
TRADER DAILY

Growing Pains

A follow up on the stars of Trader Monthly's "30 Under 30" -- is there a Trader Monthly jinx?

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In trying to strike a balance between bank stars, hedge-fund wunderkinder and independent up-and-comers for our "30 Under 30" list of some of the industry's hottest young players (August/September 2006), Tim Sykes seemed a no-brainer. His story of turning his bar mitzvah money into \$1.65 million, and his small hedge fund, Cilantro, seemed made for television. But did his enjoyment of the limelight come at the price of performance?

First, he raised eyebrows with *Wall Street Warriors*, an HDTV reality series he was involved in and which made him out to be something of an ass. "I really wanted to be sober for this," Sykes remarked in a New York Observer interview about the show. Which was all well and good, except that in September and October Sykes registered negative returns, leaving his long/short portfolio down nearly 17 percent for the year; the S&P 500 was up 12 percent.

"This year has been disappointing," Sykes admits. "But we're looking to prove a lot of naysayers wrong in 2007." Fortunately, there appears to be no *Trader Monthly* jinx at work. That issue's cover boy, Deutsche Bank's Lee Frankenfield, just landed a huge promotion to Head of Complex Equity for the Americas. Well done.

No comments yet:

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