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The Kaufman Report

Trade what you see, not what you think.

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Monday April 13, 2009 **Closing prices of April 9, 2009**

The S&P 500 recorded its fifth straight weekly gain last week as it rose 1.67%. Friday's session was another panic-buying 90% up day sparked by a positive pre-announcement by Wells Fargo. This was the 6th 90% up day since March 9th. Last week we pointed out some red flags such as valuations and the overbought condition of stocks. We also reminded investors of our comment early in this rally that a market that doesn't respond to overbought conditions may be in the early stages of a strong rally. Because of that we recommended that in spite of the red flags investors should continue to play the long side, while keeping stops tight. **We repeat that advice at this time**. Yes, some red flags are waving. Negative divergences have developed, resistance levels are ahead, and the media is filled with statistics about other bear market rallies ending at about this level of advance. Still, technical indicators and historic statistics may not be so important in a market that has had a crash of historic proportions and where any good news trumps overbought conditions and sends prices rocketing higher, like during Fridays session where the average stock was up almost 5%. Therefore, we will stick to the baics of trend following, good entry points, and stop losses to keep us in this rally until it corrects. We continue to believe that this is a bear market rally until proven otherwise, but if it does have more to go we want to enjoy the ride.

The short-term and intermediate-term trends are up, while the long-term trend remains down. This continues to be an opportunistic trader's market, with adept traders able to take advantage long or short. Traders should not hesitate to rotate out of lagging sectors and stocks and into leaders.

The S&P 1500 (194.89) was up 4.03 % Thursday. Average price per share was up 4.98%. Volume was 126% of its 10-day average and 108% of its 30-day average. 92.62% of the S&P 1500 stocks were up, with up volume at 94.35% and up points at 97.03%. Up Dollars was 99.62% of total dollars, and was 331% of its 10-day moving average. Down Dollars was 2% of its 10-day moving average. The index is up 7.68% in April, up 7.68% quarter-to-date, down 4.899% year-to-date, and down 45.31% from the peak of 356.38 on 10/11/07. Average price per share is $23.73, down 45.11% from the peak of $43.23 on 6/4/07.

Percent over 10-sma: 89.00%. 13-Week Closing Highs: 327, most since June 5th. 13-Week Closing Lows: 3.
Put/Call Ratio: 0.808. Kaufman Options Indicator: 0.96.

P/E Yield 10-year Bond Yield Spreads: -6% (earnings before charges), 123% (earnings after charges), and 130% (projected earnings).
Reported aggregate earnings before charges for the S&P 1500 peaked in August 2007 at $19.18 and are now at $5.40, a drop of 71.85%. Estimated aggregate earnings peaked at $21.95 in February 2008 and are now $13.11, a drop of 40.27%. The spread between reported and projected earnings is 143%, the widest level in years.

27 of the S&P 500 have reported 1st quarter earnings. According to Bloomberg, 59.3% had positive surprises, 11.1% were line, and 29.6% have been negative. The year-over-year change has been -21.6% on a share-weighted basis, +0.6% market cap-weighted and -4.1% non-weighted. Ex-financial stocks these numbers are -16.3%, +1.5%, and +3.2 %, respectively.

Federal Funds futures are pricing in a probability of 78.0% that the Fed will *leave rates unchanged*, and a probability of 22.0% of cutting *25 basis points to 0.0%* when they meet on April 29th. They are pricing in a probability of 66.8% that the Fed will *leave rates unchanged* on June 24th, a probability of 17.6% of cutting 25 basis points to 0.0%, and a probability of 15.6% of *raising 25 basis points*.

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

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Economic News

4/11/09 – China's bank loans increased more than six-times versus one year ago and money supply grew 25.5% in a sign that the government's stimulus plan was beginning to have an effect.

4/10/09 – The Monthly Budget Statement for March showed a deficit of $192.3 billion versus the estimate of -$165.0 billion as tax payments dropped and the government spent more to reveive the economy. The deficit for the first six months of this fiscal year already exceeds the record set in the entire prior year.

4/9/09 – The Trade Balance for February was -$26.0 billion versus the -$36.0 billion estimate and January's -$36.2 billion. <u>It was the smallest trade gap since November 1999, the smallest with China in three years, and the smallest with Japan since 1984</u>. The Import Price Index for March MoM was 0.5%, the first rise in eight months, versus the 0.9% estimate. <u>YoY it was -14.9%, the biggest drop on record, versus the -14.7% estimate</u>. Excluding energy prices fell for the third straight month, down 0.7%. Initial Jobless Claims for w/e 4/4 were 654K versus the 660K estimate and down from the prior 674K. Continuing Claims for w/e 3/28 were a record 5,840K versus the 5,810K estimate and the prior 5,745K. U.S. March ICSC Chain Store Sales YoY in March were -2.1% versus the -0.8% estimate.

