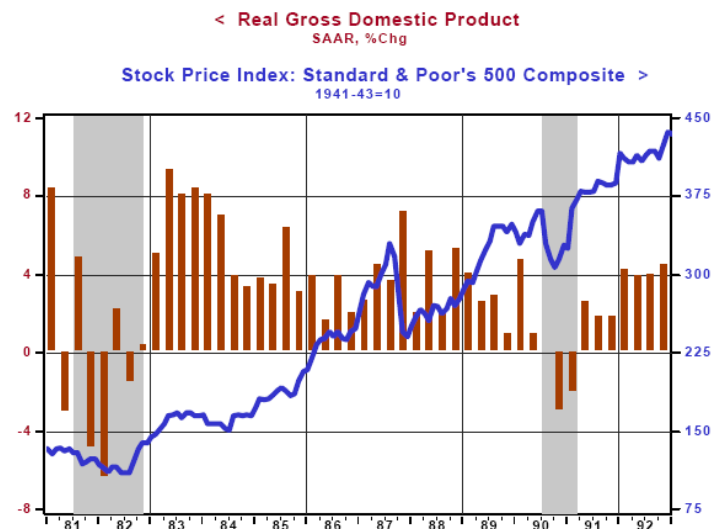
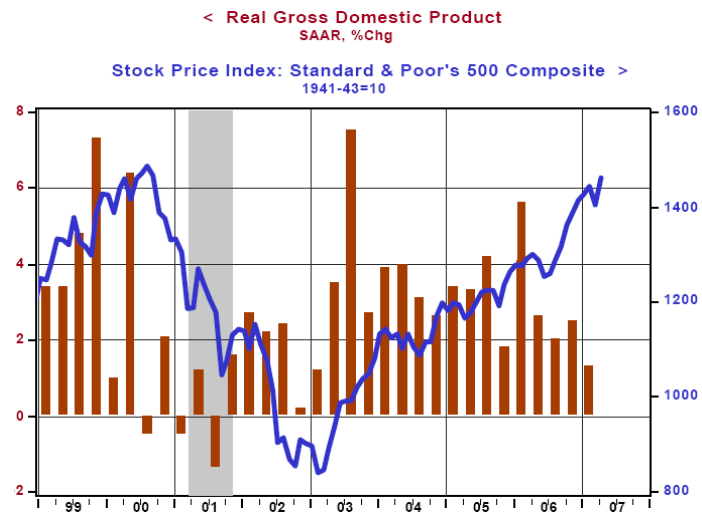
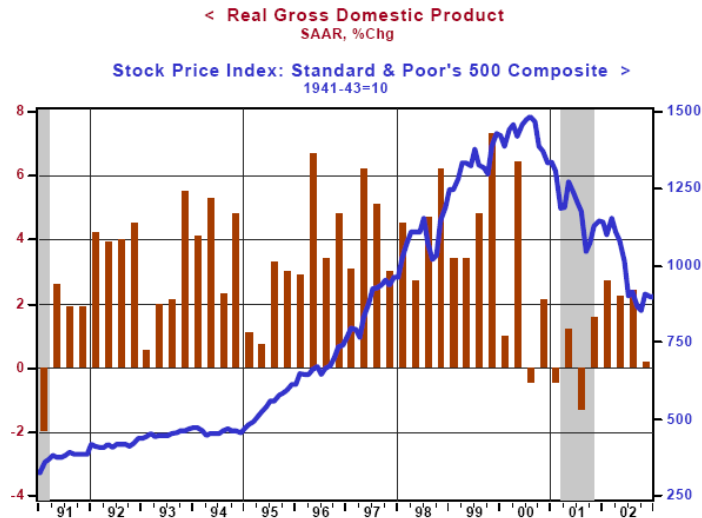


THIS TIME IT'S DIFFERENT 05.14.2007

The following six charts and table come from the Northern Trust web site dated 5/8/07. We felt you might want to have this information for your files. We have always heard that the stock market is a leading indicator to business activity—and indeed it is. But please note the last four recessions. What you'll find is that the lead time is becoming less and less. As a matter of fact, if you consider the January 1980 to November 1982 recession as one (which we do) rather than two, the average lead time has been seven months divided by three recessions, or 2.3 months. Not much of a lead, wouldn't you say?

Our suggestion to you—don't count on the stock market this time around as a good leading indicator.





S&P 500 Index and Lead Time

Peak of S&P 500	Peak of Economy	Recession	Lead Time in months
Dec-68 106.81*	Dec-69	Dec-69 - Nov-70	12
Jan-73 118.79*	Nov-73	Nov-73 - Mar-75	10
Feb-80 115.22*	Jan-80	Jan-80 - Jul-80	-1
Nov-80 135.55*	Jul-81	Jul-81 - Nov-82	8
Jun-90 360.49*	Jul-90	Jul-90 - Mar-91	1
Aug-00 1477.61*	Mar-01	Mar-01 - Nov-01	7
Apr-07 1461.35*	???	???	

*- monthly average of S&P500 index