINES (0.1%)			
Delta Air Lines, Inc. (Cost of \$1,331,306)	8.00%	06/03/23	\$ 1,808,000
			1,021,466
			-----

See Notes to Schedule of Investments.

19

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

	PAR VALUE	MARKET VA
SHORT-TERM INVESTMENT (1.6%)		
REPURCHASE AGREEMENT (1.6%) Repurchase agreement with State Street Bank & Trust Co., dated 06/30/04, due 07/01/04 at 1.17%, collateralized by U.S. Treasury Bonds & Notes with various maturities to 02/15/27, market value \$19,264,367 (Repurchase proceeds \$18,865,613) (Cost of \$18,865,000)	\$ 18,865,000	\$ 18,86
TOTAL INVESTMENTS (100.2%) (COST OF \$1,077,744,488) (d)		1,179,05
OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, NET (-0.2%)		(2,89
NET ASSETS (100.0%)		\$ 1,176,15
NET ASSET VALUE PER SHARE (128,306,800 SHARES OUTSTANDING)		\$

NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS:

- (a) Non-income producing security.
- (b) Represents an American Depositary Receipt.
- (c) Investments in affiliates during the six months ended June 30, 2004:

Security Name: FleetBoston Financial Corp., the parent company of the  
Investment Advisor prior to April 1, 2004:

Shares as of 12/31/03:	200,000	
Shares purchased:	--	
Shares converted:	(200,000)	
Shares as of 6/30/04:	--	
Net realized gain (loss):	--	
Dividend income earned:	\$ 50,111	
Value at end of period:	--	

Security Name: Bank of America Corp.  
(As a result of the acquisition of FleetBoston Financial Corp. effective  
April 1, 2004, Bank of America Corp. became the parent company of the  
Investment Advisor):

Shares as of 12/31/03:	--	
Shares purchased:	161,800*	
Shares sold:	--	
Shares acquired through acquisition:	79,505	
Shares as of 6/30/04:	241,305	
Net realized gain (loss):	--	
Dividend income earned:	\$ 268,724**	
Value at end of period:	\$ 20,419,229	

\*Occurred prior to April 1, 2004.

\*\*Represents activity for the period April 1, 2004 through June 30, 2004.

- (d) Cost of investments for both financial statement and federal income tax purposes is the same.



## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

Gross unrealized appreciation and depreciation of investments at June 30, 2004 is as follows:

Gross unrealized appreciation	\$ 196,521,510
Gross unrealized depreciation	(95,213,934)
	-----
Net unrealized appreciation	\$ 101,307,576
	=====

See Notes to Financial Statements.

20

### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES JUNE 30, 2004 (UNAUDITED)

**ASSETS:**

Unaffiliated investments at market value (identified cost \$1,059,450,301)	\$ 1,158,632,835
Affiliated investments at market value (identified cost \$18,294,187)	20,419,229
Receivable for investments sold	6,070,720
Dividends and interest receivable	736,760
Foreign tax reclaim	8,267
Other assets	26,400
	-----
TOTAL ASSETS	1,185,894,211
	-----

**LIABILITIES:**

Due to custodian bank	3,172,683
Payable for investments purchased	5,513,685
Investment advisory, administrative and bookkeeping/pricing fees payable	858,600
Accrued expenses	190,952
	-----
TOTAL LIABILITIES	9,735,920
	-----

NET ASSETS	\$ 1,176,158,291
	=====

**NET ASSETS REPRESENTED BY:**

Paid-in capital (unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest without par value authorized; 128,306,800 shares outstanding)	\$ 1,064,178,144
Accumulated net realized gain on investments	10,672,351
Net unrealized appreciation on investments and foreign currency translations	101,307,796
	-----

TOTAL NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO OUTSTANDING SHARES OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST (\$9.17 PER SHARE)	\$ 1,176,158,291
	=====

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

See Notes to Financial Statements.