4/8/09 – MBA Mortgage Applications for w/e 4/3 rose 4.7% for the fifth straight gain and above the prior +3.0%. Wholesale Inventories for February dropped 1.5%, more than the -0.7% estimate and the -0.7% in January. Sales at U.S. wholesalers rose for the first time in since June and contributed to the inventory drop. At the current sales pace distributors have 1.31 months of inventory on hand, the lowest since November. <u>Stockpiles of durable goods fell 1.2%, the biggest decline on record, as durable sales climbed 2%, the most since April 2008.</u>

4/7/09 – IBD/TIPP Economic Optimism for April was reported at 49.1 versus the estimate of 45.8 and above the prior 45.3. Consumer Credit for February was -$7.5 billion versus the -$3.0 billion estimate and down from the $8.1 billion increase in January. ABC Consumer Confidence for w/e 4/5 was -50 versus the -49 estimate and the prior -49.

4/3/09 – Nonfarm Payrolls for March lost 663K jobs versus the 660K estimate and up from the prior 651K for February. Unemployment for March came in as expected at 8.5%, up from 8.1% in February and the highest level since 1983. Manufacturing Payrolls for March were -161K versus the estimate of -162K, and slightly better than February's -169K. Average Hourly Earnings for March MoM were in line at +0.2%, while YoY they were +3.4% versus the +3.5% estimate. Average Weekly Hours for March were 33.2 versus the 33.3 estimate. The ISM Non-Manufacturing Composite for March was 40.8 versus the 42.0 estimate.

4/2/09 – Initial Jobless Claims for w/e 3/28 were 669K versus the estimate of 650K. Continuing Claims for w/e 3/21 were 5,728K versus 5,590K. Factory Orders for February were up 1.8% versus the estimate of +1.5%, the first increase in seven months. Excluding transportation equipment orders rose 1.6%.

4/1/09 – MBA Mortgage Applications for w/e 3/27 were +3% from the prior week, rising for the fourth consecutive week as 30-year fixed mortgage rates fell to a record low 4.61%. Challenger Job Cuts YoY for March was up 180.7%. ADP Employment Change report for March showed a loss of 742K jobs versus the -663K estimate and up from -706K in February. ISM Manufacturing for March came in at 36.3 versus the estimate of 36 for a third consecutive increase, while ISM Prices Paid was 31.0 versus the estimate of 33.0. Construction Spending MoM for February was -0.9% versus the estimate of -1.9%. Pending Home Sales MoM for February was up 2.1% versus an estimate of 0.0%. Pending Home Sales is considered a leading indicator. Total Vehicle Sales for March were 9.9 million versus the estimate of 9.2 million, while Domestic Vehicle Sales for March were 7.1 million versus the 6.5 million estimate.

3/31/09 – S&P/CaseShiller Home Price Index for January was 146.40 versus the 147.20 estimate and down from December's 150.56. The S&P/CaseShiller Composite-20 Index for January showed a YoY decline of 18.97% versus the -18.60 estimate December's -18.60%. This was the fastest drop on record for home prices in 20 U.S. cities. All 20 cities showed decreases led by -35% in Phoenix and -32.5% in Las Vegas. Chicago Purchasing Manager Index for march was 31.4 versus the 34.3 estimate and February's 34.2. Consumer Confidence for March came in at 26.0 versus the 28.0 estimate and February's 25.3. February's number was the lowest since records began in 1967. The Milwaukee Purchasing Manager's Index for March was 30.0, up from February's 29.0.

3/30/09 – Dallas Fed Manufacturing Activity for March was -49% versus the estimate of -52%, and an improvement from February's -57.3%.

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Economic News

3/27/09 – Personal Income in February was -0.2% versus the -0.1% estimate. Personal Spending was +0.2% matching estimates, but lower than January's +0.6%. The PCE Deflator YoY was +1% versus the +0.8% estimate. PCE Core MoM was +0.2%, matching estimates. PCE Core YoY was +1.8% versus the +1.6% estimate. University of Michigan Confidence for March was 57.3 versus the 56.8 estimate.

3/26/09 – Fourth quarter GDP was -6.3% annualized versus the -6.6% estimate. 4Q Personal Consumption was -4.3% versus the -4.4% estimate. The GDP Price Index was +0.5%, matching estimatesand, and Core PCE QoQ was +0.9% versus the +0.8% estimate. Initial Jobless Claims were reported at 652K versus the 650K estimate. Continuing Claims were 5,560K versus the 5,475K estimate.

3/25/09 – Durable Goods Orders for February were +3.4% versus the -2.5% estimate, the biggest gain in over a year and the first in seven months. Ex-transports it was +3.9% versus the -2.0% estimate. Durable Goods inventories fell 0.9% after dropping 1.1% in January, the biggest two-month drop since 2003. Mortgage Applications for w/e 3/20 were +32.2% over the prior week, the third straight increase. Refinances were up 42%. New Home Sales in February were +4.7% from January to 337K annualized versus the -2.9% estimate. The median sale price fell 18% YoY, the biggest drop since records began in 1964.

