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Subject: Any openminded opinions regarding where the economy is going?

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Sat, 26 Aug 2006 14:55:04 GMT

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Lets see what we have; Jobless rate hovering in the high 5's; interest rates steady for now until the November elections. The dollar is the real issue now. Allow me to cut and paste an interesting paragraph here:" World trade is now an interesting game in which the U.S. produces dollars and the rest of the world produces things that dollars can buy. The worlds inter-linked economies no longer trade to capture an economic advantage; they compete in exports to capture needed dollars to service dollar denominated foreign debts and to accumulate dollar reserves to sustain the exchange value of domestic currencies. To prevent speculative attacks on their currencies; the worlds central banks must acquire and hold dollar amounts equal to their currencies in circulation. This creates a built-in support for a strong dollar that in turn forces the worlds central banks to acquire and hold even more dollars in reserve. This phenomenon is known as 'dollar hegemony', which is created by the geopolitically constructed peculiarity that critical commodities, most notably oil are denominated in dollars. Everyone accepts dollars because dollars can buy oil. The re-cycling of petro-dollars is the price the U.S. has extracted from oil producing countries for continuing U.S. tolerance of the oil exporting cartel since 1973." Henry C.K. Lui Something to think about since the Iraqis had filed to convert their oil revenue to Euro-dollars shortly before the war began.

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Subject: Re: settle for closed minded?

Posted by [Bill Martinelli](#) on Tue, 29 Aug 2006 03:42:14 GMT

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What I feel is that, despite in what direction this conversation gets sun into... I dont have as much buying power as I used to. I think the higher cost of the energy we use is the largest factor.

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Subject: It's all about me, pal

Posted by [wunhuanglo](#) on Tue, 29 Aug 2006 08:35:48 GMT

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And here we have the distinction of paying about 20% more than the rest of the country for everything except gas. When they have signs outside of every Burger King that they pay \$10 an hour and \$500 per month bonuses you have to figure that the days of the 19-cent hamburger are numbered.

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Subject: Re: It's all about me, pal  
Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Tue, 29 Aug 2006 13:06:32 GMT  
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I remember the 12c hamburger at Wetsons. The White Castle belly-bomber was a nickel. But then I used to go out with 5\$ in my pocket. 4 gals of gas= 1.00\$ Tequila nights shots were 25c so figure 8 shots and 4 beers in the evening was 3\$ and they bought back 4 which left a 1.00\$ tip. Then an omelete and coffee at the diner and watch the sunrise before you went to work so that was the 5\$. Then I borrowed a dollar for lunch next day. Those were the days; I think? Amazing I knew someone then who would actually lend me a dollar.

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Subject: Re: It's all about me, pal  
Posted by [Bill Martinelli](#) on Tue, 29 Aug 2006 14:16:38 GMT  
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So what can we do? Who can the public vote for to hold down inflation. Democrats like tax and spend, Republicans like spend.(haha)We earn 4 times as much money than years ago but stuff cost 5 times as much. We have a great number of fast food joints constantly looking for people to work. In this area minimum wage is laghable.

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Subject: Re: It's all about me, pal  
Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Tue, 29 Aug 2006 15:55:46 GMT  
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The only thing we can do is remain awake and keep vigilant. No one person can help anything but you got to try and stay focused on the priorities and reign in the extremist wackos. What I do is try and think what makes sense and who benefits. If they clear-cut a forest then a couple dozen guys make great money for a year and the lumber company gets wealthy; but then the people lose a forest. So we use legislation to force them to re-forestation plans and selective cutting. Thats the war and we try to strike a balance. Use your vote to promote the best policy and minimise the problems people can cause when they vote people into office based on faulty or non-issue platforms. We all knew the Iraqi WMD's were BS; how did that happen? We let down our guard. Now we have a huge mortgage on our future.

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Subject: Really? Honestly?  
Posted by [wunhuanglo](#) on Wed, 30 Aug 2006 12:48:58 GMT  
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We can go to the polls, especially for local and primary elections, and refuse to vote for one of the can't-tell-the-difference sons o'bitches with a D or an R after his/her name. Vote Green, Independent or Crazy As Roger Fucking Rabbit but don't vote the incumbent or his hand picked look-alike successor. In politics today there are two inviolate truths - every national politician is a corporate shill, and neither the two retards in the Executive or any of the 535 thieves and cowards down the street have the balls to go against their benefactors and do anything that would actually benefit the public (unless it just happens to coincide with corporate interests or ensure another vote come election time, but it's pure serendipity that the representatives address the concerns of the electorate). It's the old story, if you keep doing the same thing hoping for a different outcome, you're clearly insane. We vote for another wind-up doll that looks exactly like the wind-up doll he's replacing and then we're dissatisfied when he's the exact same self-interested sellout as his predecessor.

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Subject: Re: Really? Honestly?

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Wed, 30 Aug 2006 15:27:00 GMT

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Being a full-time cynic is a lot of work: I know because I am one also. But let's look at it this way; some good things have been accomplished; will you give me that? Whatever occurred to make that happen; well that's what we need to focus on.

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Subject: Re: Really? Honestly?

Posted by [Bill Martinelli](#) on Wed, 30 Aug 2006 23:11:50 GMT

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I'd say some good things come up now and then. Certainly some people must be pleased or every incumbent would be out ousted at every single election. So, clearly the majority is either happy or clueless. Honestly I rarely cast votes for incumbents. It's nice to see some new faces that have an idea.

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Subject: Re: Really? Honestly?

Posted by [Manualblock](#) on Wed, 30 Aug 2006 23:40:08 GMT

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Yeah; Bill Clinton came from out of nowhere and did a pretty good job. Things were better than that for sure.

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