

Hello Colorado Wheat.

A massive dust storm Friday afternoon caused a 71-vehicle pileup on I-70 in Northwestern Kansas and 8 fatalities. I sincerely hope no one reading this wire was severely impacted, but I doubt that's the case, unfortunately.

I'm sure anyone caught out on that highway was just hoping to survive.



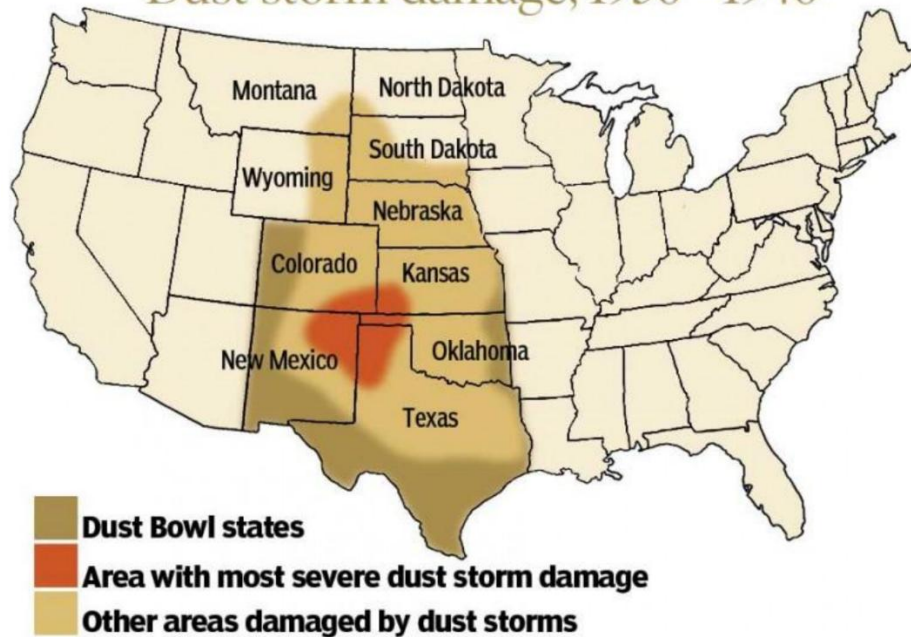
I see there's another storm coming. Will it be like this one from 1935?



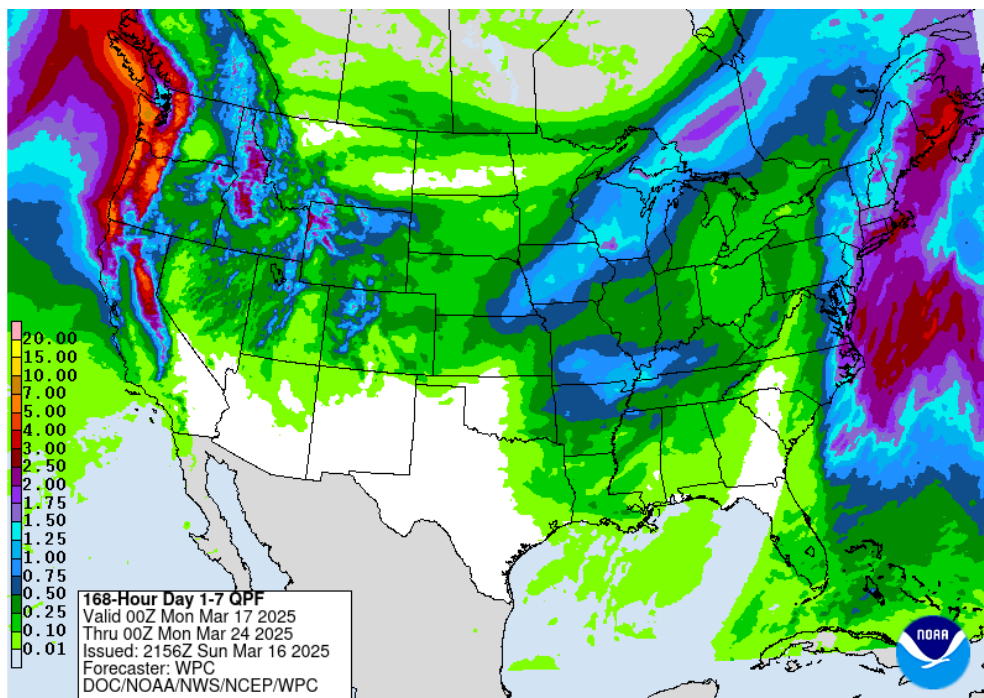
90 years ago... Where's that Climate Change when we need it?