21

### STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2004 (UNAUDITED)

INVESTMENT INCOME:

Dividends	\$	5,81
Dividends from affiliates		31
Interest		17
		-----

TOTAL INVESTMENT INCOME (NET OF FOREIGN TAXES WITHHELD AT SOURCE WHICH AMOUNTED TO \$46,424)		6,30
---	--	------

EXPENSES:

Investment advisory fee	\$	4,172,809
Administrative fee		1,044,373
Bookkeeping and pricing fees		115,543
Custodian fee		30,749
Transfer agent fees		79,277
Shareholder communication expenses		208,471
Trustees' fees and expenses		45,165
NYSE fee		58,286
Miscellaneous expense		74,112
		-----

TOTAL EXPENSES		5,82
		-----

CUSTODY EARNINGS CREDIT		
		-----

NET EXPENSES		5,82
		-----

NET INVESTMENT INCOME		47
-----------------------	--	----

REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN (LOSS) ON INVESTMENTS:

Net realized gain on investment transactions:		
Proceeds from sales		491,094,795
Cost of investments sold		408,867,311
		-----

Net realized gain on investment transactions		82,22
--	--	-------

Net unrealized appreciation on investments and foreign currency:

Beginning of period		121,537,662
End of period		101,307,796
		-----

Change in unrealized appreciation-net		(20,22
		-----

NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS	\$	62,47
		=====

See Notes to Financial Statements.

22

### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

	SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2004 (UNAUDITED)	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003
OPERATIONS:		
Net investment income	\$ 479,679	\$ 1,019,935
Net realized gain on investment transactions	82,227,484	61,134,908
Change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments and foreign currency-net	(20,229,866)	279,157,402
Net increase in net assets resulting from operations	----- 62,477,297	----- 341,312,245
DISTRIBUTIONS DECLARED FROM:		
Net investment income	(479,679)	(1,019,983)
Net realized gain on investments	(57,692,852)	(37,070,493)
Paid-in capital	--	(57,734,539)
Total distributions	----- (58,172,531)	----- (95,825,015)
CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS:		
Dividend reinvestments	18,933,626	38,881,100
Total increase in net assets	----- 23,238,392	----- 284,368,330
NET ASSETS:		
Beginning of period	1,152,919,899	868,551,569
End of period	\$ 1,176,158,291 =====	\$ 1,152,919,899 =====

See Notes to Financial Statements.

23

	SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2004 (UNAUDITED)	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 ----- 2003                      2002	
PER SHARE OPERATING PERFORMANCE:			
Net asset value at beginning of period	\$ 9.13 -----	\$ 7.14 -----	\$ 10.65 -----
Income from Investment Operations:			
Net investment income	-- (b)	0.01	0.01

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments and foreign currency	0.50	2.76	(2.56)	
Provision for federal income tax	--	--	--	
Total from Investment Operations	0.50	2.77	(2.55)	
Less Distributions from:				
Net investment income	-- (b)	(0.01)	(0.01)	
Realized capital gain	(0.46)	(0.30)	(0.02)	
Paid-in capital	--	(0.47)	(0.85)	
Total Distributions	(0.46)	(0.78)	(0.88)	
Change due to rights offering (c)	--	--	(0.08)	
Impact of shares issued in dividend reinvestment (d)	--	--	--	
Total Distributions, Reinvestments and Rights Offering	(0.46)	(0.78)	(0.96)	
Net asset value at end of period	\$ 9.17	\$ 9.13	\$ 7.14	\$
Market price at end of period	\$ 9.21	\$ 9.46	\$ 6.64	\$
TOTAL INVESTMENT RETURN FOR SHAREHOLDERS: (e)				
Based on net asset value	5.6% (f)	40.7%	(25.0%)	
Based on market price	2.3% (f)	56.7%	(33.0%)	
RATIOS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:				
Net assets at end of period (millions)	\$ 1,176	\$ 1,153	\$ 869	\$
Ratio of expenses to average net assets (g)	1.01% (h)	1.04%	1.05%	
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets (g)	0.08% (h)	0.11%	0.11%	
Portfolio turnover rate	40% (f)	64%	83%	

(a) Before provision for federal income tax.

(b) Rounds to less than \$0.01 per share.

(c) Effect of All-Star's rights offerings for shares at a price below net asset value.

(d) Effect of payment of a portion of distributions in newly issued shares at a discount from net asset value.

(e) Calculated assuming all distributions reinvested at actual reinvestment price and all primary rights exercised.

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

See Notes to Financial Statements.

