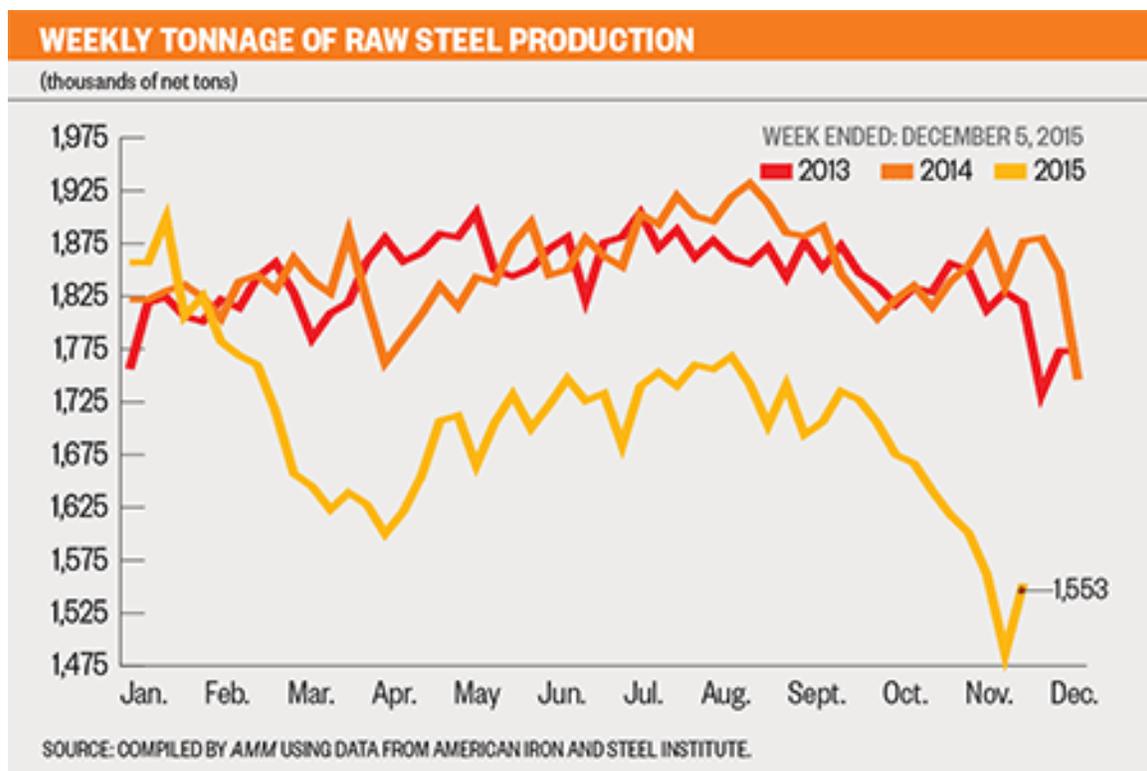


This is the Scrap Metal & Commodities Recycling report, by BENLEE Roll off and Open Top Trailers and Raleigh and Goldsboro Metal Recycling. Today is Monday Dec 14th, 2015.

Last week's highlights were, Steel prices rose for the first time in months, copper prices finished the week at a one month high and one of the largest scrap metal companies in Chicago abruptly closed.



After months of declines, steel production had a small tick up in the last reporting week. Reasons were high levels of automotive production, reduced steel imports and continued slow growth of the economy.

Oil Prices Adjusted for Inflation



Oil prices adjusted for inflation are now at 10+ year lows as Saudi Arabia continues to drill and as the U.S. high levels of pumping continue. Globally, oil consumption is growing, but supply is growing faster.

