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## FINANCIAL ASTROLOGY

# MMA COMMENTS FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING December 18 - 2006

Raymond A. Merriman©

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### Review and Preview :

The past week was another positive one for stock markets around the world. New all-time highs were posted in Australia, Brazil, Argentina, and then with the Dow Jones Industrial Average in the United States. Multi-year highs were noted in Germany and England (but not Netherlands or Switzerland). As stated in last week's column, "With several planets in Sagittarius this coming week, we could see higher prices. But we also note that time is running out cycle's wise, as it is very late in the time band for the 4-year cycle to top out. I expect these highs to all be completed anytime by January 20, when Mars leaves Sagittarius. Sun, Mercury and Venus will leave much before then - in December." The combination of so many planets in Sagittarius, plus the bullish seasonal factors, continues to push stocks up to new highs, so enjoy it while it lasts.

Not all the other markets did so well last week. Gold and Silver had a huge sell-off on Friday, as did many currencies against the Dollar (the greenback rose strongly). But this fits with our prior forecast that these markets would all

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make crests while Mars was in the later half of Scorpio (November 13-December 4), and then fall as Mars moved into the first third of Sagittarius. However, Crude Oil did very well, closing the week at 64.43, up smartly from the weekly low of 61.30 on Tuesday. . As soon as we receive it, it will be put on line.

### Short-Term Geocosmics :

This week finds another cluster of geocosmic signatures unfolding, December 17-22. In addition, there will be a new moon on December 20, conjunct Pluto and the Galactic Center. On December 21 the Winter solstice begins as the Sun ingresses into Capricorn. Just minutes prior to the solstice, Mars will form a waning square to Uranus, the strongest signature in the group as far as its correlation to reversals in the stock market. This signature has a 77% historical rate of frequency to primary or greater cycles (that's a lot!), within an orb of 13 trading days. And 50% of the time, that same time band has had an historical correlation of 50% to 50-week or greater cycles in stocks. Of course, if the 50-week cycle tops out in this period, it will likely be the crest of the 4-year cycle too, for I anticipate this to be the last 50-week cycle phase within the greater 4-year cycle. According to cycles' theory (as outlined in The Ultimate Book on Stock Market Timing Volume 1: Cycles and Patterns in the Indexes), the last phase of a bullish cycle will contain the steepest decline of the entire greater cycle.

There are other astrological conditions of interest too. For instance, the new moon in Sagittarius means that the "Sagittarius Factor" is in effect this Monday through Wednesday. This lunar cycle tends to correspond to big price swings in precious metals and Treasuries That is supported even further with the movement of heliocentric (not geocentric) Mercury into Sagittarius December 21 through January 2. The bottom line is that the market climate is not totally free from the Sagittarius influence for the holiday season. But more often than not, the first few days of heliocentric Mercury in Sagittarius tends to be more bullish for currencies and precious metals, and less bullish for stocks.

All in all, this should be an interesting week. It is one that is filled with a lot of geocosmic activity, but it also happens to be the pre-holiday market week, when volume tends to decline as we get closer and closer to the end of the week. In such markets, geocosmics are not always as large a factor as we are accustomed to.

### Long-Term Thoughts :

According to Thursday's Wall Street Journal, "OPEC Oil ministers are beginning to line up behind what would be the second production cut in three months." This is the other side of the Saturn-Neptune opposition referred to in previous columns, and it also ties into our forecast of higher oil prices based on Uranus transiting through Pisces.

In astrology, Saturn represents the principle of contraction, repression, and denial. It carries with it the sense of "not enough" of the something related to the sign it is in, or the planet it aspects. In this case, the opposition is an aspect to the planet Neptune, which rules Oil. This is a three-passage series of the Saturn-Neptune opposition, beginning with the first passage on August 31, 2006. The second passage will be during the Saturn retrograde, and takes place February 28. The third and final passage occurs June 25, 2007. The all-time high in Crude Oil was registered on July 14 as the nearby contract reached \$79.45/barrel. The price then declined sharply as the Saturn-Neptune aspect started taking hold. Prices fell to \$55.00-57.00/barrel in late October through mid-November, depending on which contract one followed. That was a decline of nearly 30%, and fulfilled our criteria for a 4-year cycle trough. One of the ways that Saturn works in the market place is for prices to decline (or be repressed). And so in this case, prices did indeed decline to the market ruled by the planet Saturn aspects: Neptune. which is oil. But then Saturn can also represent a

Saturn aspects Neptune, which is similar to Saturn, can also represent a decline in the supply of the commodity ruled the planet it aspects, and hence our forecast that this Saturn-Neptune would first represent a decline in prices, followed by a decline in availability of the product, which would then lead to a significant increase in the price.