3/24/09 – The House Price Index for January was up 1.7% month-over-month versus the estimate of down 0.9%. The Richmond Fed manufacturing Index for March was -20 versus the -50 estimate. The ABC News U.S. Weekly Consumer Confidence Index for March 22nd was -49 versus -47 the week before.

3/23/09 – Existing Home Sales in February were a better than expected 4.72 million annualized versus the estimate of 4.45 million. They were also up 5.1% versus Januarym much better than the estimate of down 0.9%.
3/19/09 – Initial Jobless Claims for w/e 3/14 were 646,000, better than the estimate of 655,000. Continuing Claims for w/e 3/7 came in at 5,473,000 versus the 5,323,000 estimate. The Conference Board's Index of Leading Indicators for February was down 0.4% versus the estimate of a decrease of 0.6%. January's number was revised down from +0.4% to +0.1%. The Philadelphia Fed Index of manufacturing shrank for the 15th time in 16 months, coming in at -35.0 versus the estimate of -39.0.

3/18/09 – The FOMC left rates unchanged as expected, but announced they will buy as much as $300 billion of Treasuries and increase purchases of agency mortgage backed securities by up to $750 billion. <u>This caused the biggest decline in 10-year bond yields since records started in 1962.</u> The Consumer Price Index for February was +0.4% versus the +0.3% estimate and up from +0.3% in January. Excluding food and fuel costs the core rate was +0.2%, pushing the annual core rate to +1.8% versus the +1.7% estimate. The U.S. Account Deficit for Q4 narrowed more than forecast to $132.8 billion, the smallest since 2003. Mortgage applications for w/e 3/13 were +21.2%. This includes purchases and refinances.

3/17/09 – U.S. Producer Prices for February rosse 0.1% versus the 0.4% estimate. Excluding food and fuel core prices rose 0.2% versus the 0.1% estimate. U.S. Housing Starts in February unexpectedly surged from a record low of 583,000 annualized versus the 450,000 estimate. <u>This was the biggest jump since 1990.</u> Building permits were reported at 547,000 annualized versus the 500,000 estimate.

3/16/09 – The Empire Manufacturing Index (New York) for March came in at -38.23 versus the estimate of -30.80. New orders and shipments dropped to record lows and the inventories index hit the lowest level since 2001. U.S. Industrial Production for February dropped for the fourth month in a row coming in at -1.4% versus the -1.3% estimate, reflecting automobile cutbacks and plunging exports. Factory Capacity Utilization fell to 70.9%, matching the lowest level ever. Net Long-Term TIC Flows for January were -$43.0 billion versus the estimate of +$45.0 billion as international demand for U.S. financial assets fell.

3/13/2009 – The Trade Balance for January came in at -$36 billion versus the estimate of -$38 billion. The trade deficit narrowed in January to the lowest level in 6 years as imports fell faster than exports. The narrower gap was mainly due to the drop in petroleum prices. The Import Price Index for February fell -0.2% MoM versus the estimate of -0.7%. YoY it was -12.8% versus the -13.5% estimate. A concern for the U.S. economy is the slump in foreign demand for American made goods. Exports decreased 5.7% to $124.9 billion, the lowest since September 2006. The World Bank said the global economy is likely to shrink for the first time since WWII, and trade will decline by the most in 80 years.

The S&P 500 is overbought on the intra-day chart.

The daily chart of the S&P 500 shows it penetrated the down trend line from the asymmetrical triangle on Friday. It is nearing resistance at the 875 area. A negative divergence has developed on the stochastic.

The stochastic is showing a negative divergence.

The weekly chart of the S&P 500 shows the stochastic entering the overbought zone but it has not yet turned down.

