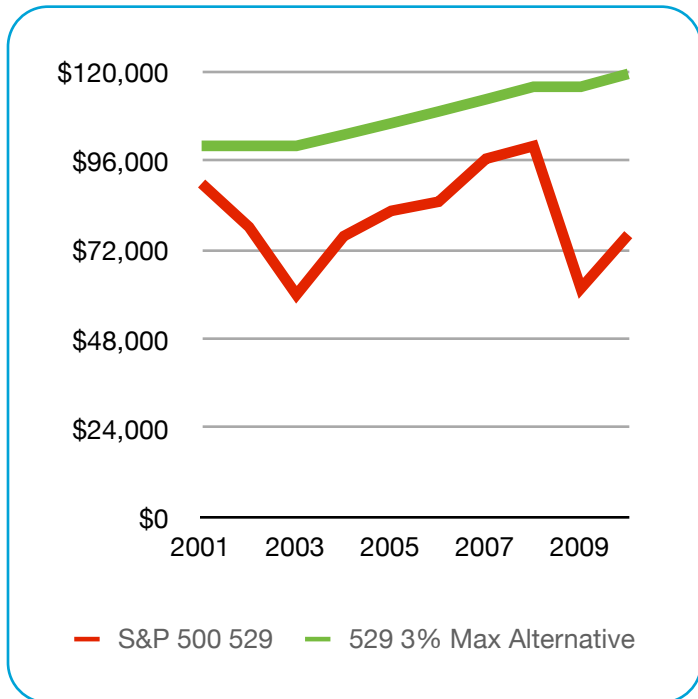


## “The Lost Decade”

S&P 500 Index 529 Plan  
vs.  
Principal-Protected, 529 Alternative (3% Maximum Gain)

Which Would you Prefer?

	\$100,000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	
<b>S&amp;P 500 529 Plan</b>	<b>Percent</b>	-10.14%	-13.04%	-23.37%	26.38%	8.99%	3.00%	13.62%	3.55%	-38.37%	23.49%	-0.59%
	<b>Dollars</b>	\$89,860	\$78,142	\$59,880	\$75,677	\$82,480	\$84,955	\$96,525	\$99,952	\$61,600	<b>\$76,070</b>	<b>-\$23,930</b>
<b>3% Max College Plan</b>	<b>Percent</b>	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	<b>3.00%</b>	<b>3.00%</b>	<b>3.00%</b>	<b>3.00%</b>	<b>3.00%</b>	0.00%	<b>3.00%</b>	1.80%
	<b>Dollars</b>	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$103,000	\$106,090	\$109,273	\$112,551	\$115,927	\$115,927	<b>\$119,405</b>	<b>\$19,405</b>



**Might it make Sense to Supplement Your 529 Plan with an Insured, Principal-Protected Alternative?**

If you are confident that the stock and bond markets – currently at record highs – are going to perform very, very well over the next ten years, then principal-protection should not be a concern. But during the 2000s, an insured investment whose maximum gain was capped at a measly 3% **OUTPERFORMED** the S&P 500 by 43% (the difference between \$119k and \$76k) and captured well over 100% of the market’s return. That equated to **\$43,000 MORE** over ten years (on \$100k).

Most fund managers, managed-money programs, etc. may outperform their sliced-and-diced “benchmarks” but almost none consistently outperforms the S&P 500. Dividend rates in the modern era are very low and NEVER LOSING 10%, 13%, 38% is much more important than earning the occasional 26%.

Buffett Rule #1: “Never Lose Money.”  
Buffett Rule #2: “Never forget Rule #1.”