OptionProfessor.com Quick Alert January 26th, 2023

Stocks-Why The Rally Could Go to April?



BY THE OPTION PROFESSOR

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We got more economic data on GDP & Labor & Earnings and as usual traders are on both sides of the interpretation.

The BULLS see it as GDP 2.9% (down from 3.2%) says no recession and the Labor market at 186K claims repeats mantra.

Earnings are slowing off the peak of 2021 (-7%); but are miles from the 20%+ that comes with tough times (est. -12%)

The BEARS note that INVENTORIES are rising and COMPANIES are not spending (cap ex). JOB CUTS continue but so far are being dismissed as trim the fat & nowhere near bone. The rub is by APRIL the severances stop and claims will jump. MASTERCARD see a slowdown in credit card spending (70% of econ) & the last retail sales numbers confirmed that fact.

IMPORTANT TO NOTE: There is a Presidential Cycle that goes from OCTOBER of year 2 of the presidency to APRIL of year 3 of the presidency. This is HISTORICALLY been an UP time. We researched this cycle and it seems to be unblemished.

CERTAINLY; we would have to admit that those who played this cycle since last OCTOBER '22 are way ahead of the game

OUR WORK shows that AFTER that we may see change. By APRIL; we will have seen Q1 2023 EARNINGS. We will have seen & digested more of the China OPENING, Inflation Easing & Labor Statistics and Fed Decisions. THE RISK starts in Q2

WHAT COULD CHANGE? The Presidential Cycle ends. POSITIONING may have corrected. EARNINGS may start reflecting margin/operating pressures. China could hit speed bumps. JOBLESS claims could spike. Inflation stalls at higher levels.

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