24

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31			
	2000	1999	1998	1997
<b>PER SHARE OPERATING PERFORMANCE:</b>				
Net asset value at beginning of period	\$ 14.02	\$ 14.22	\$ 13.32	\$ 11.95
<b>Income from Investment Operations:</b>				
Net investment income	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments and foreign currency	0.96	1.22	2.35	3.01 (a)
Provision for federal income tax	--	--	--	(0.36)
Total from Investment Operations	1.01	1.27	2.40	2.70
<b>Less Distributions from:</b>				
Net investment income	(0.06)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.05)
Realized capital gain	(1.36)	(1.34)	(1.35)	(1.28)
Paid-in capital	--	--	--	--
Total Distributions	(1.42)	(1.39)	(1.40)	(1.33)
Change due to rights offering (c)	--	--	(0.10)	--
Impact of shares issued in dividend reinvestment (d)	--	(0.08)	--	--
Total Distributions, Reinvestments and Rights Offering	(1.42)	(1.47)	(1.50)	(1.33)
Net asset value at end of period	\$ 13.61	\$ 14.02	\$ 14.22	\$ 13.32
Market price at end of period	\$ 12.375	\$ 11.063	\$ 12.938	\$ 13.313
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENT RETURN FOR SHAREHOLDERS: (e)</b>				
Based on net asset value	8.8%	10.2%	19.8%	26.6%
Based on market price	25.4%	(4.4)%	9.1%	34.4%
<b>RATIOS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>				
Net assets at end of period (millions)	\$ 1,376	\$ 1,396	\$ 1,351	\$ 1,150
Ratio of expenses to average net assets (g)	0.96%	0.97%	1.00%	1.01%

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

Ratio of net investment income to average net assets (g)	0.37%	0.37%	0.39%	0.38%
Portfolio turnover rate	83%	90%	76%	99%

(f) Not annualized.

(g) The benefits derived from custody credits and directed brokerage arrangements, if applicable, had an impact of less than 0.01%.

(h) Annualized.

See Notes to Financial Statements.

25

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2004 (UNAUDITED)

#### I. ORGANIZATION

Liberty All-Star Equity Fund (the "Fund"), is a Massachusetts business trust registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act"), as amended, as a diversified, closed-end management investment company.

#### INVESTMENT GOAL

The Fund seeks total investment return comprised of long-term capital appreciation and current income through investing primarily in a diversified portfolio of equity securities.

#### FUND SHARES

The Fund may issue an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest.

#### II. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### USE OF ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The following is a summary of significant accounting policies consistently followed by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

##### SECURITY VALUATION

Equity securities are valued at the last sale price at the close of the principal exchange on which they trade. Unlisted securities or listed securities for which there were no sales during the day are valued at the closing bid price on such exchanges or over-the-counter markets.

Debt securities generally are valued by a pricing service approved by the Fund's Board of Trustees (the "Board"), based upon market transactions for normal, institutional-sized trading units of similar securities. The services may use various pricing techniques, which will take into account appropriate factors such as yield, quality, coupon rate, maturity, type of issue, trading characteristics and other data, as well as broker quotes. Debt securities for

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

which quotes are readily available are valued at an over-the-counter or exchange bid quotation.

Short-term debt obligations maturing in more than 60 days for which market quotations are readily available are valued at current market value. Short-term debt obligations maturing within 60 days are valued at amortized cost, which approximates market value.

Investments for which market quotations are not readily available are valued at fair value as determined in good faith under consistently applied procedures approved by and under the general supervision of the Board.

### SECURITY TRANSACTIONS

Security transactions are accounted for on the trade date. Cost is determined and gains (losses) are based upon the specific identification method for both financial statement and federal income tax purposes.

### REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS

The Fund may engage in repurchase agreement transactions with institutions that the Fund's investment advisor has determined are creditworthy. The Fund, through its custodian, receives delivery of underlying securities collateralizing a repurchase agreement. Collateral is at least equal, at all times, to the value of the repurchase obligation including interest. A repurchase agreement transaction involves certain risks in the event of default or insolvency of the counterparty. These risks include possible delays or restrictions upon the Fund's ability to dispose of the underlying securities and a possible decline in the value of the underlying securities during the period while the Fund seeks to assert its rights.

### INCOME RECOGNITION

Interest income is recorded on the accrual

26

basis. Premium and discount are amortized and accreted, respectively, on all debt securities. Corporate actions and dividend income are recorded on the ex-date.

### FEDERAL INCOME TAX STATUS

Consistent with the Fund's policy to qualify as a regulated investment company and to distribute all of its taxable income to shareholders, no federal income tax has been accrued.

### DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS

The Fund currently has a policy of paying distributions on its shares of beneficial interest totaling approximately 10% of its net asset value per year. The distributions are payable in four quarterly distributions of 2.5% of the Fund's net asset value at the close of the New York Stock Exchange on the Friday prior to each quarterly declaration date. Distributions to shareholders are recorded on ex-date.

### III. FEDERAL TAX INFORMATION

The tax character of distributions paid during the year ended December 31, 2003 was as follows:

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

Distributions paid from:	
Ordinary income*	\$ 9,756,164
Long-term capital gain	28,334,312
	-----
	38,090,476
Return of capital	53,106,588
	-----
	\$ 91,197,064

\*For tax purposes short-term capital gains distributions, if any, are considered ordinary income distributions.

The source of the distributions in the Statement of Changes in Net Assets for the six-month period ended June 30, 2004 are estimates and are subject to change based on Fund activity through December 31, 2004, the Fund's fiscal year-end.

#### IV. FEES AND COMPENSATION PAID TO AFFILIATES

Liberty Asset Management Company ("LAMCO"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of Bank of America Corporation ("BOA"), is the investment advisor of the Fund. Prior to April 1, 2004, LAMCO was an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of FleetBoston Financial Corporation ("FleetBoston"). Effective April 1, 2004, FleetBoston, including the Fund's investment advisor, was acquired by BOA. The acquisition did not change the way the Fund is managed, the investment personnel assigned to manage the Fund or the fees paid by the Fund.

#### INVESTMENT ADVISORY FEE

LAMCO receives a monthly investment advisory fee based on the Fund's average weekly net assets at the following annual rates:

AVERAGE WEEKLY NET ASSETS	FEE RATE
-----	-----
First \$400 million	0.800%
Next \$400 million	0.720%
Next \$400 million	0.648%
Over \$1.2 billion	0.584%

For the six months ended June 30, 2004, the Fund's annualized effective investment advisory fee rate was 0.72%.

Under Portfolio Manager Agreements, LAMCO pays each Portfolio Manager a portfolio management fee based on the assets of the investment portfolio that they manage. The portfolio management fee is paid from the investment advisory fees collected by LAMCO and is based on the Fund's average weekly net assets at the following annual rates:

AVERAGE WEEKLY NET ASSETS	FEE RATE
-----	-----
First \$400 million	0.400%
Next \$400 million	0.360%



## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

Next \$400 million	0.324%
Over \$1.2 billion	0.292%

### ADMINISTRATION FEE

LAMCO provides administrative and other services for a monthly fee based on the Fund's average weekly net assets at the following annual rates:

27

AVERAGE WEEKLY NET ASSETS -----	FEE RATE -----
First \$400 million	0.200%
Next \$400 million	0.180%
Next \$400 million	0.162%
Over \$1.2 billion	0.146%

For the six months ended June 30, 2004, the Fund's annualized effective administration fee rate was 0.18%.

### PRICING AND BOOKKEEPING FEES

Columbia Management Advisors, Inc. ("Columbia"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of BOA and an affiliate of LAMCO, is responsible for providing pricing and bookkeeping services to the Fund under a pricing and bookkeeping agreement. Under a separate agreement (the "Outsourcing Agreement"), Columbia has delegated those functions to State Street Corporation ("State Street"). Columbia pays the total fees collected from the Fund for the services to State Street under the Outsourcing Agreement.

Under its pricing and bookkeeping agreement with the Fund, Columbia receives from the Fund an annual flat fee of \$10,000 paid monthly, and in any month that the Fund's average weekly net assets exceed \$50 million, an additional monthly fee. The additional fee rate is calculated by taking into account the fees payable to State Street under the Outsourcing Agreement. This rate is applied to the average daily net assets of the Fund for that month. The Fund also pays additional fees for pricing services. For the six months ended June 30, 2004, the annualized effective pricing and bookkeeping fee rate was 0.020%.

### CUSTODY CREDITS

The Fund has an agreement with its custodian bank under which custody fees may be reduced by balance credits. The Fund could have invested a portion of the assets utilized in connection with the expense offset arrangement in an income producing asset if it had not entered into such an agreement.

### FEES PAID TO OFFICERS

The Fund pays no compensation to its officers, all of whom are employees of LAMCO or its affiliates.

### OTHER

Columbia provides certain services to the Fund related to Sarbanes-Oxley compliance. For the six months ended June 30, 2004, the Fund paid \$2,937 to Columbia for such services. This amount is included in "Miscellaneous expense"

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

on the Statement of Operations.

