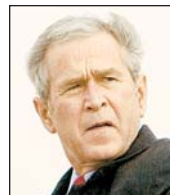


"You mean we're out  
in less than a month?  
How did that happen?"

**PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH**  
PREPARING FOR A SMOOTH TRANSITION



Pick up the new Carbolic book "**Zombies Ate My Headlines**" at [carbolicSmoke.com/zombies](http://carbolicSmoke.com/zombies)

CARBOLIC SMOKE BALL  
**HEADLINES**

**TOP STORIES  
OF THE YEAR**

Olympic torch implicated  
in rash of arsons

Citibank to use bailout  
money to correct  
misspelling of name

Beijing executes half  
its population to reduce  
pollution for the Olympics

Local family lays off three  
children

Obama slips, renounces  
people he's already  
renounced

COUNTDOWN

**2008 Persons  
of the Year**

10. Barack Obama
9. Joe the Plumber
8. That 'Last Lecture' Dude
7. Otzi the Iceman
6. Thomas the Pregnant Man
5. Levi Johnston
4. Whoever Sarah Palin Kept Winking At
3. The Joker
2. Ron Paul
1. The Guy Who Threw His Shoes at Bush

# 2008: A Year of ...

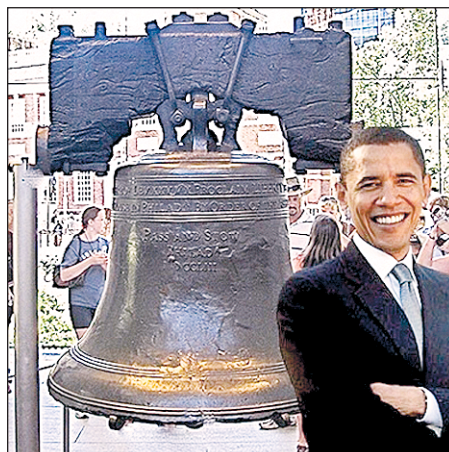
## ... miracles

Last April, God broke His long-standing tradition of not endorsing candidates in political elections when he openly supported now President-elect Barack Obama. Shortly thereafter, in Philadelphia, Obama healed the crack in the Liberty Bell.

Obama went on to defeat Sen. Hillary Clinton for the Democratic nomination despite her pleas to her husband to have an affair to help her garner the sympathy vote.

Obama proceeded to trounce Sen. John McCain in the general election. It helped that McCain was charged with breaking and entering seven homes because he does not know which houses he owns.

Even Sarah Palin's winking during her debate, which broke up in excess of 7 million marriages, could not stop Obama's victory march in the year of miracles.



## ... goodbyes

Many notables left the scene in 2008. Heath Ledger died, and the period of mourning for him was slightly longer than his career.

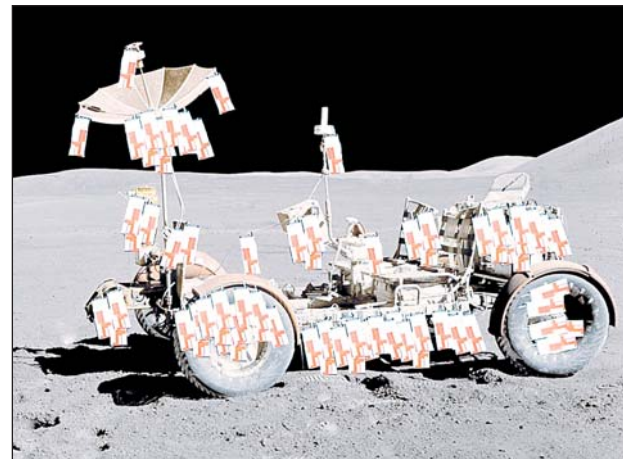
The FCC banned seven words from

## ... shockers

A recent satellite photo showed the lunar rover, abandoned on the moon in 1972, covered with parking tickets.

Aquaman, defender of the earth's oceans, was arrested for assaulting Michael Phelps out of jealousy following Phelps' record Olympic performance.

Cryogenically preserved Walt Disney, furious over Miley Cyrus' racy photos, was defrosted in order to reprimand the popular teen.



George Carlin's tombstone. Mr. Peanut succumbed to a peanut allergy. Mr. Blackwell died and promptly named the Grim Reaper "worst dressed" of the year.

O.J. Simpson was sent to prison and heard the words he most dreaded: "This is your prison guard, Fred Goldman."



## Hear da JUDGE

By the Hon. Rufus Peckham  
Editor of Carbolic Smoke Ball

Dear Readers: Well, it's that time again — time for my annual New Year's resolutions. I've given it a lot of thought this year and intend to do it right.

For one thing, I'm going to stop being

afraid to try new things, by which I mean, take up smoking. I bet I can become a chain smoker in no time.

I've also decided that I always do everything on time without delaying, so I'm going to start procrastinating. Why fix that broken window right now? I'll get to it next summer, maybe.

The other bad habit I have is I drink too much water. It might be "good" for me but it's awfully

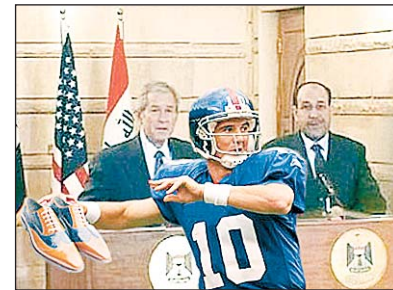
bland, so I'm going to take up alcohol.

I also spend too much time on things that don't yield immediate benefits, so I'm cutting out the exercise.

Besides, it makes me sweat.

I also figure that if I stay up an extra two hours every night, I'll have more time to spend smoking, drinking, procrastinating and not sweating.

Happy New Year!



## Sign him up!

The Iraqi man who threw his shoes at President Bush has been picked up by the Detroit Lions.