

It looks like more than 13,000 people were caught up in that Bernard Madoff Ponzi scheme. You know what a Ponzi scheme is? That's where you throw good money after bad, or as the government calls it, a stimulus package but very similar.

President Obama, getting very tough now, has imposed a \$500,000 salary cap for executives getting federal bailout money. And, listen to this: Now on weekends, they can only play miniature golf. No more 18 holes.

See, the whole theory behind this salary cap is if you're not performing well, and you're taking taxpayer money, then that should be reflected in lower wages. Of course, under that criteria, everybody in Congress should get like, what, 2 bucks an hour?

Hey, listen to this -- according to 'The Wall Street Journal,' the city of Las Vegas wants to use \$2 million worth of the economic stimulus package for neon signs. I just hope it doesn't make the city look tacky.

And today, President Obama announced a salary cap of \$500,000 for executives at banks and companies that have received taxpayer bailout money. And you know — it is good. But I'll tell you something, you can tell a lot of these CEOs don't get it. They said, 'Well, that's \$500,000 a month, right?'

And Wells Fargo, who got almost \$25 billion in bailout money, has canceled a pricey 12-day corporate trip to Las Vegas. And I think they learned their lesson, because they really scaled things back. They're not doing Vegas anymore. Now, it's a one-day pie eating contest in Laughlin.

And Citigroup, who received a huge bailout from the government, owns the naming rights to the New York Mets' new stadium. It is currently called Citi Field, but because of Barack Obama's crackdown on the Federal bailout money, Citigroup will legally have to change the name of the stadium to Money Grubbing Bastards Field.

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi recently said that every month that we do not have an economic recovery package, '500 million Americans lose their jobs.' I think the Botox is starting to seep into her brain.

And the US Postal Service says they may cut postal service from six days to five days a week. They say they're losing money because people aren't using the postal service as much as they used to. If you'd like to complain, you can e-mail the complaint to uspostalservice.com.

And it was on this very day in 1690 that the very first paper money in America was issued in Massachusetts. It was issued by a man named Merrill Lynch, who used the money to give himself the first huge bonus.

The U.S. Post Office announced they could run out of cash by the end of the year. They said they're in serious danger of becoming a bank. That's how bad it is.

I tell you, the economy is so bad, even people who have nothing to do with the Obama administration aren't paying their taxes.

President Obama says he needs nearly a trillion dollars to help kick start the economy. That's a lot of money. Do you realize with that money, you could give every man and woman and child in this country \$3,300? Or you could buy shoes for everyone in South America for life. Or you could cover the New York Yankees' payroll for a season and a half.

And because of the tough economic times, the 'LA Daily News' is no longer sending a sportswriter to cover games played by NBA basketball's LA Clippers. So I guess covering Clipper games falls under Obama's new law banning torture.

Citigroup just got \$45 billion of our tax dollars. Did you see what they bought themselves? They spent \$50 million on a brand new, French-made private jet for their executives. Has a bar, private entertainment center, seating for 12. You know, if there's ever a reason to reopen Guantanamo Bay, this is it, okay. That's our jet! We should be taking that. They should be on Southwest.

President Barack Obama signed an executive order calling for the closure of Guantanamo Bay within a year. Actually, you know how he can close it faster? Make it a bank, okay? It'll shut down.

And at his confirmation hearing, Attorney General Nominee Eric Holder said as far as he is concerned, water boarding is torture. And Treasury secretary nominee Tim Geithner said, 'So is paying taxes.'

As you may have heard, Tim Geithner, who's been chosen to be our next secretary of the Treasury didn't pay \$34,000 in federal taxes from 2001 to 2004. But to keep the nomination afloat, he paid it this week, plus another \$8,000 in interest. So that's \$42,000 the US Treasury made just like that. You know what Barack Obama should do now? He should appoint Willie Nelson to the position of Commerce secretary. What does he owe \$28 million?

Incoming press secretary Robert Gibbs said President-elect Barack Obama will allow gays to serve openly in the military. So the days of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' are over. Actually, that's not quite true. Congress will continue to use the phrase when referring to the bailout money. 'Don't Ask Us What We Did With It, We're Not Going To Tell You Where It Went.'

And the adult film industry, better known as the porn industry, has asked Congress for a \$5 billion bailout. They say they're going to use the money to make more fuel efficient porn.

Five billion. You know, between the porn industry and Congress, I don't know who's screwed more people.

Neiman Marcus announced they are cutting 400 jobs. See, I knew this would happen when the Republicans took away Sarah Palin's campaign credit card.

Barack Obama also says he wants to bring a sense of accountability to Washington. I've got a

better idea. Why don't you bring some accountants to Washington, okay? Tell us where the hell our \$750 billion went!