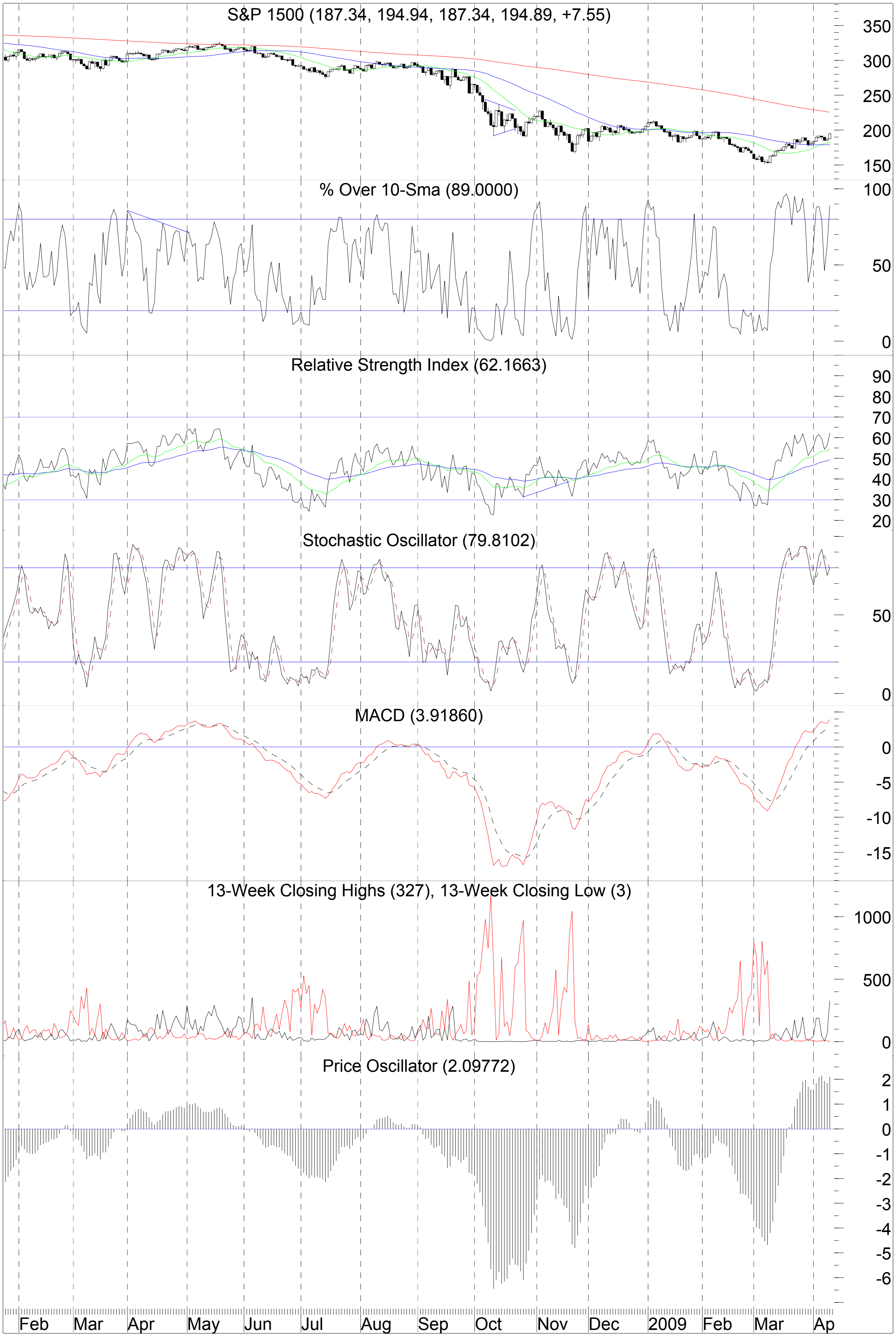
The Nasdaq 100 is overbought on the intra-day chart.

The MACD is starting to turn down.

The Nasdaq 100 followed through to the upside after breaking out of the sideways channel on the daily chart. After an almost non-stop move higher there are two gaps in the chart and momentum indicators are near or at overbought levels.

The weekly chart on the Nasdaq 100 shows it can go higher before all momentum indicators are at overbought levels. There are multiple resistance levels overhead. The stochastic has entered the overbought zone but has not yet turned over.

