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After hours
October 2, 2008 5:51 P.M. ET

Dow closes at 3-year lows

Fears of recession push major U.S. stock indexes down 3%-4%

On the heels of weak economic data, investor anxieties run high over prospects for the economy. SEC extends ban on short sales

U.S. ECONOMY
Groceries keep rising
Costs for the basic items are consumer — like whole milk — are up 10% from last year, exacerbating hardships in a down economy.

COMMODITIES CORNER
Oil's back to square one
Crude market gets hit with a dose of reality over fear of slower demand — and that's reflected in the price, writes Myra P. Saefring. • Natural gas production to rise 8%.

U.S. Europe Asia Market Overview

Dow	15,482.86	-342.22	11000
Nasdaq	1,978.72	-82.68	10000
S&P 500	1,114.28	-42.78	10000
10-year	3.65%	-0.12	10000
Oil	\$93.97	-44.50	10000
Gold	\$844.30	\$43.00	10000

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ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

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The Scary Thing Is If Harry Reid Is Right by Bob O'Brien

Trading company FLIR
off as the once military-readers & customer base.

FRESH TRADER DAILY BLOG
Lanson Software Shrs Slide On Weak Outlook by Eric Savitz

WATCHING THE MARKET TODAY
Banks in the Spotlight Tuesday
Foreign Bancorp and Almal Mosaic and General Growth

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Soro's Outlook Less Rude
is & Co. upgraded the refiner raised the target price.

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re could be a legal battle are parts of the bank are sold

CHRONIC Q&A
Mid-Cap Maven Manages Tough Times
ins of a coming recession have fortified Janus' Tom Perkins' investment to the value of solid choices with solid balance etc.

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	JPM	49.85	0.60	1.22
	DELL	15.79	-0.36	-2.23
	AAPL	100.10	-9.02	-8.27
	GRMC	16.80	-1.59	-8.60

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SNAPSHOT: U.S. stocks fall steeply as economic fear trumps hope

WEEKDAY COLUMNS

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The Scary Thing Is If Harry Reid Is Right by Bob O'Brien

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Nasdaq** 1978.72 82.68

S&P 500** 1114.28 42.78

Barron's 400* 236.99 16.47

CBCE Volatility VIX* 45.26 3.45

* at close
Source: Dow Jones Reuters

MORE: Markets | Market Lab | Barron's 400

CHRISTLESS CHRISTIANITY

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FEATURED VIDEO

FLIR Systems should benefit as the once military-oriented company broadens its customer base, reports Barron's Online's Teresa Rivas, Oct. 1

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Thursday, October 2, 2008 As of 9:55 PM EDT

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Review & Outlook

Free AIG
The Fed takeover looks like an increasingly bad deal.

Commentary

The World Shouldn't Fear the Collapse of North Korea
By John R. Bolton and Nicholas Eberstadt
Remuniting the peninsula will only grow harder the longer the regime survives.

First, Let's Stabilize Home Prices
By R. Glenn Hubbard and Chris Mayer
The government might as well offer everyone a new mortgage.

What CEOs Can Learn From Paul Newman
By John C. Whitehead and Peter L. Malin
His philanthropy set an example for everyone in business.

International Editions

Bailing Out Europe . . .
REVIEW & OUTLOOK
Instead of gloating about "America's fall," the Old World needs to rescue its own banking system.
From today's Wall Street Journal Europe

Today's Columnist

The Tax Issue Still Resonates
By Karl Rove
For proof, just look at Obama's sales pitch.

Best of the Web Today

Those Wacky Senators
By James Taranto
The financial crisis inspires a sublime legislative pun
Thursday 4:28 p.m. ET

Political Diary

House Members Vote for Job Security — Their Own
By John Fund
Out of 435, seven profiles in courage.