Speaking of that, the new Treasury secretary nominee, Timothy Geithner, has come up with a plan to lower taxes. Don't pay them!

Well, all across the country, this is kind of sad, unemployment offices are swamped with people waiting to file for unemployment insurance. It's gotten so bad that the offices are overwhelmed and can't function. I got an idea. Why don't you hire more people? They're right there in line. Speed this whole thing up!

Health experts are now concerned that this bad economy may be causing Americans to gain weight. They call it recession pounds. You heard about this? You put on recession pounds during economic hardship. So guys, if your wife or your girlfriend says, 'Do these pants make me look like we're in a recession?' be careful what you say.'

And how about this for nerve this is unbelievable. The porn industry is now asking for a \$5 billion federal bailout. Talk about a stimulus package.

And Congress says this week they are looking into this Bernard Madoff scandal. So the guy that made \$50 billion disappear is being investigated by the people who made \$750 billion disappear.

NBC is showing, once again, the classic movie 'It's a Wonderful Life.' See, it is so different today. See, when they made that movie, back then, the government actually asked banks to account for what money was missing.

And the big financial story, Bernard Madoff, the man they call the most hated man in New York, as you know, has been arrested after confessing to running this Ponzi scheme that defrauded investors out of \$50 billion. That's almost hard to believe. But the good news, today he was named A.I.G.'s man of the year.

President Bush made a surprise visit to Detroit today. Honestly, people in Detroit are upset with him, but I understand auto workers threw brake shoes at him.

And this is the big news in New York. Well, all over the world, really. It's just an amazing story. A Wall Street tycoon named Bernard Madoff has been arrested for running a \$50 billion Ponzi scheme \$50 billion. You know what a Ponzi scheme is? That's where they use the money of new investors to pay off the older investors or as we call it, Social Security.

But you know something? Shouldn't the first clue have been the guy's name? Madoff, you know, as in 'made off with the money,' you know? I mean, who were his partners, Pilfered and Swindled?

And you can tell, President Bush, you know, he's not a financial guy. God bless him, but he doesn't understand anything. Like, when they tried to explain the Ponzi scheme, he said, 'Wait a minute, Ponzi, you're confusing two people. It's either Potsy or Fonzie.'

Hey, kind of an emergency today. There was smoke coming from the Capitol Visitors Center in Washington, DC, a small fire. So far, arson investigators have narrowed it down to three suspects: head of General Motors, head of Chrysler, head of Ford. Could be any one of them

And I love this idea. Congress wants to promote a car czar to oversee the auto industry. You know, even if he's half as successful as Bill Bennett was as the drug czar, oh, our problems will be solved. A car czar. What democracy has a czar?

Why is it every time we have a government crisis, we reverse to feudalism? We need a mortgage duke. A duke of mortgages. We need an energy ayatollah in this country.

Well, it looks like the automakers are going to get their bailout money but not if the Republicans have anything to do with it. I understand Republican Senator David Vitter, remember him? The one involved with all the hookers? Remember that guy? Well, he blasted the auto industry. He called the plan ass backwards. That's what he called it, ass backwards. And he should to know, because he used to pay extra for that.

Don't you love how these guys care nothing about the working man? The working girl, oh, they'll give her all the money.

Anyway, Congress wants to appoint someone to oversee the auto industry because they lack confidence that the car companies can solve the problem themselves. You know, the same way the Senate Budget Committee kept us within a budget, remember? And the way the banking committee kept the banks from failing. And the way the Senate Energy Committee made us energy independent. We need these kinds of oversights.

Don't you love watching congressmen lecture auto executives on how to run their business? I mean, you got people that put us a trillion dollars in debt lecturing people who put us a billion dollars in debt.

And this is true. This year, the Treasury Department is holding its annual holiday party inside something called the cash room. You know what that is in Washington, the cash room? That's a big room where the Treasury Department holds all its cash it has on hand. Of course, these days it's empty, so plenty more room to party.

What a difference a couple of weeks make. Remember last month, the three auto company heads flew to Washington in private jets looking for their bailout? Remember they own the private jets? Well, this time, the three CEOs drove in their own hybrid cars; 520 miles they drove in their own hybrid cars. See, you know what I think the government should have done here? Make it like 'The Amazing Race,' you see? You drop these guys off, no money, and no transportation, give them some tools, they have to build a car. First one to Washington, they get the bailout.

In fact, do you know what the highest-paying line of work is in America right now Jury duty.

President Bush and his lovely wife Laura have purchased a new home in Dallas, Texas, worth \$2 million. See, this is where President Bush has outsmarted everybody. People underestimate this

guy. Five months ago, you would have had to pay \$10 million bucks for that house, but thanks to his economic plan, he got it at a bargain. The man is a genius!

How does that work when the president applies for a home loan? Like, when they do a credit check, do they include the trillion-dollar deficit?