The Kaufman Report - Wayne S. Kaufman, CMT



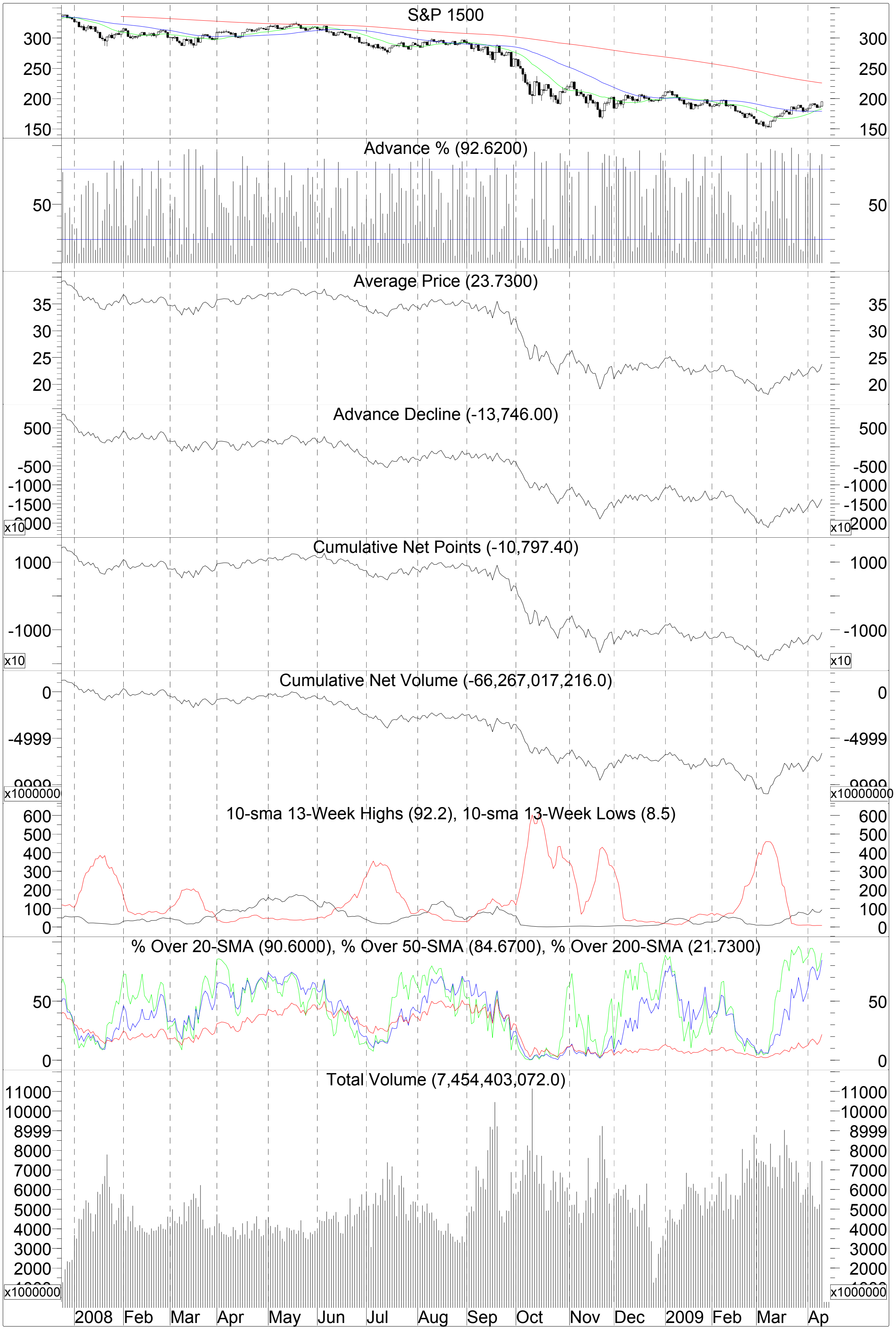
89% of stocks are over their 10-sma. There is a slight negative divergence here.

The RSI is challenging recent highs.

The stochastic has a negative divergence.

13-week closing highs Friday were the most since 6/5.

Our price oscillator, a good indicator of trends, remains well into positive territory.



92.62% of stocks traded higher Friday, the 7th time over 90% since 3/9.

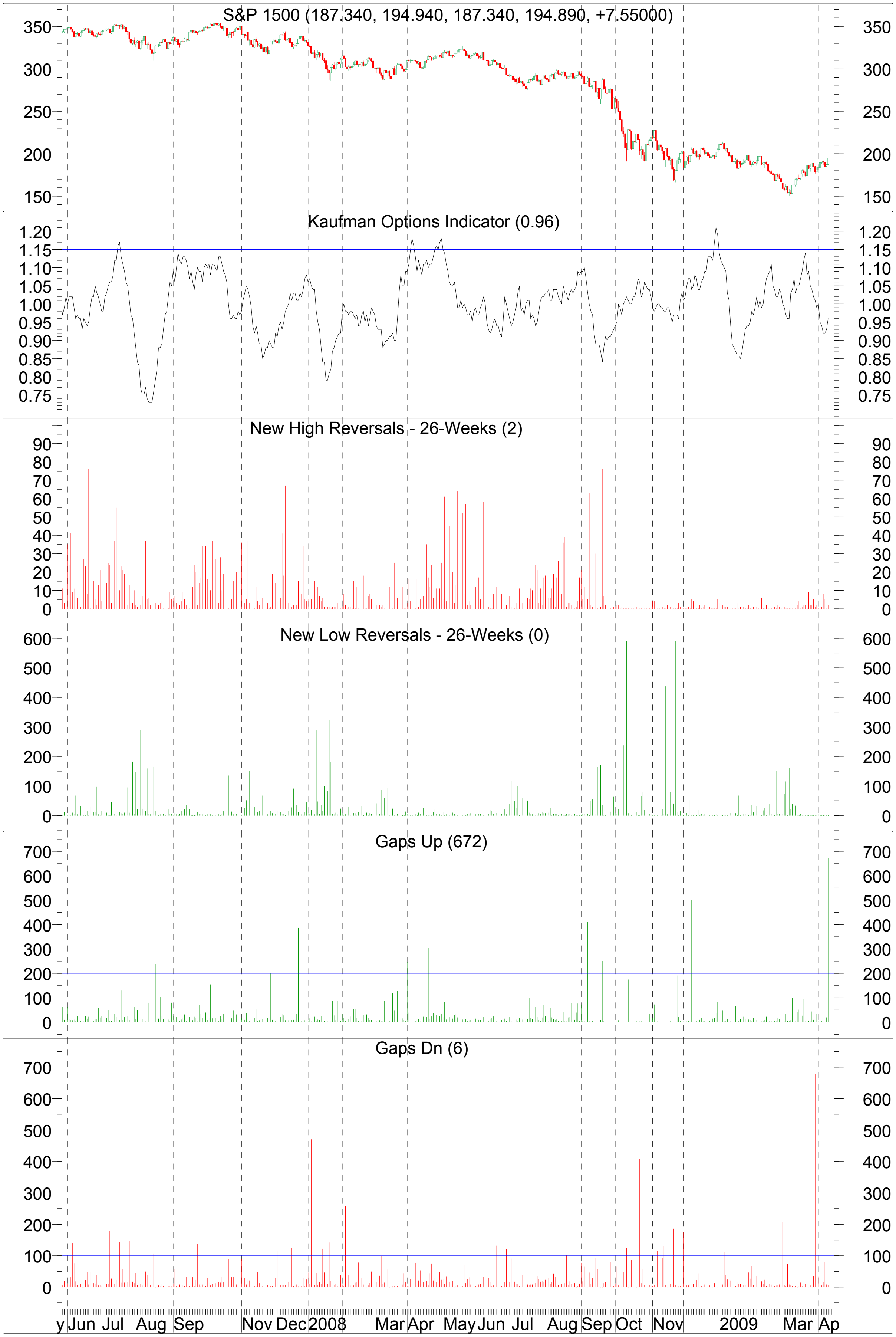
Average price per share is the highest since 1/9.