US OIL RIG COUNT

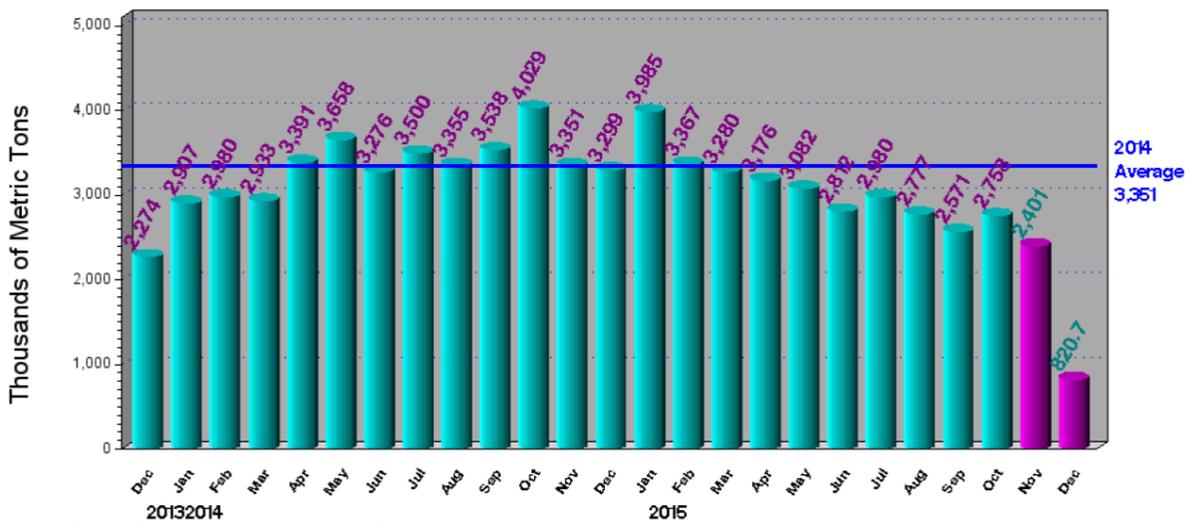


SOURCE: Baker Hughes

BUSINESS INSIDER

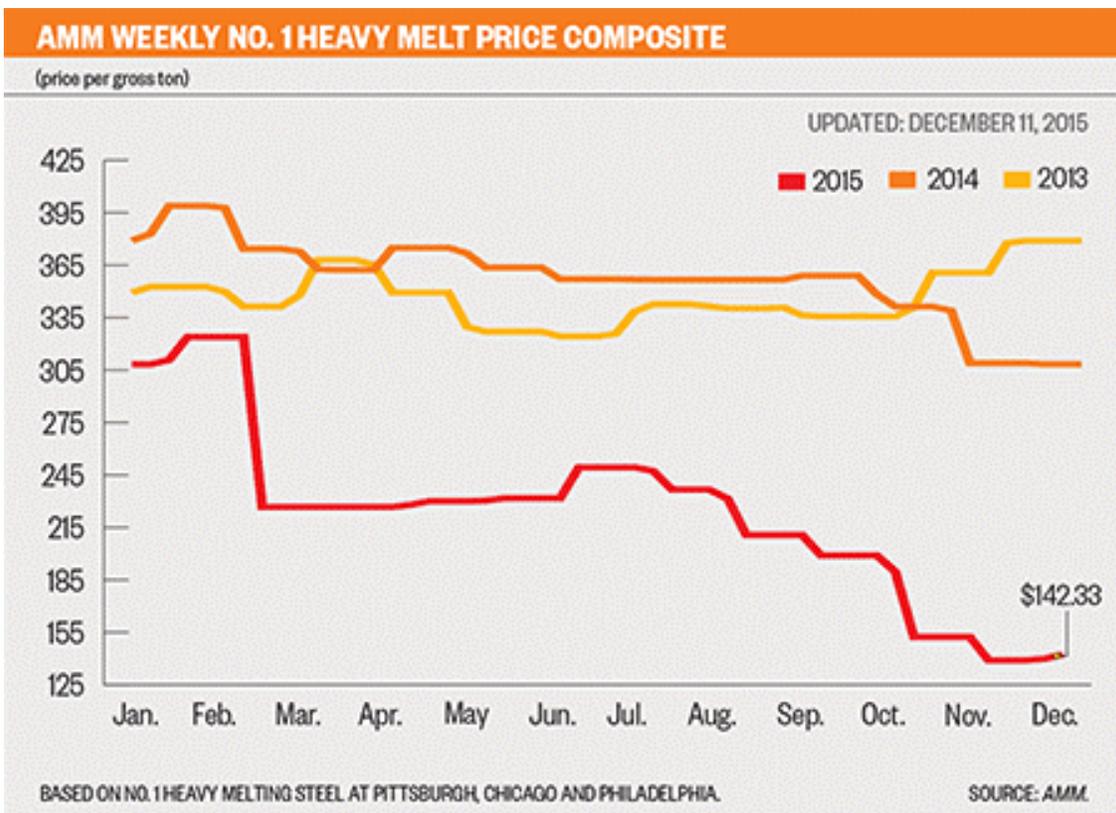
The number of U.S. oil drilling rigs, major consumers of steel, continue falling due to low oil prices. This downward trend will continue for months unless something changes.