*Charts and discussions follow, with the goal of giving you useful information to help you with the business of marketing your crops. My disclaimer remains the same: these are my sometimes rapidly changing opinions. ALSO, USE THE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES YOU CAN. **STUDIES SHOW GOOD MANAGEMENT ADDS AN AVERAGE OF 13 BU/ACRE; IT PAYS FOR ITSELF***

Dust storm damage, 1930 - 1940



Farming practices have changed since then, and hopefully we're a lot smarter now, but it's hard to avoid the conclusion that almost always rain is a good thing. In that regard, it's St Paddy's Day, which mean means my pal, Red Hardy, could use a drink. The forecast says maybe a tenth is coming, which is better than nothing, but... we'll see.



After winter wheat breaks dormancy, moisture needs increase rapidly. We'll need a rain pretty soon.

Grain markets didn't move a lot last week, even with a mid-week March WASDE update. Some difference of opinion is apparent, as KC notably gained 20c while old-crop corn and beans lost a dime. Also, it needs to be pointed out that KC outgained Chgo and MIAx spring wheat. The weather here and maybe elsewhere (India? Russia?) was a factor, and that's NOT going away until we get that needed rain.

Crude oil forged at least a short-term bottom, but the Stock Market was roiled again by the ongoing massive Tariff storm that refuses to blow itself out. The E Mini set another new Red line. (All those yellow boxes will be the new Red numbers in the charts we look at, as many of the old Red numbers are rolling off the table this week.)

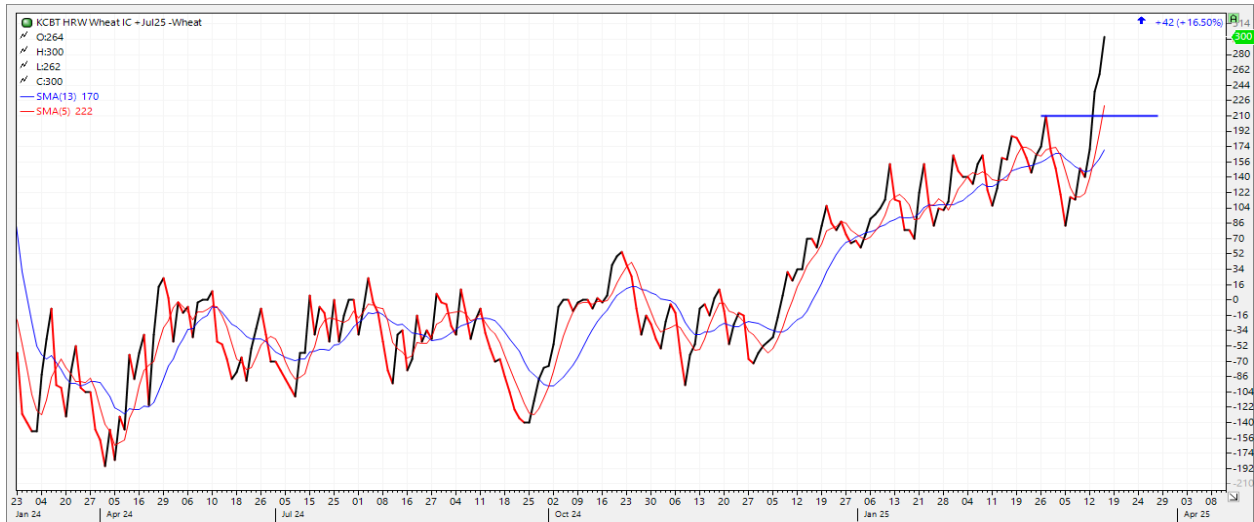
	KC MAY HRW	DEC 25 HRW	May CORN	DEC 25 CORN	Chgo K wheat	Springs MAY (K)	MAY'25 BEANS	NOV BEANS	Crude oil	S&P (H)
CLOSE	KWK25	KWZ25	CK25	CZ25	WK25	MWK25	SK25	SX25	CRD24	ES24
03/14	\$5.86	\$6.32	\$4.59	\$4.51	\$5.57	\$6.02	\$10.16	\$10.18	\$67.18	\$5640
03/07	\$5.65	\$6.12	\$4.69	\$4.54	\$5.51	\$5.93	\$10.25	\$10.26	\$67.04	\$5776
02/28	\$5.73	\$6.21	\$4.70	\$4.55	\$5.56	\$5.98	\$10.26	\$10.30	\$69.76	\$5963
02/21	\$6.22	\$6.65	\$5.05	\$4.75	\$6.04	\$6.47	\$10.57	\$10.60	\$70.40	\$6029
02/14	\$6.33	\$6.72	\$5.09	\$4.73	\$6.14	\$6.49	\$10.53	\$10.52	\$70.38	\$6132
02/07	\$6.14	\$6.53	\$5.01	\$4.66	\$5.96	\$6.38	\$10.66	\$10.58	\$71.00	\$6050
01/31	\$5.89	\$6.27	\$4.93	\$4.60	\$5.72	\$6.23	\$10.58	\$10.51	\$72.53	\$6067
01/24	\$5.70	\$6.08	\$4.97	\$4.61	\$5.59	\$6.06	\$10.68	\$10.49	\$74.66	\$6133
01/17	\$5.59	\$5.97	\$4.93	\$4.56	\$5.51	\$5.93	\$10.45	\$10.28	\$77.39	\$6034
01/10	\$5.61	\$5.99	\$4.80	\$4.50	\$5.44	\$5.93	\$10.38	\$10.31	\$75.75	\$5866
01/03	\$5.47	\$5.86	\$4.58	\$4.41	\$5.41	\$5.87	\$10.04	\$10.08	\$73.96	\$5990