The AD line is starting to lag our other breadth statistics, indicating the current rally may be weakening.

The 10-sma of 13-week closing highs remains well above that of 13-week lows. The same is true of 26-week highs and lows (not shown).

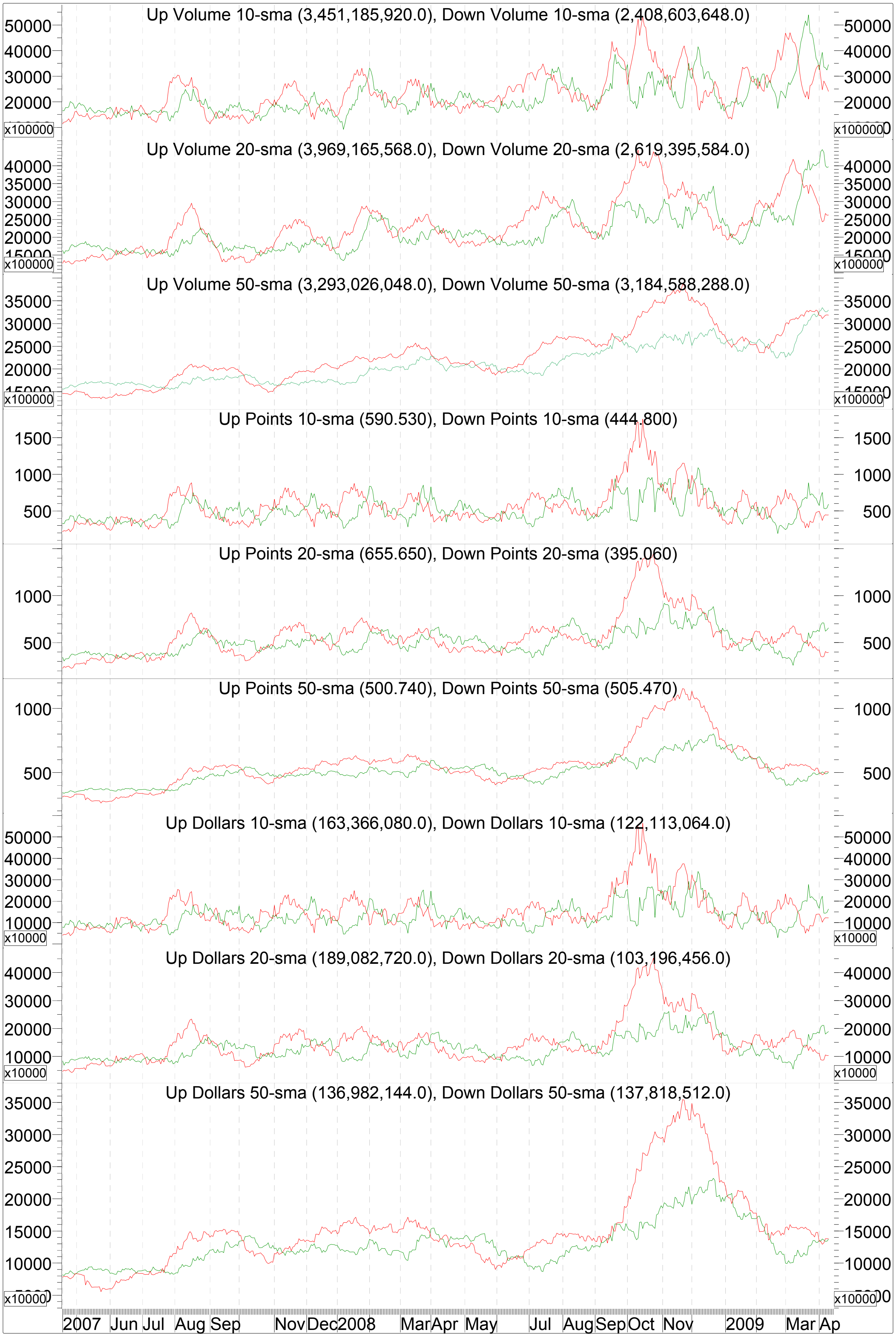
Very strong numbers on the percent over 20 and 50-sma, and the percent over 200-sma is the highest since 10/2.