The idea that Crude Oil would first decline into the Saturn-Neptune opposition was postulated on the understanding that the 4-year cycle trough in Crude Oil was due in 2006. The idea that the commodity would then be subject to reduction in supply, and subsequent rally in prices, was postulated on the understanding of both Saturn in opposition to Neptune (supply limitations) Uranus transiting through Pisces, a phenomenon that takes place 2003 through 2011. In the past, we have observed that "blow-off" to new record highs tend to occur in commodities or stock sectors that are ruled by the sign Uranus is in. Markets associated with those signs tend to soar almost parabolically into the period coinciding with Uranus transiting through the middle degrees of that sign. When Uranus was in Aquarius (1995-2003), it was the tech stocks that soared so high (i.e. NASDAQ). But then these markets top out as Uranus gets close to the 15th degree of that sign. They reverse and undergo a remarkable sell off. The NASDAQ Composite for instance soared above 5000 as it topped out in March 2000 with Uranus at 19 of Aquarius (square Saturn at 15 Taurus). Uranus will be in 15-20 of Pisces in 2007-2008. That's when I anticipate Crude Oil to test or make new all-time highs - and then sell off back down to 20.00-40.00/barrel as new technology and consumer demand for alternative fuel sources (Saturn-Uranus opposition) starts making its mark on the economy. .

### Announcements :

**To all of our European readers**, and especially German-speaking audience, please note that I will be giving a talk in Cologne, Germany, titled: "Forecasts for 2007: A Mundane Astrological and Financial Markets Overview." It will take place **January 20, 2007**, 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM, at the one-day symposium, sponsored by DAV (largest German Astrology organization) and MMA-Europe, at the Maritim Cologne Hotel. The title of the symposium is "Signs for the Future: An Astrological Look at World, Economic, and Individual Conditions for 2007 and Beyond." Guest speakers include Claude Weiss (Switzerland), Christoph Schubert-Weller (Germany), Antonia Langsdorf (Germany), Alexandra Klinghammer (Switzerland), and Raymond Merriman (USA). Cost is 75 Euro for pre-registration. For further information, contact 49-221-6800050, or go to <http://www.mma-europe.de>. Or email [info@mma-europe.de](mailto:info@mma-europe.de).

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**The Forecasts for 2007** Book is now out, and all pre-ordered books will be mailed next week. This year's book is a little larger than previous year's (8 pages longer), but as always, it shapes up to be another exciting year. All years of this decade are significant due to the "Triple Saturn" oppositions which started in 2001. Utilizing the study of cycles and geocosmic factors, the annual Forecasts book outlines forthcoming trends pertaining to political, economic, and financial markets throughout the world. Special sections included on The United States and its President, Interest Rates, Stock Markets, Precious Metals, Currencies, Crude Oil, Weather, and Grain markets. And of course: the all-important *Critical Reversal Dates* for financial markets in 2007. To order this [year's book](#), or call us at 1-800-MMA-3349.

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The "SOS Stock Market Cycles Report" and will come out this week, December 5 and 6. These reports come out every 6-8 weeks to subscribers of these reports. This report is in two parts. The first report - "SOS Stock Market Cycles" - focuses purely upon the long-term cycles in the U.S. stock market, specifically the Dow Jones Industrial Average, followed by discussions on both intermediate and short-term cycles. It is the "big picture" ahead. The second part is the "SOS Global Stock Markets Report." This covers the German DAX, London FTSE, Netherlands AEX, the Australian All Ordinaries, Hang Seng of Hong Kong, the NASDAQ Composite Index, and the XAU Gold and Silver Mining index. For ordering information, please go to <http://www.mmacycles.com/services.htm>.

Due to the work required for this year's Forecast Book, the newly revised **The Sun, The Moon, and The Silver Book** will not be ready for print until late December-early January now. This popular book is now completely revised with 25 years of daily prices studied for correlations between the Sun and Moon signs of isolated highs and lows in COMEX Silver (1981-2006). Instead of 3% reversals as explored in the first edition, this new work examines 4% reversals, and which signs have the highest (and lowest) correlations to such reversals. It also identifies correlations between Sun-Mercury and Sun-Venus signs for further support to high probability trades. And a new section has been added that examines "Big Range Days" - those days in which Silver has a range of at least 3.5% of the value of the low of that day. This is a fabulous tool for those who wish to be day-traders of this volatile precious metal. All in all, this book provides the maximum benefit that all traders seek: high probability trades with minimal market exposure, making it a great reference book for short-term traders (1-7 day positions). For details on [ordering](#). The cost is \$125.00. For ordering either of [these two books](#).

We expect to have available CD's of last week's "MMA Market Timing" conference in Phoenix, which was a great success. You will be able to order the 12-hour course on CD, plus the 100+ page workbook that goes along with it, for \$1500.00 + postage. If you are interested, let us know at [ordersmma@msn.com](mailto:ordersmma@msn.com). This is a great way to learn how to time turns in any financial market. And it comes with the two beginning books, titled "Basic Principles of Geocosmic Studies for Financial Market Timing," and "Merriman on Market Cycles: The Basics," plus a 2-issue trial of the "MMA Cycles Report."

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I have had several calls regarding a "**crisis investing**" portfolio that I suggested could be developed with the help of a money manager who subscribes to my reports, and shares my views about the next few years. If you are interested, you can contact him at [ted.fisher@comcast.net](mailto:ted.fisher@comcast.net). He will be more than happy to assist you.

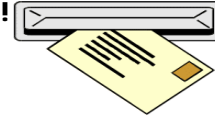
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