

[21036001]

The gross national product report , due to be released before today 's opening , is expected to show that the economy continued to expand in the third quarter at a moderate pace .

[21036015]

The consensus of economists polled by Dow Jones Capital Markets Report calls for a 2.5 % annual growth rate for GNP during the quarter .

[21036016]

Du Pont , which announced plans for a 3-for-1 stock split and raised its quarterly dividend by 14 % , jumped 2 1/2 to 117 3/8 .

[21036017]

The company also posted third-quarter earnings that were in line with analysts ' forecasts .

[21036018]

Blue-chip consumer stocks also provided a lift to the industrial average .

[21036020]

But General Motors dropped 1 7/8 to 44 7/8 .

[21036021]

Its GM Hughes Electronics and financial-services units both reported that third-quarter earnings were down from a year earlier .

[21036022]

Anheuser-Busch plunged 4 3/8 to 38 1/2 on 3.5 million shares .

[21036023]

Its third-quarter earnings were lower than analysts had forecast , and the company said it had lowered its projections for earnings growth through the end of 1990 because of planned price cuts .

[21036024]

Xerox fell 3 1/8 to 59 5/8 .

[21036025]

Disappointment with the company 's earnings for the quarter led Prudential-Bache Securities to reduce its 1989 and 1990 earnings estimates , according to Dow Jones Professional Investor Report .

[21036026]

Computer Associates International , the most active Big Board issue , was another victim of an earnings-related sell-off .

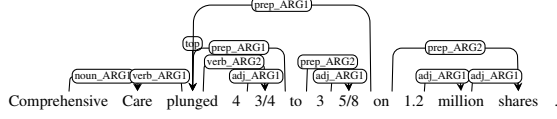
[21036028]

Insurance stocks moved higher in the wake of a strong third-quarter earnings report from Chubb , coming on the heels of speculation that last week 's devastating earthquake in the San Francisco area would lead to higher premium rates .

[21036029]

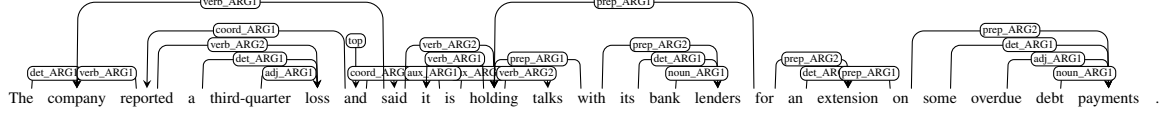
Chubb , whose net income for the quarter exceeded most analysts ' expectations , rallied 3 3/4 to 86 1/2 .

[21036031]



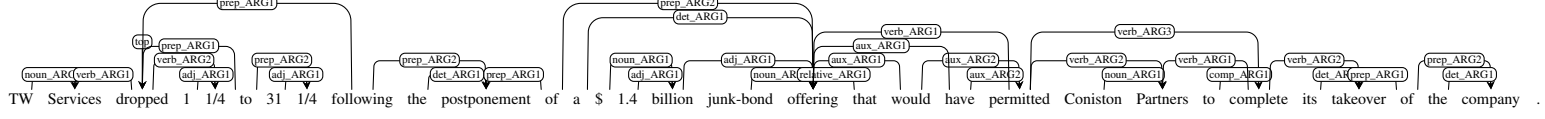
Comprehensive Care plunged 4 3/4 to 3 5/8 on 1.2 million shares.

[21036032]



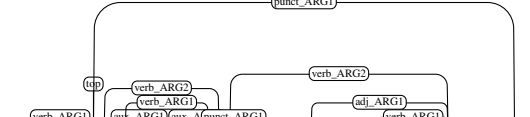
The company reported a third-quarter loss and said it is holding talks with its bank lenders for an extension on some overdue debt payments.

[21036033]



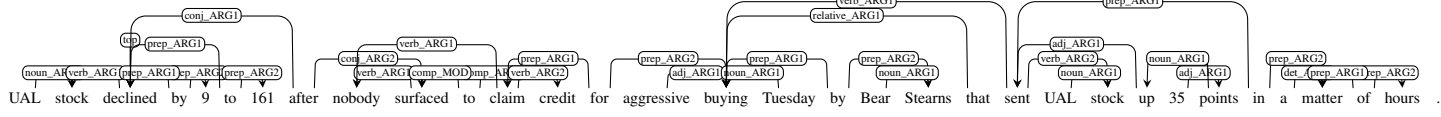
TW Services dropped 1 1/4 to 31 1/4 following the postponement of a \$ 1.4 billion junk-bond offering that would have permitted Conison Partners to complete its takeover of the company.