Volume expanded dramatically during Friday's rally.

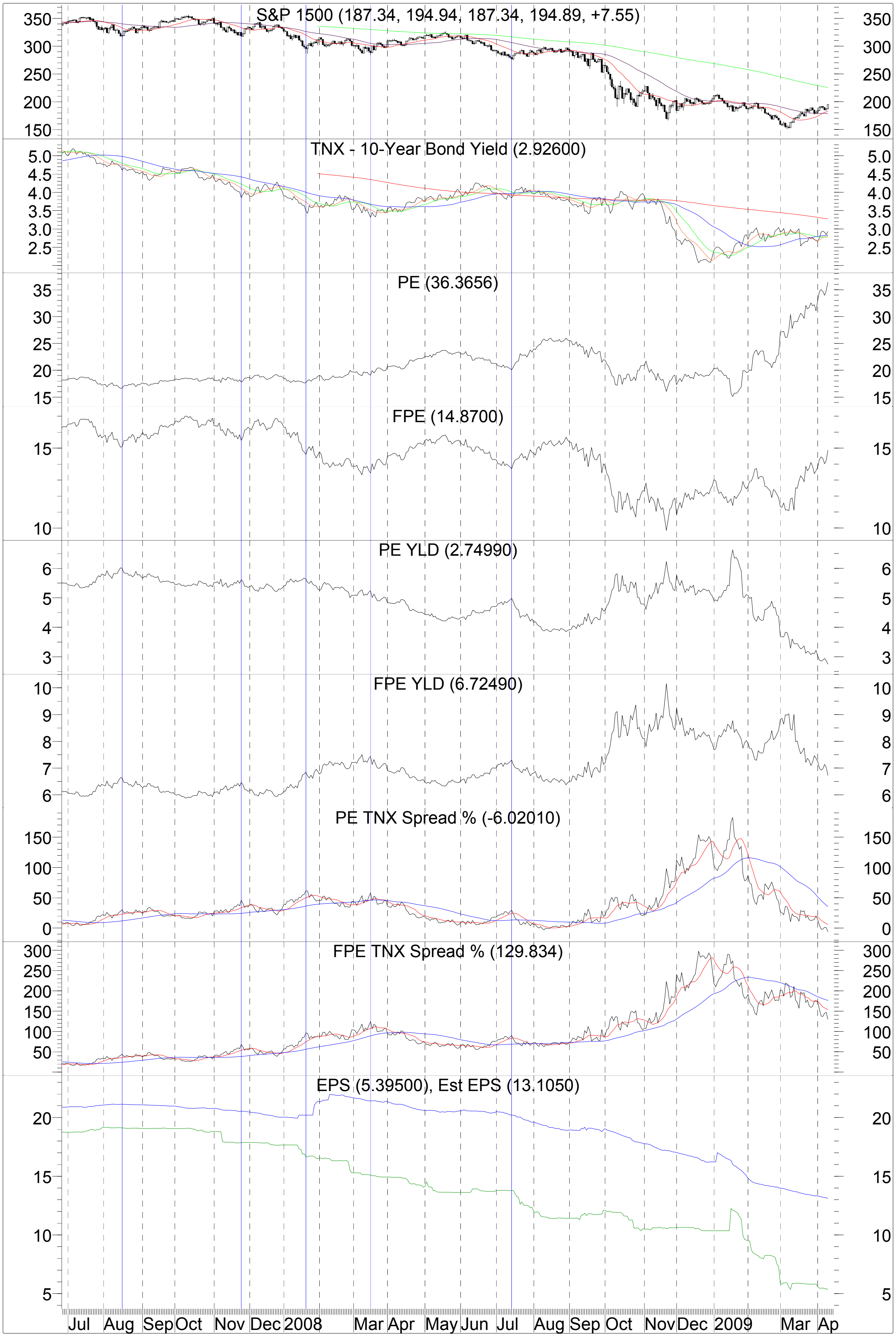


Our proprietary options indicator is showing pessimism, which is good, but is at a level where stocks can go either way.

