Our Weekly Paid Newsletter

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Arguably, one of the greatest truths of the human condition is that we only ever get to really miss the good things in life after they are gone. Thus it was with a chilling feeling of resignation that I learned that the Daily Maverick has this week been retrenching numbers of its miniscule staff.

What a different world we live in from the one when, back in the late 1960s as the newly-appointed Financial Editor of Durban's Daily News, our managing editor casually asked me to provide him with an ideal staffing list. I asked for six staffers and was promptly given seven… and he soon expanded it to ten in what was to become a flourishing operation which, in addition to the daily hard pages of financial statistics, share prices and business reports, was also soon producing weekly magazines devoted to a diverse range of themes including as divergent a theme as Food and Drink.

How, I wonder, would the Maverick team react today to such largesse? But then of course the 1960s were the glory years of newspapers when the more acres of news pages one could fill the more advertising space was being created….it was a time before TV and the Internet when ordinary folk could spare an hour or two a day for contemplative reading and, most importantly I believe, were able to develop balanced views about the nature of the world around us.

More to the point, the crisis at the Daily Maverick prompted me this week to send them R1 000 and, if you agree with my sentiments, perhaps you would rise to the challenge and also send them a donation. It's really easy to do, if you receive any of their reports you will see the panel I have reproduced on the right. Right-click on the blue text which reads, "Join the 30 000…." And you will be led through the process.

Help us fund independent journalism to make sure that it remains **free for all to read.** Join the 30,000 Maverick Insiders who contribute monthly (or annually) to our **membership community** and you can rest assured of getting the latest reporting every day without a hitch.

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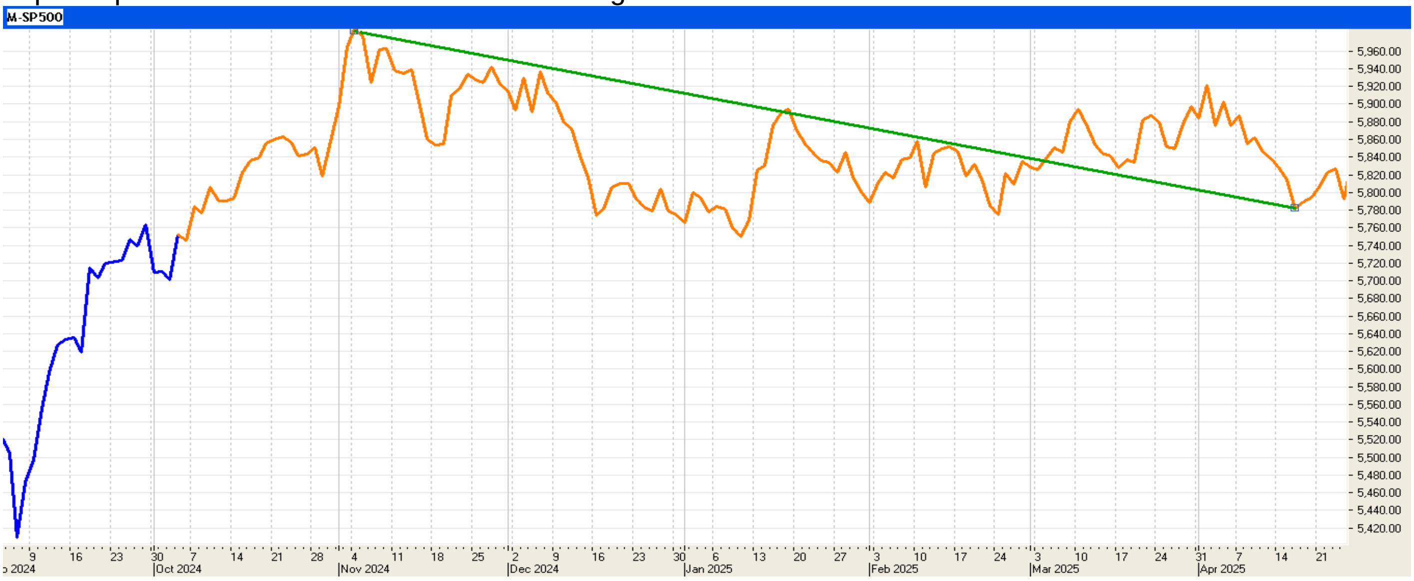
Furthermore, once you have completed it the Maverick staff will send you an e-mail thanking you and, if you care to forward that message on to support@sharefinderpro.com and I will add my thanks by sending you a free copy of my latest book '**Robbed'** which is now in the final edit stage and due for first release this weekend.