According to this week's Newsweek, in this bad economy, a lot of wealthy people are feeling what's known as luxury shame. They're embarrassed about their wealth while others are hurting. Although they say, after a few bottles of Cristal, that feeling goes away.

Well, a lot of Wall Street experts are saying there are incredible bargains right now in the stock markets. This is a good time to buy. Oh, it's a great time to buy, yeah. Like kind of after a huge car crash, there are auto parts laying all around. Same thing.

Little bit of history trivia. It was this week, actually yesterday, in 1961, Fidel Castro announced that he was a Marxist and would turn Cuba into a Communist country, where the government would take over all the major industries. Or as we call that today, a bailout.

And AIG, you know the insurance company who's getting over \$11 billion of our dollars in bailout money? Well, they announced they're giving 130 of their executives cash awards of up to \$3 million. These are cash awards, not bonuses. They say they are payments to guarantee that their top executives stay with the company. Oh, yeah, God forbid AIG should lose any of these business geniuses. Imagine what kind of shape they'd be in without these people. Again, these are cash awards, not bonuses. So we should send them to jail, not prison, see?

The Labor Department announced that over 1,100 lawyers lost their jobs last month. Think about it. So lawyers are losing their jobs. ... CEOs are being forced to work for a dollar a year. Ann Coulter's jaw is wired shut. In many ways, this could be the greatest Christmas ever. Last Friday was, of course, Black Friday. And if you had money in the stock market, today is Black Monday. The stock market lost 679 points today. Not even a stock market, that's a flea market.

Today was the big day for online shopping. This is known as Cyber Monday. Did you know that? And of course, tomorrow is Identity Theft Tuesday.

And this week, they will flip the switch on the White House Christmas tree, which has over 25,000 lights on it, one light for every CEO that's looking for a bailout.

Another good day for the stock market. Up almost 400 points today. Yeah, listen to this. If this keeps up every day for the next three years, we'll almost be even again.

It looks like the government is going to bail out CitiGroup, yet they don't want to bail out the auto companies. See, I don't think this is fair. I mean, blue collar guys who make our cars, they don't get the bailout. But the white collar guys on Wall Street, they get the bailout. You know what I think we should do? I think they should work together. I think the guys in Detroit should keep making the cars, and the guys on Wall Street should be making the license plates. See what I'm saying?

And the car companies don't like the word 'bailout.' They prefer to call it a '24-hour bail-a-thon! Come on down! Everything must go!'

Hey, do you believe how much the price of gas has dropped? It's unbelievable. Given today how far it's gone down, I saw somebody driving a Prius today without a smug look on their face.

Now, because of the recent controversy, AIG, remember they got the big bailout, AIG? Well, they're now paying their CEO a salary, \$1 a year. How many think that's fair? Yeah? How many still think he's overpaid? No, that's pretty good. I think that's a nice gesture, having the CEO work for just \$1 a year. Oh, he'll still get his \$300 million bonus, but the salary will be \$1.

And this is true, the Big Three automakers are now talking about driving back to Washington in December. Remember the big uproar last week when they all flew to Washington in private jets? Well, now they're going to carpool. No, this is true. And to make sure there aren't any problems, they're driving a Toyota.

I tell you, the economy is bad. In fact, today -- you know the White House turkey? Turned down the pardon. Said all his money's in the market. Nothing left to live for.

Welcome to 'The Tonight Show.' I have some wonderful news for you. Everyone in our audience tonight is getting a Federal bailout. Congratulations!

Yesterday, President-elect Barack Obama announced his new economic team. You know what he should do? Hire those people who were in charge of his fundraising campaign. We can pay this thing off in like a week.

No, I was watching one of the network financial people on cable news today. And they said, with this bailout thing, the government has set a precedent that if you're a large corporation losing money, you know, due to lack of creativity and poor business decisions, well, the government will just send you a check. So, good news for NBC. We're getting a check! Yeah!

U.N. officials said today they desperately need \$7 billion to help people cope with disasters, but they're having a hard time getting people to send rescue money. Here's what the UN should do: Invest in bad mortgages, run a bank into the ground, give yourself a bonus, get some spa treatments and, in no time, the government will send you \$750 billion.

General Motors announced they are selling two of their private jets. The bad news? They're being bought by the executives at AIG.

Well, it doesn't look as if the U.S. automakers are going to get their bailout money. Congress said yesterday they were concerned about giving the Big Three automakers money just to keep making the same stupid mistakes. And, believe me, when it comes to making the same stupid mistakes, Congress knows what it's talking about.

International maritime officials say 39 ships have been hijacked by pirates this year on the high

seas. See, luckily, we don't have pirates in America that rob and plunder. We just have CEOs.