### V. PORTFOLIO INFORMATION

#### PURCHASES AND SALES OF SECURITIES

For the six months ended June 30, 2004, the cost of purchases and proceeds from sales of securities, excluding short-term obligations, were \$460,068,509 and \$491,094,795, respectively.

### VI. CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS

During the six months ended June 30, 2004, and the year ended December 31, 2003, distributions in the amount of \$18,933,626 and \$38,881,100, respectively, were paid in newly issued shares valued at market value or net asset value, but not less than 95% of market value. Such distributions resulted in the issuance of 2,094,335 and 4,584,918 shares, respectively.

### VII. SUBSEQUENT EVENT:

#### RIGHTS OFFERING

In a rights offering commencing June 2004, shareholders were issued non-transferable rights entitling them to subscribe for one additional share for every ten shares held, with the right to subscribe for additional shares not subscribed for by others in the primary subscription. The rights offering expired on July 7, 2004. The Fund issued 15,841,927 shares at \$8.34 per share, which represented 95% of the net asset value on July 8, 2004. Total proceeds of the offering amounted to \$132,121,671. The issuance of shares at a discount to NAV resulted in dilution to the NAV of \$0.05 per share.

28

### DISTRIBUTION POLICY/DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN

#### DISTRIBUTION POLICY

Liberty All-Star Equity Fund's current policy, in effect since 1988, is to pay distributions on its shares totaling approximately 10 percent of its net asset value per year, payable in four quarterly installments of 2.5 percent of the Fund's net asset value at the close of the New York Stock Exchange on the Friday prior to each quarterly declaration date. THE FIXED DISTRIBUTIONS ARE NOT RELATED TO THE AMOUNT OF THE FUND'S NET INVESTMENT INCOME OR NET REALIZED CAPITAL GAINS OR LOSSES AND MAY BE TAXED AS ORDINARY INCOME UP TO THE AMOUNT OF THE FUND'S CURRENT AND ACCUMULATED EARNINGS AND PROFITS. If, for any calendar year, the total distributions made under the 10 percent pay-out policy exceed the Fund's net investment income and net realized capital gains, the excess will generally be treated as a non-taxable return of capital, reducing the shareholder's adjusted basis in his or her shares. If the Fund's net investment income and net realized capital gains for any year exceed the amount distributed under the 10 percent pay-out policy, the Fund may, in its discretion, retain and not distribute net realized capital gains and pay income tax thereon to the extent of such excess. The Fund retained such excess gains in 1993, 1996 and 1997.

#### DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN

Through the Fund's Automatic Dividend Reinvestment and Cash Purchase Plan, the Fund's shareholders have the opportunity to have their dividends automatically reinvested in additional shares of the Fund. Participants are kept apprised of the status of their account through quarterly statements.

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

For complete information and enrollment forms, please call Investor Assistance toll-free at 1-800-LIB-FUND (1-800-542-3863) weekdays between 9 AM and 5 PM Eastern Time. If your shares are held for you by a broker, bank or other nominee, you should contact the institution holding your shares if you wish to participate in the Plan.

29

### RESULTS OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

On April 30, 2004, the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of the Fund was held to elect two (2) Trustees and to approve the Fund's Portfolio Management Agreement with each of Pzena Investment Management, LLC and Matrix Asset Advisors, Inc. On March 10, 2004, the record date for the Meeting, the Fund had outstanding 126,212,463 shares of beneficial interest. The votes cast at the Meeting were as follows:

1. PROPOSAL TO ELECT (2) TRUSTEES:

	FOR ---	WITHHELD -----
Richard W. Lowry	101,215,872	1,304,923
John J. Neuhauser	101,236,008	1,284,787

The Board of Trustees is divided into the following three classes, each with a term expiring in the indicated year:

2005 -----	2006 -----	2007 -----
John A. Benning James E. Grinnell	William E. Mayer	Richard W. Lowry John J. Neuhauser

2. PROPOSAL TO APPROVE THE FUND'S PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH PZENA INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT, LLC:

For	100,390,004
Against	911,070
Abstain	1,219,721

3. PROPOSAL TO APPROVE THE FUND'S PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH MATRIX ASSET ADVISORS, INC.:

## Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

For	100,279,089
Against	945,991
Abstain	1,295,715

30

NOTES

31

NOTES

32

[ALL-STAR(R) EQUITY FUND LOGO]

