# Managing investments in a bipolar market

Windsor Club – November 20, 2008

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#### The bipolar market

National Post Sept. 30, 2008



National Post Oct 1, 2008



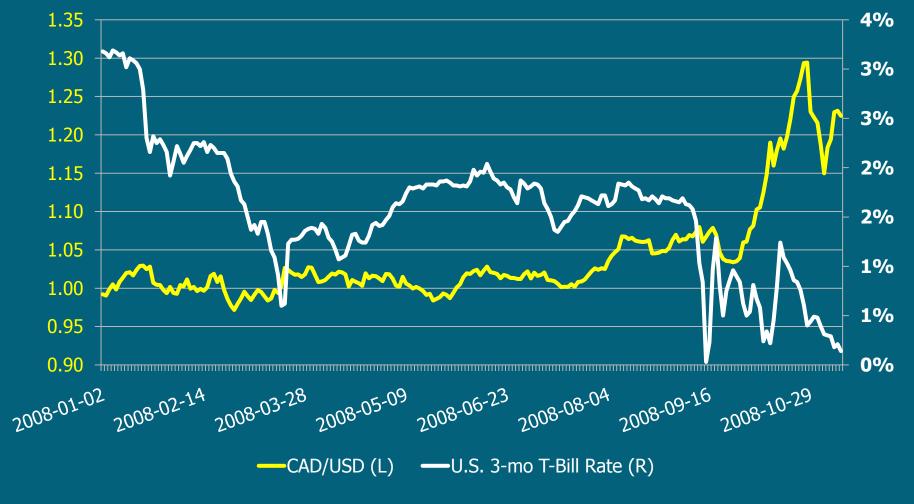
National Post Oct 11, 2008





National Post Oct 15, 2008

## U.S. dollar rises T-bill yield plummets



#### Bear markets are common

Bear Markets (U.S. stocks)		Peak-Trough	Months to	Months to
Start	End	Decline	Trough	Recovery
Ave	rages	-33.23%	15	31
Mar-1876	Feb-1879	-33.11%	15	20
Sep-1882	Nov-1885	-20.76%	21	17
Jan-1893	Aug-1897	-25.12%	4	48
Sep-1902	Nov-1904	-25.79%	13	13
Sep-1906	Dec-1908	-33.97%	14	13
Nov-1916	May-1919	-27.98%	13	17
Oct-1919	Apr-1922	-22.78%	22	10
Aug-1929	Jan-1945	-83.41%	33	151
Nov-1947	Oct-1949	-21.76%	6	35
Jun-1962	Apr-1963	-22.28%	6	10
Dec-1968	Jan-1972	-31.45%	19	19
Jan-1973	Sep-1976	-43.34%	21	24
Sep-1987	Jul-1989	-30.21%	3	20
Sep-2000	Mar-2006	-43.26%	25	42
Oct-2007	?	?	?	?

Raw Data Sources: Professor Robert Schiller, CRSP, S&P, Citigroup

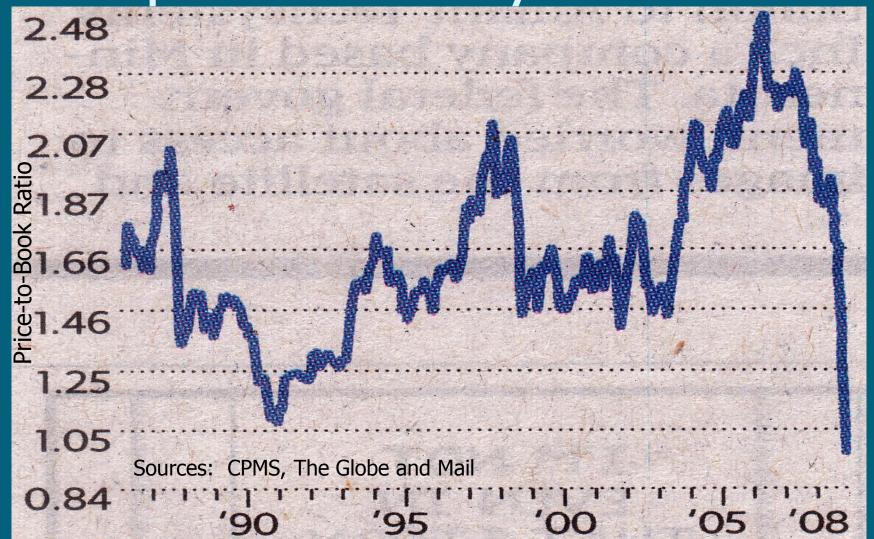
## This bear is severe but not unprecedented

	Decline (through 20-Nov-2008)	
Canadian Stocks (TSX)	-48.77%	
U.S. Stocks (S&P 500)	-52.26%	
Global Stocks (All-World)	-56.54%	
Overseas (developed)	-58.69%	
Emerging Markets	-67.29%	