Turning now to events shaping world markets, ShareFinder is continuing to project that most markets will top out on November 4 – the day before the US election which, either way, is likely to have a profound impact upon investment decisions in the coming weeks.



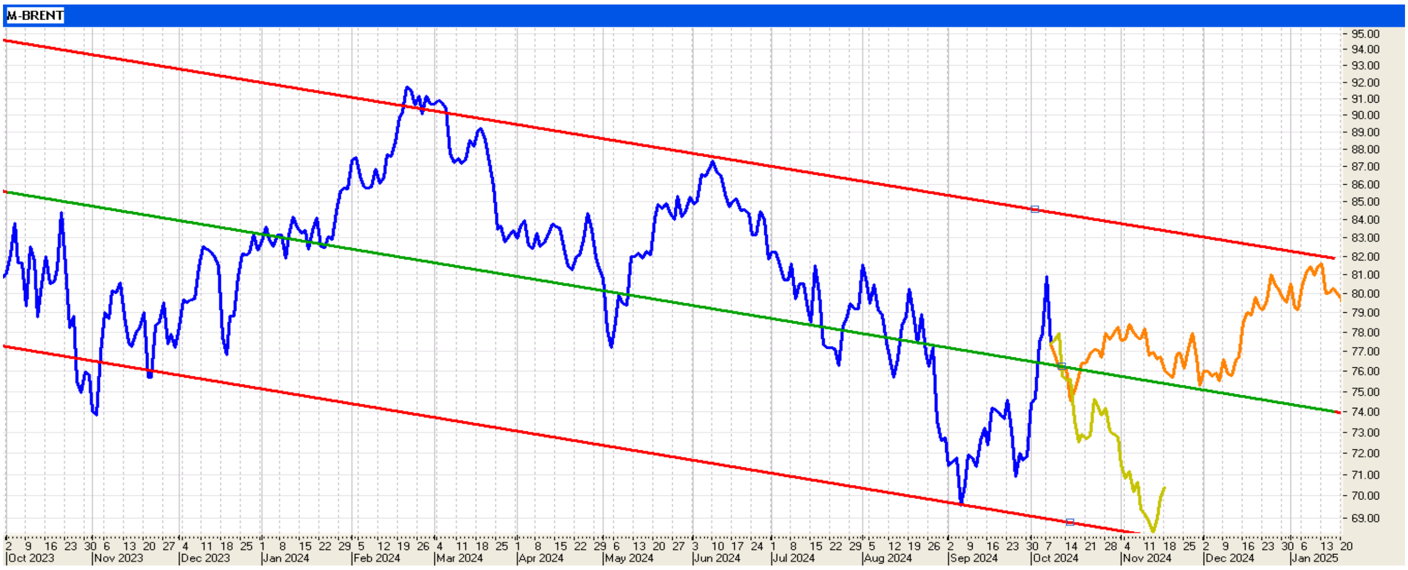
If you have lived through as many bear markets as I have you will study this New York S&P500 Index graph with a degree of resignation rather than panic because what it implies about the future is a few months of cautious negativity rather than a bear market crash. Such markets represent opportunity for those with the wisdom to set aside cash ahead of them in order to be able to cherry-pick in the months ahead.