U.S. Imports of All Steel Mill Products From World



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Enforcement and Compliance
 Graph last modified on : December 8, 2015 with
 Licensing Data collected through December 8, 2015
 Commerce license data used for the last months appear in a different color
 Data extracted from the import licenses are not official Census data

Imports of finished goods steel have been falling almost steadily all year and in November, they hit a new low for the year which is good news for U.S. steel mills.



Put all together, with some positive economic issues, a small increase in steel production and lower imports, for the first time in about 5 months, there was a small uptick in scrap ferrous prices. Related, Nucor and AK steel both announced steel price increases.



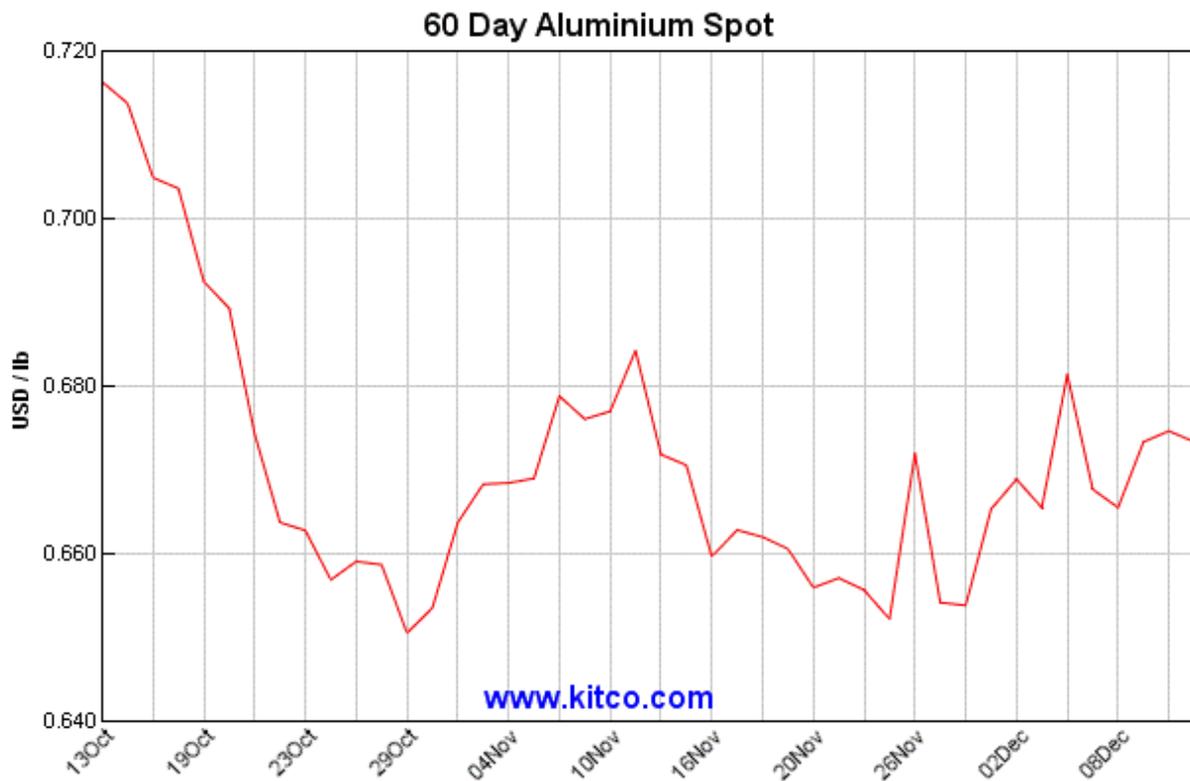
Copper came down a bit this morning, but closed up for the week, at a high for the past approximately 5 weeks. The reasons were clear.

