

Currency Roundup

Currency Value	01/23/08	12/28/2007
EUR 1 Euro equals	US\$ 1.4628	\$1.4724
CAD 1 CAD equals	US\$.9773	\$101.50
JPY US\$ equals Yen	106.55	112.29

Over the last month the dollar remained steady versus the Euro and picked up steam not only against CAD but against GBP as well. We continue to believe that over the coming months that the dollar will be strong against most European currencies but will lose ground to most major Asian currencies

Hot Commodities

Commodity	01/23/08	12/28/08
NYMX WTI Crude Oil	86.99	\$96.00
COMEX GOLD	890.89	\$840.50
NYMX Nat. Gas	7.621	\$7.44

Will Gold go up forever? Of course it won't. However we might not see a short term top till it gets to \$1000. In the meantime the Fed's rate cut and all this talk of recession has driven the price of Oil down modestly. Unless Oil gets down to \$70 or lower its inflationary impact on the global economy remains very strong.

Getting Ready to Retire

Remember that if you retire at 65, you should be prepared to live at least another 20 years. Selling all your investments at one time because of unreasonable market panic will not help you in the long run. Use the current market conditions as an opportunity to go over your investments with your Financial Consultant and to make sure that your retirement goals and the strategies you are using to reach them are in sync.

INTERESTING Thoughts

Benchmark	01/23/08	12/28/07
Fed Funds	3.43%	4.01%
3 Mon. T-bill	2.19%	3.17%
5 yr. T-note	2.74%	3.46%
10 yr. T-note	3.60%	4.04%
30 yr. T-bond	4.31%	4.47%

Will the Fed cut another 50BP next week? There is certainly a lot of sentiment for them to do so. We hope that the Fed acts prudently and not just reacts to the market. It is time for Bernanke to lead. The Fed's primary function is to control inflation not to manage the market. As always you will see us favoring a Friedmanesque approach and not a Keynesian one.

We are happy to see a more "normal" yield curve return to the debt markets.

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