Friday showed another huge amount of stocks gapping up.



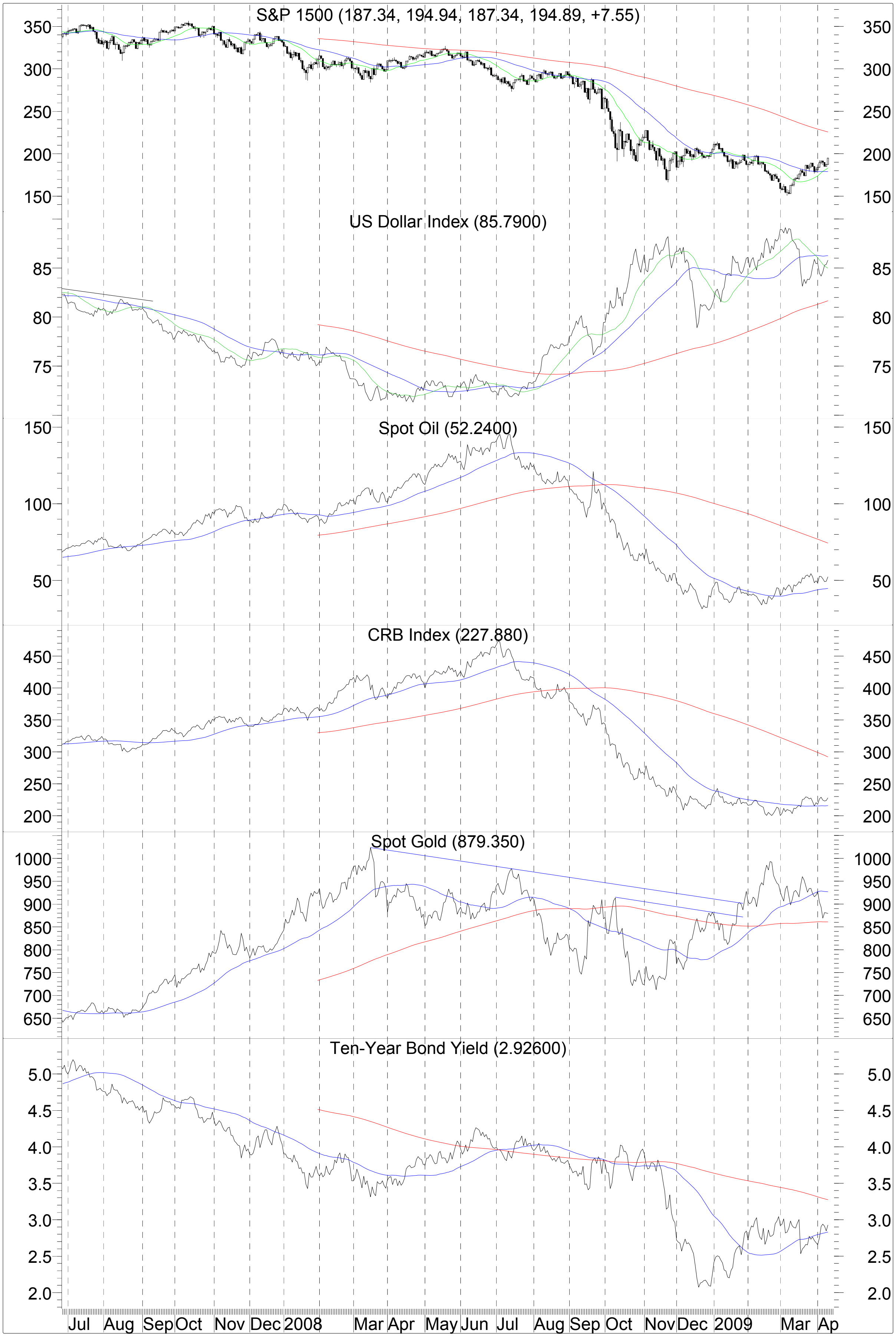
Our statistics of demand (green lines) versus supply (red) shows demand in control. However, shrinking supply has been a big part of the recent rally while demand has not been surging that much.



P/E ratios have been rising dramatically.

Spreads between earnings and bond yields have narrowed dramatically. Based on reported earnings before charges they are terrible. Based on earnings after charges and based on estimates stocks are attractive. Should investors believe the charges are "one time" and the estimates will hold?

Reported and forecast earnings continue to move inexorably lower.



The U.S. Dollar Index is just under its 50-sma (blue). It is still looking toppy on the weekly charts.

Oil continues to rally and on the weekly chart shows 8 consecutive weeks where it closed higher than its open for the week.

Commodities continue to stay above the 50-sma (blue).

Gold is just above its 200-sma (red) and could bounce soon.