Today, Congress demanded a business plan from the three automakers before they'd even consider giving them taxpayer money. A business plan? How come we didn't get to see a business plan before Congress gave away 750 billion of our dollars?

I've got an idea. How about this idea? Instead of giving \$25 billion to the car companies, give it to us, with the provision it can only be used to buy a Corvette. They get the money, everybody back to work, and we all get a new car!

The three big domestic automakers are now saying they are working jointly on a new hybrid car. It runs on a combination of state and federal bailout money.

That's the big debate in Washington, now, whether to bail out Detroit automakers. Because if they went under, we'd lose millions and millions of jobs. You know what we need to do? And this is what I think would work. We need to get Oprah to buy everybody a car again, that would turn this thing around!

The three C.E.O.s made a huge mistake today. You may have seen this -- they each flew to Washington in their own private jet to ask for \$25 billion bailout. Even A.I.G. executives are going, 'What are you thinking?'

They each took their own private jet that cost \$20,000 round trip. And here's the sad part, today the Japanese announced they have a jet that costs half that and gets better mileage. Forecasters at the Federal Reserve in Philadelphia said the U.S. has been in a recession for the last 14 months. Thank you, Nostradamus! That's how you know things are slowing down, when forecasters are now predicting the past.

You know what the definition of recession is? A recession is two consecutive quarters of declining productivity. Or, as the Clippers call that, 'halftime.'

Barack Obama says one of his top priorities once he becomes president is closing down Guantanamo Bay. To make sure it closes, he's going to turn it into a bank.

It's great to be here in Los Angeles, what's left of it. These wildfires continuing to burn here in LA. I haven't seen anything go up in smoke like this since my 401(K).

Well, it looks like Guantanamo Bay is going to be closed. Hey, that shows you how tough times are, when even terrorists are losing their homes.

In a speech about the economy, President Bush said, 'Our actions are having an impact.' Yeah, I think it's called a recession.

American Express is now looking to borrow three and a half billion dollars from the taxpayers. Three and a half billion dollars. You know what? I think we should lend them the money, but, do like they do with us: charge 18% interest, which will go to 34% if they miss a payment. I think that's the way to do it.

The United States Postal Service said the economy's so bad, it will have its first layoffs in the history of the post office. May lay off 40,000 workers, yeah. Company officials said they have no idea what happened. They don't understand why people aren't using the mail like they used to, and they said all 40,000 workers would be notified by email. I don't know. Is that a good idea, 40,000 disgruntled postal workers at holiday time? That doesn't sound like a good thing.

And there have been rumors that if the economy continues to get worse, that Barack Obama may have to suspend plans for any income or capital gains tax increases. In fact, they say Obama's considering suspending all tax increases, except those on Joe the plumber. His are going to go up.

Actually, according to the papers today, the economy is hurting prostitutes. They say the prostitutes working the brothels in Nevada are having a hard time making enough money to pay their mortgages. Yeah, business is way down. Which is kind of sad. I mean, you hate to see these women just out walking the streets, you know?

And according to a federal report, unemployment claims went up by 300,000. And that's just Republicans in Washington.

Happy Halloween, everybody. Man, I saw the scariest costume. A little kid knocked on my door dressed as a 401(k). Scared me half to death.

As you know, tonight's the night kids going around asking for handouts. Same thing Wall Street did about a month ago.

Are you all getting ready for Halloween? The good news is, with the economy so bad, people don't have to work as hard to make their houses look scary. The lights are out, the windows are boarded up, the lawns not cut. Everyday is Halloween in America now.

Financial experts say that the economic crisis has cost \$2.8 trillion dollars. That's such a huge amount of money. It's hard for people to visualize how much that is. Let me put that in terms you understand. \$2.8 trillion is enough money to buy Sarah Palin clothes for a year.

In Pontiac, Michigan, five bodies and the cremated remains of 22 others have been evicted from a funeral home. Evicted! That's when you know the real estate market's bad, when you're dead and they still foreclose on you.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Americans drove 15 billion fewer miles in August than they did the year before. To which President Bush said, 'See, that's one of the advantages of not having a job to go to.'

According to a new poll, women are more pessimistic about the economy recovering than men. You know why? Because men are in charge of the economy.

And this week, President Bush announced a \$250 billion -- everything's billions now, millions

don't even count, have you noticed that? Millions is like chump change -- plan for the government, to directly buy shares of the nation's leading banks, to make sure they're run properly. They're going to make sure they're run properly, yeah. Because one thing we know is the people who gave us a a \$9 trillion debt, they know how to handle money.

Well, the market went down over 700 points today. Oh, that reminds me. You know, we turn our clocks back soon. We're turning it back to 1929, I believe.

Hey, look, I don't want to say the stock market is unstable, but this morning, the opening bell was rung by Paula Abdul.