Note: Excludes dividends. U.S. and foreign stocks in U.S. dollars

Source: Yahoo! Finance

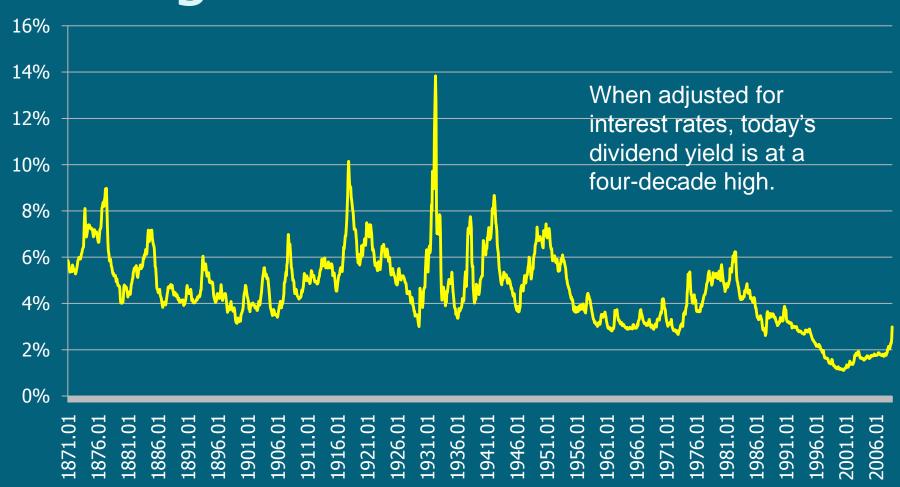
## Canadian stocks: cheapest in 20+ years



### U.S. Stocks: cheapest since 1990



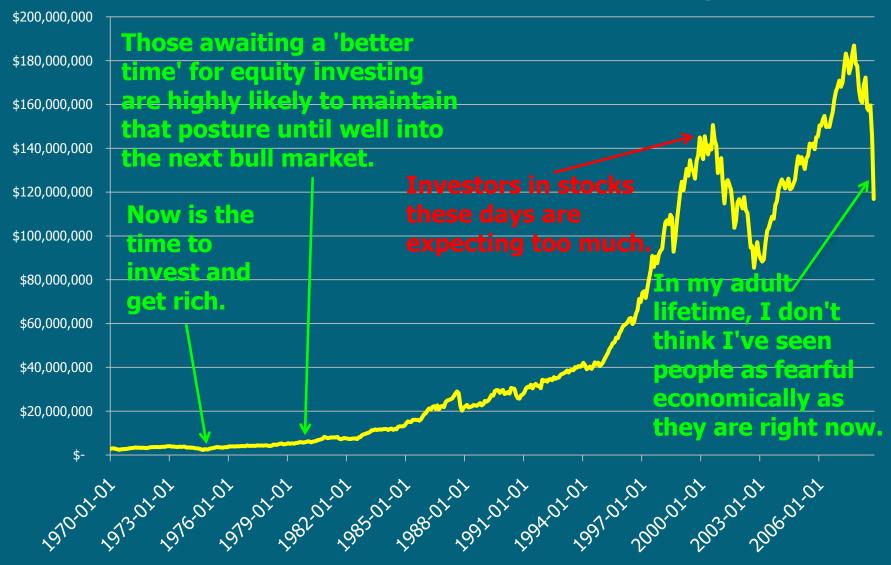
### S&P 500 Dividend Yield: Highest since Oct 1992



### Buffett Signals - 1970s



### Buffett: early but right



Quotation Sources: CNBC, Fortune, Forbes

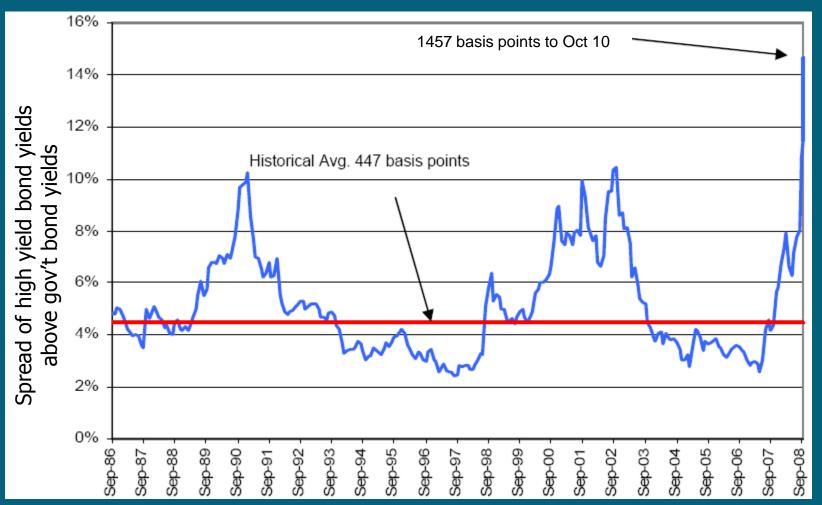
#### Should we listen to Buffett?

	1974 buy signal	1979 buy signal	1999 warning
6 mos later	+24%	+12%	0%
1 year later	+31%	+23%	-6%
2 years later	+50%	+47%	-16%
3 years later	+58%	+30%	-29%
5 years later	+110%	+109%	-4%

## Lessons from the Great Depression



#### Junk bonds at record low



Source: Investment Opportunities: High Yield Bonds, Dundee Securities, October 15, 2008

## Simplistic (long-term) expected return model

	Bonds (Gov't)	Stocks	High Yield Bonds
Yield	3.57%	6.25%	20.00%
+ Growth in Yield	0.00%	5.00%	0.00%
<ul><li>Baseline</li><li>Expectation (before price/yield change)</li></ul>	3.57%	11.25%	20.00%
+ Impact of Price/Yield Change	-	+/-	+
= Expected Return	???	???	???

#### Wrap-up

Markets are panic-driven.

 Bear markets have always occurred, and always will.

Stocks are cheap.

High yield bonds are at record lows.

### Suggestions

Focus on longer-term fundamentals.

Have a balanced portfolio (75/25 rule).

Diversify, particularly when values are abundant.

 Stocks and high yield bonds are very attractive.