Another factor last week was this Reuters story saying “*Commodities markets research provider Peak Trading Research said on Tuesday the funds, the investment vehicles for large endowments, foundations and sovereign wealth funds, could sell 200,000 to 300,000 contracts in agricultural commodities futures.*

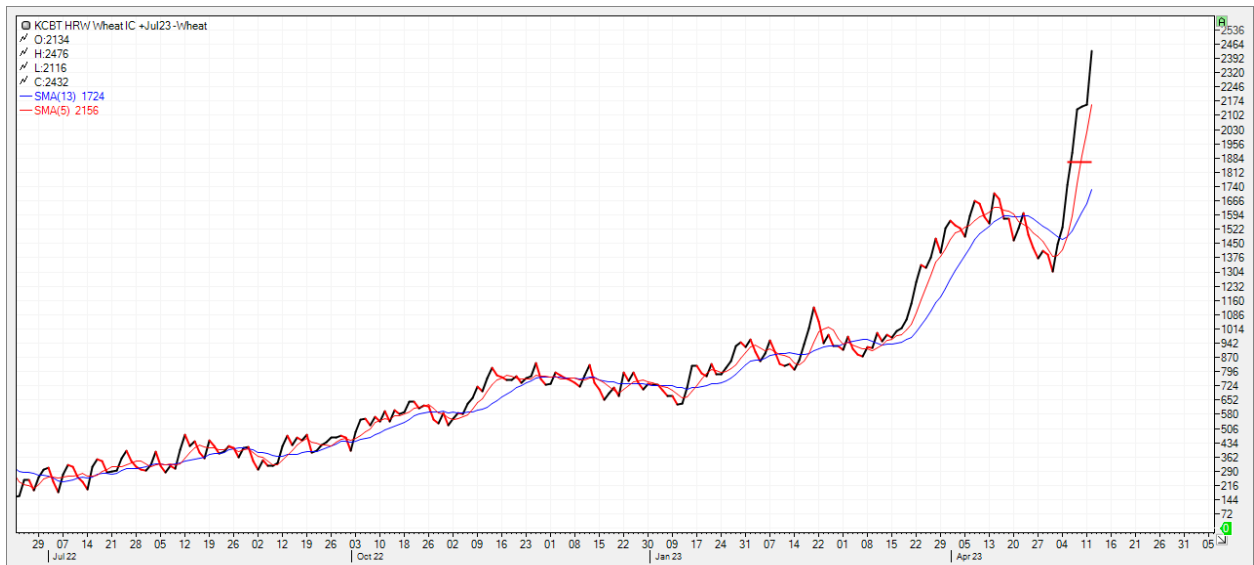
They have already sold some 156,000 contracts last week, a record amount for the period, equivalent to \$7.3 billion in contracts, it said.