And they gave out the Nobel Prize for economics this week. Interesting. It went to a highly intelligent economist. His theory is a little hard, I think, for the average person to comprehend. I'm going to break it down. This is his theory. He determined that it was bad business to give loans to people who can't pay them back! Apparently, we don't understand that in this country.

I think the economy is starting to turn around. In fact today, instead of just shooting animals for food, Sarah Palin is back shooting them for fun again.

According to a group of Nobel prize-winning scientists, because of the economic crisis, the planet might actually improve from the damage of global warming, because we're using less fossil fuel and we're saving energy. See, this shows the brilliance of President Bush's plan. He was killing the economy, yeah, but to save the planet! The man is a genius!

I think the economy is starting to turn around. In fact today, instead of just shooting animals for food, Sarah Palin is back shooting them for fun again.

And the finance ministers of the world's top economies met in Washington for an emergency meeting on the banking crisis. I thought this was nice. While they were meeting, they gave President Bush some Monopoly money to play with so he'd feel involved.

You know, do you think President Bush really understands any of this stuff? Like today, he was asked about General Motors. And he said, 'I think he's doing a fine job in Iraq.'

The average price of a gallon of gas has had its biggest drop ever this week also. It's now down to \$3.30 a gallon. Remember \$3.30 a gallon? That's the price you used to get outraged about a year ago.

Happy Columbus Day, everybody. Today is Columbus Day, which means all the banks are closed. At least I think that's why they're closed. God, you realize Columbus is the only person to have closed more banks than President Bush. Isn't that amazing?

Today, they gave out the Nobel prize for economics. Why? Believe me, in this economy, there weren't many people to choose to give it to. You know who would up getting it? You know who got it? Gary Coleman for those cash call commercials. That's right, he was the only guy.

Former President Jimmy Carter blasted President Bush, blaming the financial crisis on him. Carter called this the worst financial crisis since the Carter administration. Good news, the stock market went up over 900 points today. That's good news. This is the best thing to happen to the John McCain campaign since ... actually, it's the first good thing to happen to McCain.

They found that Americans actually eat more during bad economic times, that people become fatter during bad financial periods. Isn't that amazing? This is the only country in the world, when the economy goes south, not only don't you lose your ass, it gets bigger.

Well, this weekend, representatives from the world's 20 richest nations will get together to try and figure out how to solve this global economic meltdown. They're called the Group of 20. Given how bad things are, they used to be called the Group of 50.

All these countries are going to get together and brainstorm. So I guess that pretty much leaves President Bush out of the picture.

I saw a guy on Hollywood Boulevard said to a hooker 'What can I get for an extra 50?' She said '100 shares of General Motors.'

Oh, General Motors fell to its lowest level since 1950, not a good sign. In fact, in terms of carmakers, General Motors is now third behind Tonka and Hot Wheels.

Let me ask you something: didn't we buy this company? Don't we own it now? Why don't we all show up at the Ritz-Carlton next week. Hey, where's our massage?

[As Rodney Dangerfield] I tell you, I went to the bank, asked for a loan, the guy said 'We were just gonna ask you the same thing.' ... The economy is so bad, today, I saw Bill Maher praying. That's how bad. People in San Francisco can only afford Rice now; no more Roni. ... I saw Mrs. Fields today selling Girl Scout cookies. That's how bad. Saw a guy at Costco buying one roll of toilet paper. That's how bad. The economy is so bad now pigs can no longer afford lipstick.

Hey, how many are worried about Iran's nuclear enrichment program? How many are more worried about our CEO-enrichment program? Here's something that's gonna make you mad: remember last week after Congress grilled those AIG executives, after taking our \$85 billion in bailout money and spending half a million at that fancy resort, well this week they asked for and got another \$37.5 billion. And earlier this week they announced they're going on another retreat, this time with golf and massages at the Ritz-Carlton hotel at Half Moon Bay here in California. Instead of a bailout, how about locking these guys up with no bail?

You know, you see a lot of these financial experts on the news the last couple of weeks. And isn't the very fact they're in this mess proof there's no such thing as a financial expert? Huh, huh? Anyway, the good news, Secretary Treasurer Henry Paulson called for calm today. The bad news, he made the call from the Cayman Islands.

President Bush's response to this economic crisis was to meet with some small business owners at a soda shop in San Antonio, Texas, this week. Well, the bad news? The small business owners are now General Motors, General Electric, and Century 21.

You think President Bush even understands what's going on? Like, today, they asked about the credit crunch, he said it was his favorite candy bar. He has no idea.

Well, you see, with all of the excitement of the election, it's easy to forget about President President Bush, because next year, he'll be unemployed and he'll be at that awkward age -- too young to retire, yet too old to decimate another nation's economy.

