

Witnesses say they saw sniper

News brief

Dow closes over 8,200

Surprisingly good earnings reports from major banks sent stocks shooting upward Tuesday, with the Dow Jones industrial average rising 4.8 percent to 8,255.68, its highest close since a month ago.

The Dow's 378-point gain was its fourth increase in as many trading days after the index reached its lowest point in five years on Oct. 9, suggesting that investors may have put a floor on the value of many stocks despite the lack of positive news about the economy as a whole.

The Dow's rally marked its largest four-day gain in percentage terms since 1933, and added \$1.14 trillion to the value of U.S. stocks, according to the Wilshire 5000 Total Market index.

— Ross Kerber, *The Boston Globe*
(U-WIRE)

Francis X. Clines
New York Times

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — This time the roving sniper left more clues, with a number of witnesses getting a better, more chilling glimpse of him and his getaway van as they looked beyond his latest victim bleeding to death on the parking garage floor.

Law enforcement officials working on the massive manhunt for the highly elusive sniper marked qualified progress on Tuesday as they investigated his 11th shooting, the killing of a 47-year-old woman here on Monday night.

This time, officials said, there were more immediate witnesses than in previous killings, and the witnesses provided much more information, including license plate data noted as the gunman fled in the now familiar

light-colored van reported at his last three slayings.

One government official described the closest, most stark sighting yet by a witness who reported seeing the gunman step brazenly from his van, about 90 feet from Linda Franklin and her husband, Ted, as the couple was loading shelving into their car after leaving the Home Depot store here at 9:15 Monday night.

"He had his choice and he took her," the official recounted of the sniper's taking aim, firing once and striking Franklin in the head, killing her instantly in the parking garage. The gunman then fled, once more successfully eluding an intense police dragnet activated soon after the shooting.

Hoping to prevent that from happening again, the Pentagon on Tuesday agreed to deploy secret surveil-

lance planes to patrol the skies over the Washington area. The planes, which have sophisticated sensors, will be used to respond to future attacks.

On Tuesday morning, police confirmed that overnight ballistics tests had conclusively showed that Franklin, an analyst for the FBI who was not involved in the manhunt, was the ninth person killed by the roving suburban sniper.

In the two weeks of the sniper's terrifying shooting spree, the slaying in this busy suburban bedroom community was the first time witnesses said they saw the actual shooting, police officials said. Witnesses offered enough partial glimpses of the fleeing sniper to allow a police sketch artist to attempt a composite drawing, according to knowledgeable detectives.

"We have been receiving quite a

bit of information from witnesses," the Fairfax County police chief, Thomas Manger, said at a news conference after a long night of interviews by investigators who were combing the scene.

Some bloodhounds sniffed for the sniper's traces in the busy crossroads mall at Seven Corners Shopping Center. Others crawled in waves on hands and knees in the search for evidence.

"We're confident that ultimately that information is going to lead us to an arrest," Manger insisted, expressing guarded optimism about the witnesses.

"We have received license plate information from several witnesses," Manger said, describing this as involving different information and different tags.

Task force

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solutions that have yet to be discovered or strategies that need to be improved," Croteau said.

Associate Vice President for Institutional Affairs Jan Oliver said the task force will be examining crime statistics, the quality of buildings in the area and requesting public input.

The University's Campus/Community Relations Task Force, made up of students and local citizens, will

be examining more short-term goals for preventing future riots. The group will be having a meeting Wednesday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the EMU Fir Room to discuss ways of preventing Halloween riots.

The city manager's office will also be hosting a discussion of West University Neighborhood disturbances and police response at noon on Thursday at City Hall, located at 777 Pearl Street.

Contact the reporter at daniellegillespie@dailyemerald.com.

Iraq

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Jane Cramer said attacking Iraq because of Saddam Hussein's alleged connection to terrorism would be a mistake.

"We have to evaluate what kind of connection (Hussein) would possibly want," she said.

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Jane Cramer
Assistant professor

Cramer added it is unlikely that al-Qaida — which is a fundamentalist group — would support a secular ruler like Hussein. She said al-Qaida would love for the United States to

topple Hussein because a fundamentalist leader would likely be elected in his place.

Law Associate Professor Ibrahim Gassama shared two general observations he had made about the conflict.

First, Gassama said there is widespread consensus that Iraq has violated international law over many years, specifically U.N. resolutions.

Second, Gassama said although the Bush administration was on the right track in seeking U.N. support, their current policy against Iraq is threatening peace.

Shortly after the main presentations, discussion groups were held in the EMU so teach-in attendees could talk about issues discussed. Many students stayed to participate in the group discussions.

Contact the senior news reporter at janmontry@dailyemerald.com.

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