[21036034]



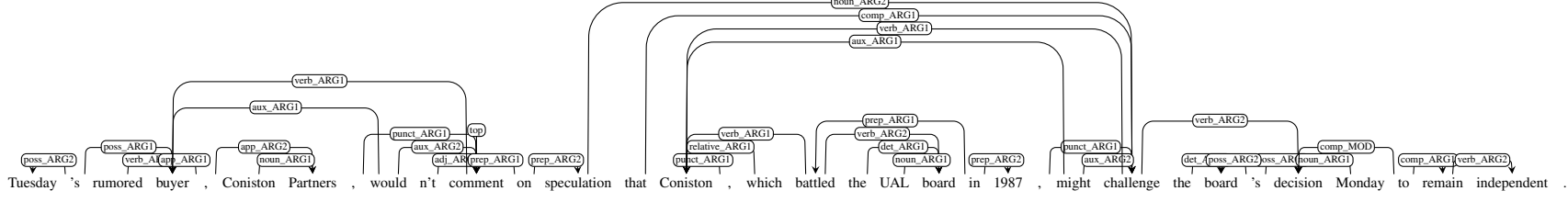
Coniston said it would pursue " various financing alternatives.

[21036035]



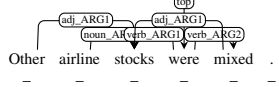
UAL stock declined by 9 to 161 after nobody surfaced to claim credit for aggressive buying Tuesday by Bear Stearns that sent UAL stock up 35 points in a matter of hours.

[21036036]



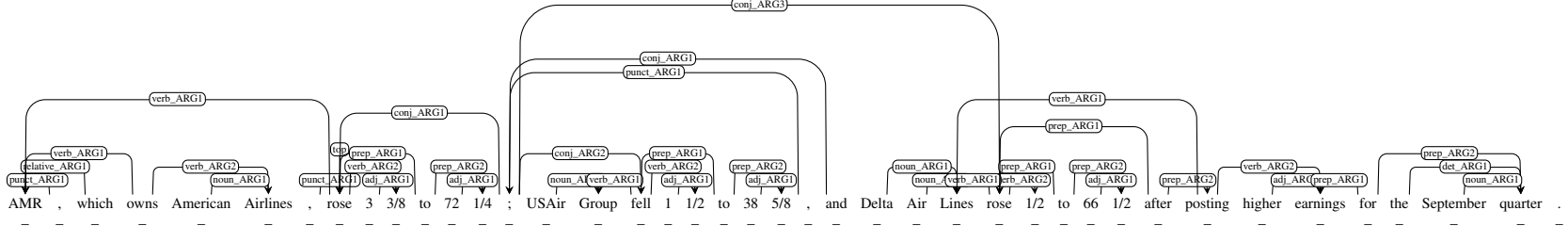
Tuesday's rumored buyer, Coniston Partners, would n't comment on speculation that Coniston, which battled the UAL board in 1987, might challenge the board's decision Monday to remain independent.

[21036037]



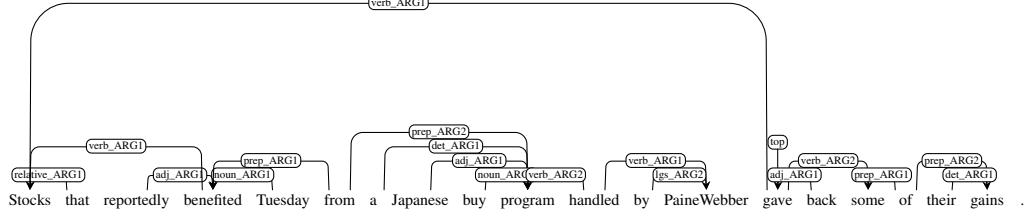
Other airline stocks were mixed.

[21036038]



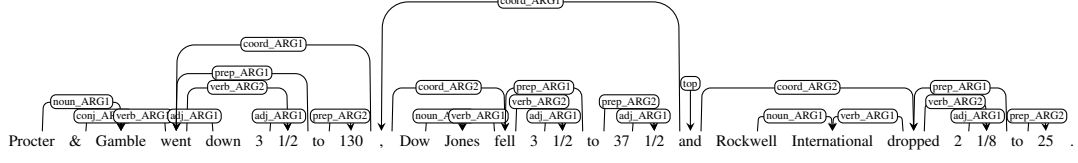
AMR, which owns American Airlines, rose 3 5/8 to 72 1/4; USAir Group fell 1 1/2 to 38 5/8; and Delta Air Lines rose 1/2 to 66 1/2 after posting higher earnings for the September quarter.