The price of oil dropped below \$90 a barrel today. I guess the oil companies backed off screwing the American public now that the federal government has taken on the job. The government can handle it now, we've screwed them enough.

Well, President Bush said this is good, the price falling, because see now people can afford to drive the cars they're living in.

Well, this is not good. This week, the Labor Department announced 159,000 people lost their jobs last month. Worst job loss in five years. But here's the ironic part, all 435 members of Congress still have their jobs. How does that work out?

And as you know, on Friday, Washington passed the big 'Save our CEOs' program. That thing passed.

And Richard Fuld, the former CEO of Lehman Brothers was grilled by Congress today. And they made him explain why he took \$480 million in compensation, when he knew some shareholders would lose their life savings. Turns out, he had a good reason. Apparently, he is a greedy bastard.

And because of guys like him, credit is dried up and you can't get a loan. You can't get a loan, unless you're a company that caused the crisis, oh, then the government will give you a loan. That's no problem. Then they'll bail you out. More true than funny, okay.

They passed their \$800 billion bailout bill today. Although, some senators who voted for it are now very upset. They didn't realize, they thought they were giving themselves a pay raise.

Some economists say all this bill really is is a bailout for companies whose bad business judgment ran their companies into the ground, to which NBC said, 'Really? We should be eligible. We should be getting some of that.'

Congress keeps saying that not only are taxpayers going to get back the \$800 billion, oh, they're going to make money on the deal too. Yeah, yeah. See, now you know where the 'con' in congressman comes from. That's where it comes from.

This bill went from a three-page document to the size of a novel. Literally. It's the size of a book. You know what that means? Bush will never read it now.

Well, now Europe is trying to put together their own bailout plan. They're trying to save their banks from failing. Hey, say what you want about America, but we're still leading the rest of the world. See what I'm saying? We were bankrupt months before them. They are copying us. We are the leaders in this deal.

Last night, the Senate passed the bailout bill, 74-25. They said one of the reason it passed is that

lawmakers stopped calling it a bailout bill, and started calling it a rescue bill. See, they changed the name. I'm sorry. Isn't that called putting lipstick on a pig?

The Senate passed it last night and they say the House will probably pass it tomorrow. In fact, the only thing that could screw it up at this is if John McCain steps in and tries to help out again.

Actually, at the urging of my financial adviser, I'm diversifying where I put my money. Yeah, that's what I'm doing. The key is diversification. Well, I got some in the backyard, some in the crawl space, some in the mattress.

With the new provisions the Senate added, it's now gonna cost \$800 billion. We should have signed it two days ago when it was \$700 billion. Two days later, they screwed us out of another \$100 billion!

And do you know this bailout -- I'm sorry, the rescue -- the rescue bill has grown up to 450 pages. And President Bush's copy is even thicker, because they had to add pictures.

And they say the bailout bill is on the internet. And they're encouraging people to read it. Go on the internet and read it. It breaks the \$800 billion down, and, you know, how it's spent. And there are various worksheets and they want us to study it. Oh, shut up! You know, I can't figure out the charges on my two-page, \$60 phone bill, okay? How am I going to read this?

The Senate passed it last night and they say the House will probably pass it tomorrow. In fact, the only thing that could screw it up at this is if John McCain steps in and tries to help out again.

President Bush said today, if our nation continues on this course, the economic damage will be painful and lasting. But the good news? After eight years of Bush, we can handle painful and lasting.

With the Congress not in session, the stock market made a big comeback today. See, that's the key to saving the economy. Send these idiots home so they can't screw up anymore. Exactly. We need more holidays. That's the problem. More holidays, Jewish, Christian, Buddhist, get them all in there.

Right after the vote, President Bush met behind closed doors with his economic team. Yeah, that was my thought too. Bush has an economic team?"

And, of course, Congress, both parties continue to point fingers at each other, as opposed to the rest of the country, which is just giving the finger to Congress.

As you know, Congress voted against the bailout. See, the problem with members of Congress, they were told to vote their conscience. And of course, this totally confused them. Conscience?

Lawmakers that are for the bailout argued that the government could actually end up making money on this deal. Oh, yeah. The same way the government made money on Amtrak and the post office.

Republicans are blaming Nancy Pelosi for the bailout not going through. Democrats are blaming it on an incomplete proposal by the Republicans. John McCain is blaming Barack Obama. Barack Obama is blaming John McCain. And Sarah Palin is praying nobody asks her what's going on.

And the Senate voted on this bailout package again tonight. Senator Larry Craig missed the vote. I

understand he was in the men's room, introducing his own package.

Aren't you tired of hearing these economic experts talking on TV? It's time for America to get back to air-headed celebrities. Britney, Paris, Lindsay, your country needs you right now. I mean, what would you rather focus on, some Wall Street guy who lost his shirt, or Britney losing her panties?