But all that could change in a flash if events in the Middle East escalate much further. Thus I noted with concern a report in the Wall Street Journal this week which reported that: *"Israel has so far refused to divulge to the Biden administration details of its plans to retaliate against Tehran, U.S. officials say, even as the White House is urging its closest Middle East ally not to hit Iran's oil facilities or nuclear sites amid fears of a widening regional war.*

And it added, "U.S. officials are frustrated that they have been repeatedly caught off guard by Israel's military actions in Gaza and Lebanon, and are seeking to head off further escalation. Some had hoped the U.S. would learn more about what Israel was contemplating during a planned visit Wednesday between Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant and Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin at the Pentagon, but Gallant postponed his trip, the Pentagon said.

Israel has proclaimed loudly that it intends to retaliate with force against Iran's recent massive rocket attack and so the only question really is when and what form it will take. The delicate issue for investors is whether that retaliation might attack Iran's important oil production facilities: a logical strategy because to close Iran's oil fields would cripple the latter's economy.

Of course, for a world economy trying to recover from the heavy interest rate impact of the recent war on global inflation, anything which impacts oil prices could have a critical impact on the incipient recovery, so please consider my technical analysis of recent crude oil prices:



The recent upsurge of crude from its September 10 low of $68.52 to $80.86 saw it convincingly breech its green medium-term mean line and took it nearly to the upper (Red) "Tram Line" before falling back once more. Thus the yellow short-term projection suggests that if nothing untoward happens in the next few days to further upset the crude market the price could fall to $68.31 by October 13.

However, the orange medium-term projection suggests a resumption of the upward price trend starting on October 16 with a rather more pronounced rise beginning November 2 rising strongly until mid-January.

All of that would be consistent with the subsequent protracted weakness of global share markets which ShareFinder has long been projecting and so this is a very probable scenario.

The month ahead:

New York's SP500: I correctly predicted a modest dip ahead of a month-long October upsurge to a final peak on November 5 ahead of six months of weakness. Other than the peak moving to the 4th the prediction remains intact!

Nasdaq: I correctly predicted that losses could continue into the second week of October ahead of a sharp gain to November 5 and then a decline likely to last until late next year. The market turned upwards again on the 8th and I now expect the decline to begin on the 4th.

London's Footsie: I also correctly predicted the start of a lengthy decline that should continue to late January despite a brief recovery in mid-December.

France's Cac 40: I correctly predicted last week's decline would precede gains until November 5 followed by two months of declines ahead of a long New Year recovery. Now I see the decline starting on November 4th and lasting until January 3.

HongKong's Hangsen: I failed to foresee this week's sharp decline which I now expect to last until October 24 followed by a 5-week recovery to a final peak on December 10. Though early January through to mid-March is likely to see some modest gains, I thereafter see weakness for most of the year.

Japan's Nikkei: I correctly predicted this week's recovery and I expect it to continue to the end of November though brief weakness is likely around November 13. Thereafter I see a long decline for most of 2025.

Australia's All Ordinaries: I correctly saw the start of losses followed by a very bumpy recovery likely to last until month-end ahead of losses to mid-December. Thereafter I see a VERY volatile recovery until mid-May.

JSE Top 40 Index: I correctly warned that weakness would begin now ahead of very volatile weakness which I see lasting at least until mid-April.

ShareFinder JSE Blue Chip Index: I correctly predicted the recovery would top out now followed by losses until December month-end. I now see six weeks of gains in the New Year followed by six of losses ahead of four months of gains to a peak around July 9.

Rand/Dollar: I correctly predicted brief weakness which I see continuing until the October 15-28th and then a continuation of the recovery until the end of April.

Rand/Euro: I correctly predicted a weaker phase which should be over by the 24th followed by gains to next July at least! March should, however, offer weakness!

The Predicts accuracy rate on a running average basis since January 2001 has been 87.38 percent. For the past 12 months it has been 95.21 percent.