[21036039]



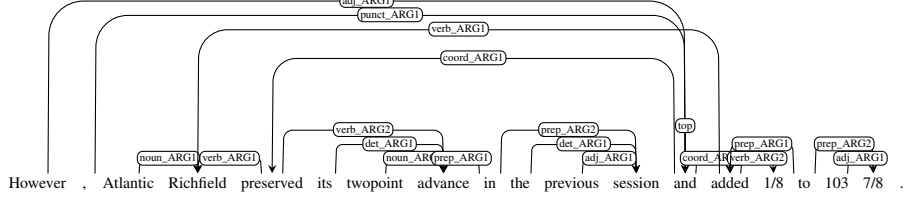
Stocks that reportedly benefited Tuesday from a Japanese buy program handled by PaineWebber gave back some of their gains.

[21036040]



Procter & Gamble went down 3 1/2 to 130; Dow Jones fell 3 1/2 to 37 1/2 and Rockwell International dropped 2 1/8 to 25.

[21036041]



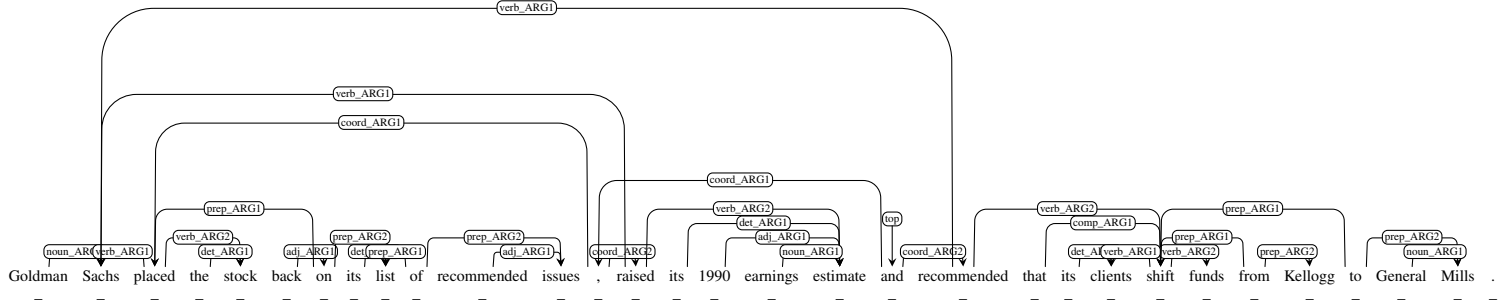
However, Atlantic Richfield preserved its twopoint advance in the previous session and added 1/8 to 103 7/8.

[21036042]



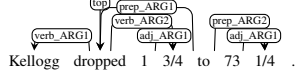
General Mills gained 2 1/4 to 72 7/8.

[21036043]



Goldman Sachs placed the stock back on its list of recommended issues, raised its 1990 earnings estimate and recommended that its clients shift funds from Kellogg to General Mills.

[21036044]



Kellogg dropped 1 3/4 to 73 1/4.

[21036045]

Manville advanced 3/4 to 10 .

[21036046]

The company offered to purchase \$ 500 million of convertible preferred stock from the trust that handles its payments to asbestos victims .

[21036047]

Di Giorgio gained 1 to 30 3/4 after the company said it is starting negotiations with unidentified parties interested in acquiring its units .

[21036048]

Investor Arthur Goldberg is pursuing a \$ 32-a-share takeover offer .

[21036049]

Esselte Business Systems rose 1 to 43 1/2 .

[21036050]

Esselte AB of Sweden offered \$ 43.50 a share for the 22 % of the company it does n't already own .

[21036051]

Public Service of New Hampshire went up 3/8 to 4 .

[21036052]

Northeast Utilities boosted its offer to acquire the company by \$ 400 million . to \$ 2.25 billion .

[21036053]

Newell , which declared a 2-for-1 stock split and boosted its quarterly dividend by 14 % , added 7/8 to 49 3/8 .

[21036054]

Also , the company posted improved third-quarter earnings .

[21036055]

The American Stock Exchange Market Value Index fell 0.44 to 375.92 .

[21036056]

Volume totaled 8,930,000 shares .

[21036057]

Mission Resource Partners lost 5 1/4 to 14 1/8 .

[21036058]

The partnership , which had solicited takeover offers , said it failed to receive any adequate bids for all of its operations but is reviewing offers for individual properties .