Here's some good news. The government is talking about stimulus checks again. The bad news? We're the ones that are writing them.

Before we begin, I want to warn people from Nigeria who might be watching our show, if you get any e-mails from Washington asking for money, it's a scam. Don't fall for it.

As you know the bailout was voted down. Oh my God. People are stunned. Nancy Pelosi was so shocked, if she could have made a facial expression, she would have.

You know, these things are so complicated. I guess the big problem was the plan came in two parts, and they couldn't agree on which part to implement first: the smoke or the mirrors.

I'll give you an idea of how bad the economy is, I wrote a five-dollar check over the weekend, the check was good, the bank bounced. I'll give you an idea how bad the dollar is, I went to buy gold, they said, 'oh, we can only buy it with gold.' That's how bad it is. In fact, the guy in the Rolls-Royce with the Grey Poupon had to switch to French's mustard.

In Washington, a Republican revolt caused the bailout deal to break down. They thought they had this thing going, you know, and the timing was bad for President Bush. He had just hung up the 'Mission Accomplished' banner again.

This latest development came as a shock to a lot of people because, Thursday night, leaders of both parties said they reached an agreement in principle. They reached an agreement in principle. Then they realized, 'Wait, this is Washington. We don't have any principles.' So, they had to start all over again.

You know, the interesting thing is, these numbers are so big that people can't even comprehend them. Like \$700 billion. See, the best way to understand large amounts of money is to think of it in terms of what it can buy. For example, you know what \$700 billion buys? It can buy you 100 senators and 435 congressmen.

The U.S. Mint announced this week they are redesigning the penny. Have you seen it? It looks exactly like the old dollar.

I'll tell you how bad the economy is. Just to give you an idea how bad the economy is. I saw a gay guy shopping at JCPenney. That's when you know there's a bad economy. I saw a guy at the 99-cent store using a coupon. That's a bad economy. In fact, I got my scenic checks from my bank today. You know what the scene was? Pictures of people at the bank cleaning out their desks. That's the picture on the check.

But the good news, the crime rate is down. Isn't that amazing? Less banks are being robbed. Well, sure. A, there's less banks. B, the banks don't have any money left. And C, nobody's got gas money for the getaway car. So, right there, crime is down!

The nation's largest savings and loan, Washington Mutual, has become the biggest bank failure in history. See, the problem with the savings and loans? Not enough savings, too many stupid loans, okay In fact, they changed their name from WaMu to 'screw you.'

I listened to President Bush's speech. I think I understand this whole economic crisis. See, rich people on Wall Street made a big mess. And they're too rich to clean it up. So the rest of America, you know, their maids and butlers, they have to clean it up for them. You see how easy it is?

As far as this \$700 billion bailout is concerned, they keep saying 'we have to act now, we have to act now.' It's like a bad TV offer. Just ten easy payments of \$70 billion each, operators are standing by, but you have to act now!

I'll tell you, to give you an idea how bad the economy is, Wall Street investors are now clinging to their guns and religion.

Do you even understand this Bush economic plan? Do you understand how it works? See, here's how it works. When you screw up, you pay. When they screw up, you pay! Yeah, actually very simple.

Some financial analysts are saying we're bailing out institutions with money we don't have, which makes the dollar even more worthless. In fact, today, God said, 'Could you take my name off the bill?'

And yesterday, Senator Chris Dodd said that the bailout plan would put the Constitution at risk, to which Bush said, 'Oh, please, we haven't used that old thing in years.'

And yesterday, the Iranian president, Mahmoud I'm-a-nut-job ... was at the U.N. And he blamed the United States for the collapse of the global markets. The Iranian president blamed the United States for the collapse of global markets. Well, that just goes to show you, in a crisis, you really find out who your friends are, huh? Yeah, I guess we can write that guy off.

More bad news from President Bush. Remember those rebate checks from a few months ago? He wants them back. We need to give that money to rich people on Wall Street. They need it more than you do.

They're still calling it a correction. I love this. When CEOs make bad decisions that cause Wall Street to crash, oh, it's called a correction. You know what we should do? Take these people and put them in a correctional institute. Okay, that's what we should do.

Listen to this. If any of these jokes bomb tonight, the federal government will step in and bail me out. Whew! Thank goodness.

Now, here's how bad the economy is. There are now Americans taking jobs away from illegal aliens. That's how bad it's gotten.

And it is pretty scary, this economy, don't you think? Doesn't it make you yearn for the good old days when we were just worried about oil hitting 150 bucks a barrel? Remember those days? It was such an innocent time.

This is what I love about this whole thing. This is what Congress said today. 'The days of getting money

just for the asking are over.' And then they asked for \$700 billion. See, you know the way a bailout works? Here's the way a bailout works. A failed president and a failed Congress invest \$700 billion of your money in failed businesses. Believe me, this can't fail.