<https://www.investing.com/news/commodities-news/index-funds-could-double-record-sales-of-agricultural-futures-amid-recession-fears-research-provider-says-3921312>

I admit I've never heard of "Peak Trading Research"... We'll assume they mainly try to sell their services to bigger fish than me. I don't know how many Big Fish subscribe to their services, but if enough fish think the Index Funds are going to sell another 200,000 to 300,000 contracts by the end of this month...well, that would be a bearish input. AND as the (very dumb, imo) Index Funds would typically own much more Chgo wheat than KC wheat, "front runners" would want to get in front of the anticipated Index Selling, and sell Chgo and buy KC. Which of course would exacerbate the Great Plains weather issue. THUS...we get a KC July – Chgo July wheat spread...pointing straight up! +30c is trading early Sunday nite.



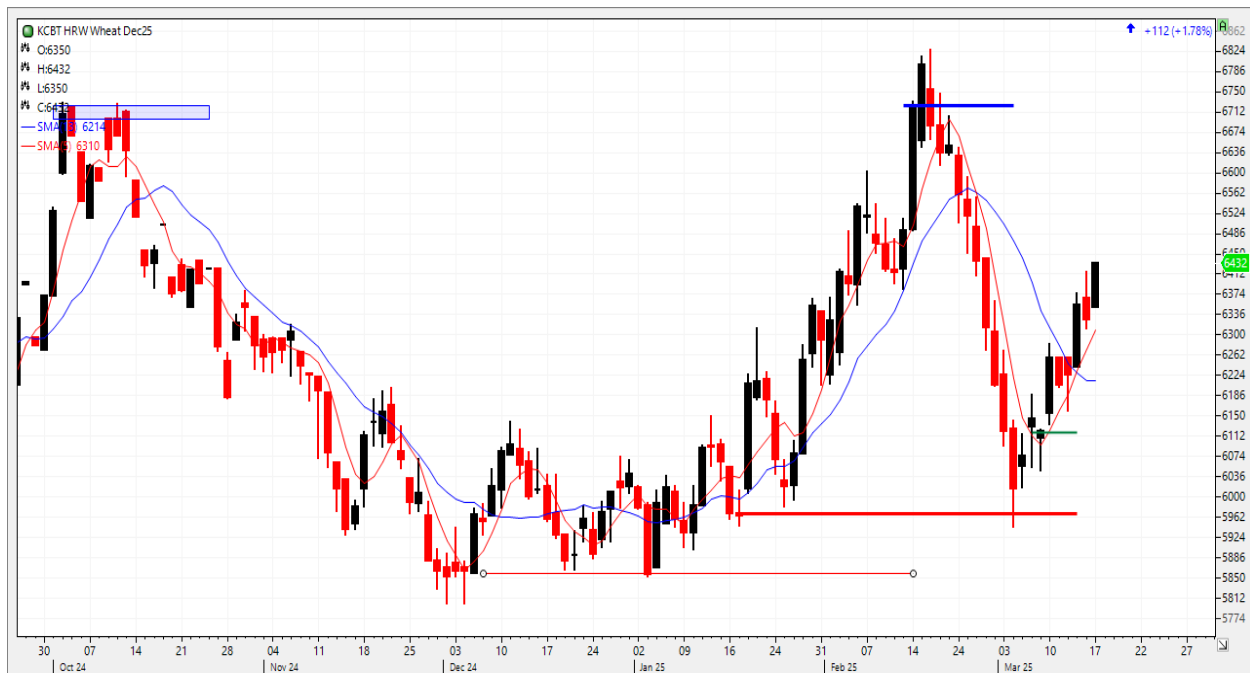
When will it be apparent to all that KC is "too expensive" compared to Chgo wheat? I'm not sure. But I **AM NOT** going to be in any hurry to pick the top. This chart is from my Weekly Wheat Update from 5/12/23, showing KC July at about +240!!!



That KC July '23 – Chgo July '23 peaked at +260 on 5/17/23, and then went straight down, losing more than \$1.30 by June 23, 2023.

ANYWAY...the main point is KC can gain relatively on Chgo wheat, possibly MIAX spring wheat, certainly corn or beans...for many reasons, so again, I don't think being in a hurry to sell the spread is necessary yet.