### FUND MANAGER

Liberty Asset Management Company  
One Financial Center  
Boston, Massachusetts 02111  
617-772-3626  
www.all-starfunds.com

### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
125 High Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

### CUSTODIAN

State Street Bank & Trust Company  
225 Franklin Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

### INVESTOR ASSISTANCE,

### TRANSFER & DIVIDEND

### DISBURSING AGENT & REGISTRAR

EquiServe Trust Company, N.A.  
P.O. Box 43010, Providence, Rhode Island 02940-3010  
1-800-LIB-FUND (1-800-542-3863)  
www.equiserve.com

### LEGAL COUNSEL

Kirkpatrick and Lockhart LLP  
1800 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036-1800

### TRUSTEES

John A. Benning\*  
James E. Grinnell\*  
Richard W. Lowry\*  
William E. Mayer  
Dr. John J. Neuhauser\*

### OFFICERS

William R. Parmentier, Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer  
Mark T. Haley, CFA, Vice President

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

Fred H. Wofford, Vice President  
J. Kevin Connaughton, Treasurer  
Michael G. Clarke, Controller  
Vicki L. Benjamin, Chief Accounting Officer  
David A. Rozenson, Secretary

\* Member of the audit committee.

A description of the policies and procedures that the Fund uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to its portfolio securities is available (1) without charge, upon request, by calling 1-800-542-3863 or (2) on the Securities and Exchange Commission's web site at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

COVER IMAGE OF THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE FACADE USED WITH PERMISSION OF NYSE.

USA LISTED NYSE

[ALL-STAR(R) EQUITY FUND LOGO]

Liberty Asset Management Company  
One Financial Center  
Boston, Massachusetts 02111

USA LISTED NYSE

A MEMBER OF THE  
[CLOSED-END FUND  
ASSOCIATION, INC. LOGO]  
[WWW.CLOSED-ENDFUNDS.COM](http://WWW.CLOSED-ENDFUNDS.COM)

ITEM 2. CODE OF ETHICS.

Not applicable at this time.

ITEM 3. AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT.

Not applicable at this time.

ITEM 4. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES.

Not applicable at this time.

ITEM 5. AUDIT COMMITTEE OF LISTED REGISTRANTS.

Not applicable at this time.

ITEM 6. SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

Not applicable at this time.

ITEM 7. DISCLOSURE OF PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES.

Not applicable at this time.

ITEM 8. PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES BY CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY AND AFFILIATED PURCHASERS.

During the six month period ended June 30, 2004, there were no purchases made by

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

or on behalf of the registrant or any "affiliated purchaser," as defined in Rule 10b-18(a)(3) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"), of shares or other units of any class of the registrant's equity securities that are registered by the registrant pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act.

ITEM 9. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS.

There have not been any material changes to the procedures by which shareholders may recommend nominees to the registrant's Board of Trustees/Directors since those procedures were last disclosed in response to Item 7(d)(2)(ii)(G) of Schedule 14A.

ITEM 10. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

- (a) The registrant's principal executive officer and principal financial officer, based on their evaluation of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days of the filing of this report, have concluded that such controls and procedures are adequately designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the registrant in Form N-CSR is accumulated and communicated to the registrant's management, including the principal executive officer and principal financial officer, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.
- (b) There were no changes in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's last fiscal half-year (the registrant's second fiscal half-year in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM 11. EXHIBITS.

- (a)(1) Code of ethics required to be disclosed under Item 2 of Form N-CSR: Not applicable at this time.
- (a)(2) Certifications pursuant to Rule 30a-2(a) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30a-2(a)) attached hereto as Exhibit 99.CERT.
- (a)(3) Not applicable.
- (b) Certification pursuant to Rule 30a-2(b) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30a-2(b)) attached hereto as Exhibit 99.906CERT.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

(registrant) Liberty All-Star Equity Fund  
-----

By (Signature and Title) /s/ William R. Parmentier  
-----  
William R. Parmentier, Jr., President

Edgar Filing: LIBERTY ALL STAR EQUITY FUND - Form N-CSRS

Date September 2, 2004  
-----

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By (Signature and Title) /s/ William R. Parmentier  
-----

William R. Parmentier, Jr., President

Date September 2, 2004  
-----

By (Signature and Title) /s/ J. Kevin Connaughton  
-----

J. Kevin Connaughton, Treasurer

Date September 2, 2004  
-----