Barack Obama said today the government's \$700 billion bailout should not be a blank check. Barack Obama says he knows that \$700 billion is a lot of money. In fact, it would take him at least 10 Hollywood fund raisers to come up with that kind of money.

I tell you, the economy continues to spiral. Oh, man, I saw a bank robber today being held up by a teller. Financial experts are saying we are entering a new chapter in the American economy. I believe it's Chapter 11.

President Bush has issued a new warning to Iran that it faces new economic sanctions, after reports by the UN Atomic Watchdog Committee that Iran is still enriching uranium. President Bush promising new economic sanctions. And believe me, if there's one thing the president is an expert on, it is ruining a country's economy.

To give you an idea how bad the American economy is, Mexico is now calling for a fence along the border. Stay on your side!

President Bush had a press conference today outside the Oval Office to talk about the economy. He would have had it inside, but, you know, the bank has foreclosed on it.

President Bush announced today that he will be working with Congress to use hundreds of billions of taxpayer dollars to restore confidence in the market. Actually, that was Bush's second choice to fix the problem. First choice? Invade Wall Street.

I tell you, I went to my ATM machine today; it gave me an IOU.

The stock market was up 400 points today. Or as Democrats call that, 'Terrible news!' Barack Obama said today, again, he wants to raise taxes on the rich. That's provided if, by November, anyone is still rich.

When it comes to the economy, President Bush is no help at all. Like when reporters asked him today, what he thought about AIG, he said he got Showtime and HBO, but he really didn't get the whole package.

President Bush has a plan to get us out of this financial mess. It takes place in January when he leaves office, that's the first step.

The stock market crashed this week, but market analysts are not calling it a crash. They're calling it a 'correction.' Oh, shut up! A correction. You never hear that at NASCAR. 'Oh, we had a fiery correction on turn three. Four men are dead.'

And another day, another federal bailout. This is unbelievable to me. The Federal Reserve has just loaned the AIG Insurance Company \$85 billion to keep it afloat. \$85 billion. That is almost as much money as Barack Obama raised last night in Beverly Hills.

Let me ask you, why are we bailing out an insurance company? I mean, what's the first thing an insurance company does when you have a loss? They cancel your policy, right? That's what we should do, cancel their policy. 'Ooh, sorry, you're too much of risk.'

And AIG has assets of over \$1 trillion. Not billion, \$1 trillion. How do you have \$1 trillion and still get into financial trouble? You know? I mean, I understand if you're living in a dumpster, rooting through trash cans, you need a couple bucks, okay. But if you have \$1 trillion, don't hit me up for a loan. Think about it. Has anybody ever had \$1 trillion and still failed? Okay, besides the New York Yankees.

You know, what happened to the old days when we had corporations we could trust, like Enron and WorldCom? Where are those blue chip companies.

You know, I'll tell you, once again, I don't think President Bush gets it. He doesn't really understand these economic issues. Like today, he was asked if customers should be concerned by all these bank closings. And Bush said, 'If the bank is closed, you just use the ATM.'

Big story in USA Today today. They said the days of easy money are over. Well, I'll bet the CEOs of the oil companies had a big laugh over that.

And the Democratic-controlled Congress says they're going to adjourn for the rest of the year. This is true. The Senate majority leader said regarding the financial crisis, no one knows what to do. Well there's a ringing endorsement to re-elect them, huh? 'Hey, good luck! You're on your own! We're leaving!'

Well, the Olive Garden and the Red Lobster announced they are going to have to raise prices to keep up with the economy. But things are okay. Today, John McCain said unlimited bread sticks are still fundamentally sound.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson tried to calm growing fears, vowing that the U.S. financial markets will remain stable. And he said, 'You can take that to the bank, assuming you can find one that's still open.'

Well, let's see, Lehman Brothers went bankrupt. Merrill Lynch was sold to Bank of America. See, that's when you know the subprime mortgage market is bad, even brokerage houses are losing their houses. That's why they're called brokers. After they take your money, you're broker. You see?

I'm not sure if Sarah Palin knows what to do about the economy either. Do you think she has any experience? She was asked today what to do in a bear market. And she said, 'Well, you should shoot it, then skin it.'

Here's the latest word from Wall Street: 'Ahhhh!'

Man, I guess you heard by now, Lehman Brothers is filing for bankruptcy. ... I don't think President Bush understands this crisis either. Like today, when he heard about Lehman Brothers going bankrupt, he said, 'Where am I going to get discount suits now?'

Experts say we're going through what's known as a lock, stock and barrel financial phase. You know

what that is, and how that works? People are locked out of their homes, their stocks are worthless, and the oil companies have us over a barrel. That's how it works.