Here's KC Dec wheat by itself. This chart INCLUDES Sunday nite's 11c gains up to \$6.43:



I have 25% of my expected wheat production sold at \$6.54, which is fine, not really great, and I'm in no hurry to add to it.

The USDA's March WASDE update was flat out bearish wheat. Domestically, USA old-crop wheat carryout increased 25 million bu, on a 10 mil bu increase in spring wheat exports (Canadian shipments trying to outrace the coming tariffs) AND a 15 mil bu drop in USA wheat exports. On the World stage, world **wheat production increased 3.5 mmt** (2 mmt in Australia, about 1 mmt in Argentina, and .5 mmt in Ukraine) and **world wheat imports decreased 2 mmt**, mainly because Chinese wheat imports decreased 1.5 mmt.

Very bearish, no denying it.

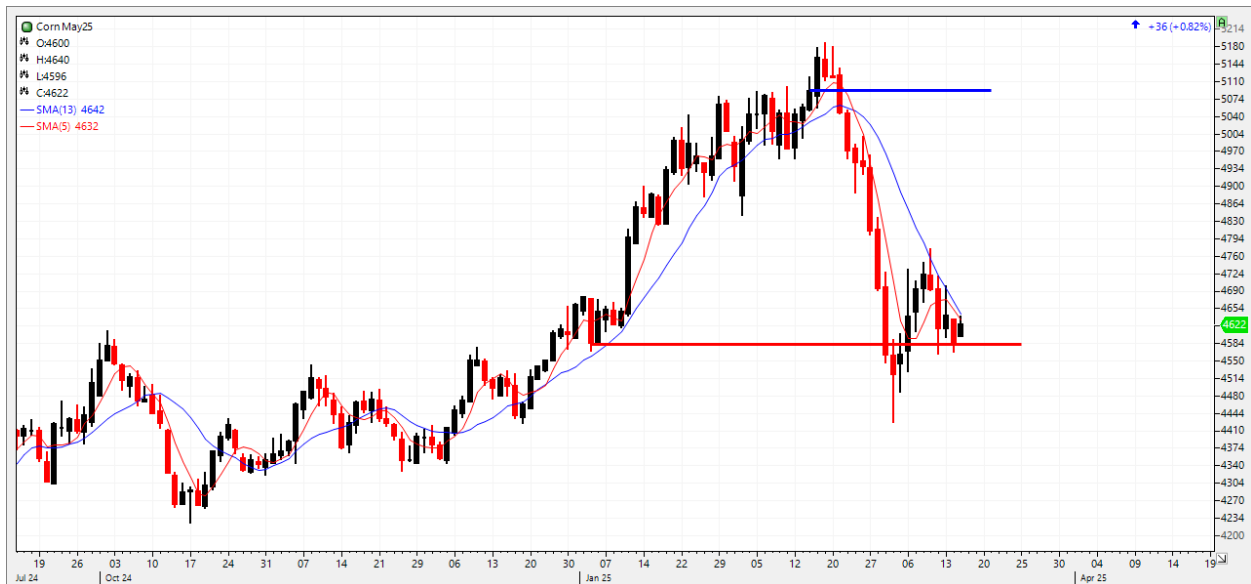
BUT right now, **it does not matter.** Why? Maybe because there was a 71-car pileup on I-70...

AS soon as we get a rain, all that bearish stuff will be recalled, but...we need a rain.

The USA domestic corn balance sheet did not change. It should have, as milo feeding increased by 50 million bu...but corn and wheat feeding did not decrease. (Speaking of domestic USA milo balance sheet, milo exports were slashed by 70 mil bu. yikes!) Do you remember that classic old-school rock and roll tune by The Cavalier's, later covered by Pearl Jam? "...the cryin' tires. The bustin' glass; the painful scream that I heard last. Where oh where can the Chinese milo buyers be? The Lord took them away from me..."

And while we're singing along with it, keep in mind the USDA also decreased Chinese corn imports by 2 million tonnes.

Due to expected Index selling, or still no Chinese USA corn buying, the old-crop May corn chart looks increasingly heavy. It's 3 or 4c higher Sunday night, supported by...maybe dry weather in wheat country? What the...??!!



Similarly, due to dates rolling off the 11-week Closing Table, Friday's close becomes May soybeans' Red line:



The USDA did NOT decrease Chinese soybean imports, although they did not increase them either. The USDA did INCREASE the Chinese bean crush y 2 mmt, but without more imports, the Chinese soybean ending stocks decrease the 2 mmt.