Glencore, Freeport McMorRan and American Anglo, three of the some of the largest copper miners in the world, announced major cut

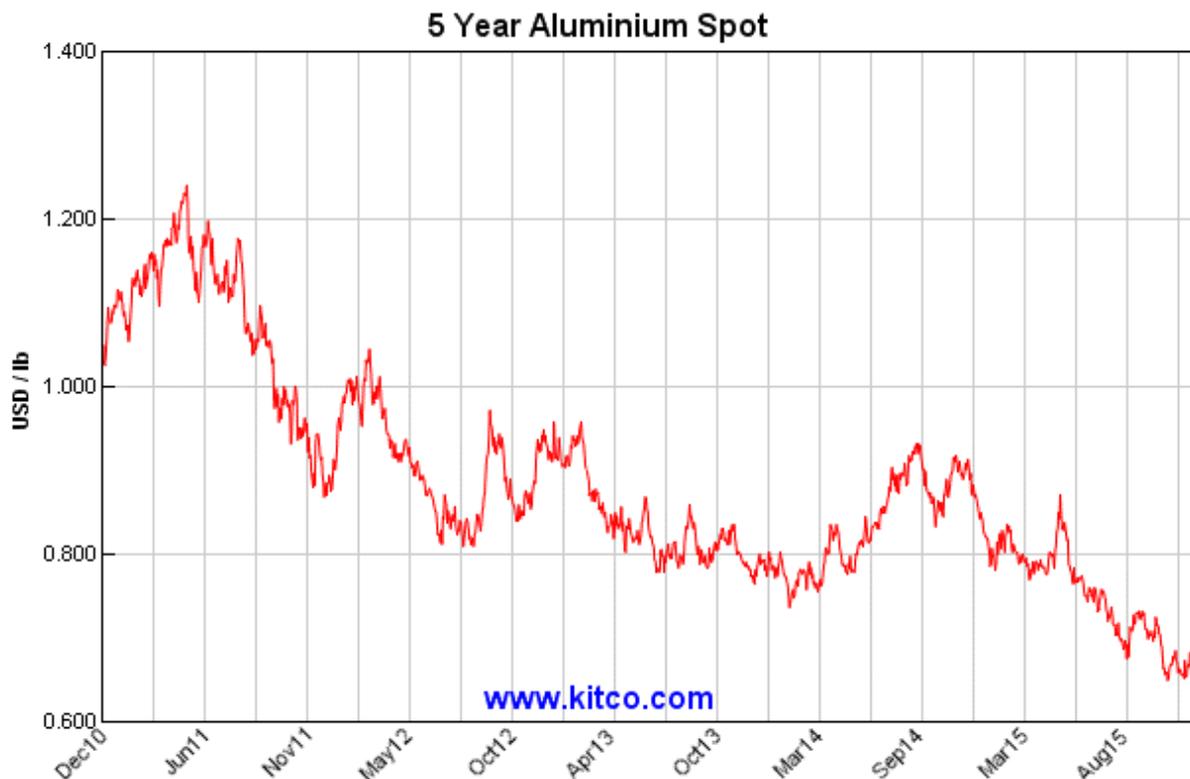
backs, which will reduce supply, leading to higher prices.



Looking at this 5 year copper price chart we are still near the 6+ year lows.



Aluminum was up a bit looking at this two month chart, yet there were no new announced cut backs that could get prices up.



Aluminum's 5 year chart is much like copper in that we are near the 6+ year lows.

