

OptionProfessor.com Quick Alert
January 31st, 2023

Stocks UP! On Wages- Fed Hike-Earnings- Jobs Report



BY THE OPTION PROFESSOR

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OptionProfessor Alert:
01/31/23 - Stocks UP! On Wages-Fed Hike-Earnings-Jobs Report

Last night; the S&P, Nasdaq, Russell were all under pressure BUT today we got a WAGE report on the Employment Cost Index that was in line with forecasts (+1% vs 1.1% est & 6th straight quarter rising). We also had some talk that the Fed may pause after the March meeting (Fed Funds at about 4.75% then). We have earnings THURS from AAPL AMZN GOOGL (about 13% of the indexes). Friday; we get the Jobs Report that at last look had a 3% handle & claims very low.

As we look at OUR holdings; we see CONTINUAL Growth in Small & Mid Caps, Infrastructure, Home Construction, Materials, Transports, Financials, Semis, Autos, Industrial Metals, Crypto, Travel-Gaming, Cloud/Cyb & of course Energy. With ENERGY: we are looking at our natural gas portfolios for opportunities as Old Man winter back with a vengeance! With price of Natural Gas about 75% OFF the highs; there could be an opportunity there on short covering alone.

Emerging Markets/China/Pacific Rim are slowing a bit (ex Mexico-Brazil) while Europe awaits ECB & BOE hikes on Thurs
In fact: the Risk of a Turnaround Thursday (we're having Turnaround Tuesday today:), LOOMS as we have a potential buy rumor/sell fact kinda deal. The PRESIDENTIAL CYCLE (Oct '22 to April '23) has worked like a charm. To Be Continued??

TOMORROW-We know we get a hike to 4.5% from the Fed. What does POWELL's STATEMENT sound like to raging bulls?
Our GUESS....He reminds us that CPI has a 6% handle. PCE still has a 5% handle. Paltry declines in retail sales, actually no declines in wages, rampant speculation (high valuation stocks/casinos record revenues) not his idea of soft landing.

As we said; the market is ABOVE important M/A averages & SPX 4306 is a Fib retracement. By Friday; we'll see a verdict
We're ready for whatever may happen as we maintain FLEXIBILITY which last year and this year has been ESSENTIAL.
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