IF Trump and the Chinese could work something out, the soybean world picture could change quickly, but I don't think that's in the cards...

The updated USA Export Scorecard shows corn loadings were HUGE. I think this was the biggest week of corn loading since mid-April of 2022! And corn export sales of 38 mil bu were not bad.

WEEK ENDED (03/06/25)	Weekly loadings	Accumulated in season (FGIS)	Estimated fudge factor	Total loaded est*	USDA projection	Amount needed	Weeks to go	Bu per week needed
Corn	71.6	1144.8	243	1388	2,450	1062	26	40.8
Soybeans	31.0	1412.4	52	1464	1,825	361	26	13.9
All wheat	7.9	582.3	19	601	825	224	13	17.2
Milo	2.1	60.6	5	66	100	34	26	1.4
LAST update								
Corn	53.2	1073.1	243	1316	2,450	1134	27	42.0
Soybeans	25.5	1381.2	52	1433	1,825	392	27	14.5
All wheat	14.3	574.2	19	593	850	257	14	18.4
Milo	0.6	58.4	5	63	170	107	27	4.0

Soybeans had a good week of loadings, and soybean export sales were double the previous week (!), at 27 mil bu...The USDA's corn forecast looks about as expected; the soybean forecast is still too light in my opinion.

As we mentioned, the USDA did **lower the wheat and milo export forecast**. Wheat loadings were crummy, BUT export Sales of almost 29 mi bu were BIG! Milo...the picture isn't pretty, but at least it's more accurate.

Posted Gulf HRW to-arrive bids are unchanged:

GULF date	12 pro	11's	diff	
3/14/2025	105	100	5	
3/7/2025	105	100	5	
2/28/2025	105	100	5	K
2/21/2025	105	90	15	H

Posted basis bids in the country are steady to a little better:

Date	SE Colorado	Chey. Wells	Burlington	Holyoke area	Roggen area
03/14	\$4.81-\$5.06	\$5.06	\$4.76-\$4.86	\$4.671-\$4.81	\$5.11-\$5.66
03/07	\$4.60-\$4.85	\$4.85	\$4.55-\$4.65	\$4.40-\$4.60	\$4.90-\$5.45
02/28	\$4.68-\$4.93	\$4.93	\$4.63-\$4.73	\$4.48-\$4.68	\$4.91-\$5.53
02/21	\$5.14-\$5.39	\$5.29	\$5.11-\$5.21	\$4.94-\$5.14	\$5.41-\$5.89
02/14	\$5.26-\$5.51	\$5.26	\$5.21-\$5.26	\$5.06-\$5.26	\$5.53-\$6.01
BASIS	SE Colorado	Chey. Wells	Burlington	Holyoke	Roggen area
03/14(K)	-105, -80	-80	-110, -100	-125, -105	-75, -20
03/07(K)	-105, -80	-80	-110, -100	-125, -105	-75, -20
02/28(K)	-105, -80	-80	-110, -100	-125, -105	-82, -20
02/21(H)	-95, -70	-80	-98, -88	-115, -95	-68, -20
02/14(H)	-95, -70	-95	-100, -95	-115, -95	-68, -20
Date	Concordia	Salina	Hutch/Wichita	Ark City	
03/14(K)	-65	-50, -30	-70, -35	-65	
03/07(K)	-70	-50, -30	-70, -35	-65	
02/28(K)	-75	-55, -35	-76, -35	-70	
02/21(H)	-60	-40, -30	-53, -20	-55	
02/14(H)	-60	-40, -30	-50, -20	-55	

World wheat news...is mainly watching the weather in the USA Great Plains. KC wheat is up 13c tonight, dragging Chgo and Minny up 8c, and dragging corn AND beans up 4c.

I doubt anyone thinks Russia is going to accept Trump's term for a Ukrainian ceasefire, so I don't think it's a market mover.

Trump directed the US Navy to eliminate the Houthi's attacking Red Sea shipping. If shipping rates decline, that would be a pleasant surprise.

OK, we'll step away and work on filling out an NCAA men's basketball bracket. Spoiler Alert! I like Houston for all the marbles.

Oh, one other thing?

Who's green and stays out all night?

Paddy O' Furniture-

Have a good week. Stay Safe.

Slow Down.