Low scrap volumes and low margins at scrap yards took major tolls last week on the scrap industry. One of the largest scrap operations in Chicago with multiple yards, abruptly closed their doors.

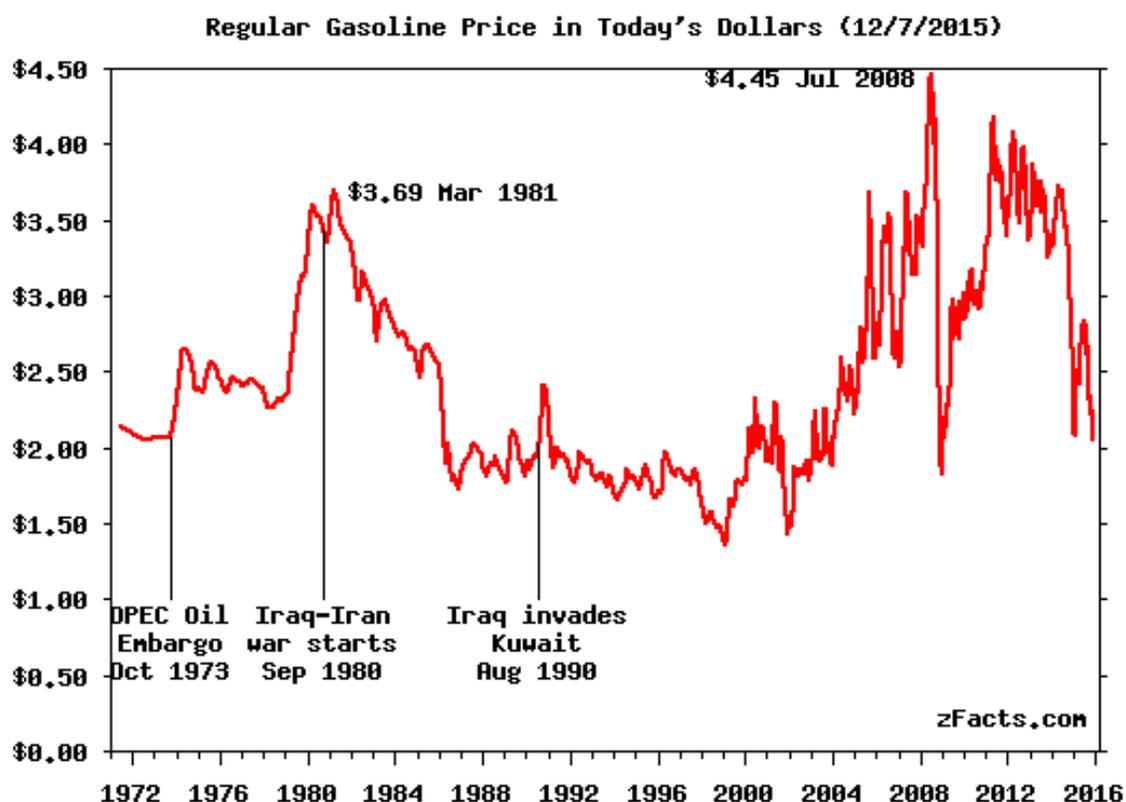


The largest recycling company in the world SIMS, began executing its resetting plan, with multiple scrap yard closings, as their stock price hit new 12 year lows last week.

Another very large operation that closed about 18 months ago in the SE, had its owner plead guilty to bank fraud, which had been going on in an attempt to keep the company open.

Importantly, the U.S. economy continues to grow slowly, yet there are multiple signs of slowing and last week Wall Street S&P 500 index had its worst week since August.

Despite this slowing, while things could change, most believe the U.S. Fed will increase interest rates this week for the first time in years which will be a drag on many industries.



As for a positive, this amazing chart is U.S gasoline prices adjusted for inflation. It shows that gas prices today are lower than they were in 1972, almost 43 years ago and going lower.

This along with the very unusual warm weather, bringing lower heating bills is having a very positive effect on middle class and struggling Americans.

With that we hope all have a Safe and Profitable week. My name is Greg Brown