



## >: Editor's Picks: Tycoon's Best of '07

Monday, December 31, 2007 / Ben Schott

The last day of the year is upon us, and it's time to reflect.

At least that's what I'm told.

So here is a lightning round re-cap of what's been quite a year ...

### Personally

Equal parts horrible (having watched [my mom](#) bravely battle and then lose to cancer), and special (watching [my daughter](#) turn two and blossom into a little person. In her words, "I not baby, I a little gurr!").

### At Tycoon

This has been an important year in the evolution of our company as an advocate for the individual investor, as we've released two of the best investing education courses on the market: [ETF Master Trader](#), and [Chris Rowe's Internal Strength System](#).

### The Markets

Right now it's hard to keep a level head, with talk of a recession, the housing mess, the sub-prime disaster, oil flirting with \$100 per barrel, and an extremely weak U.S. dollar (that was a mouthful).

But pulling back the camera for a wider view, there are a few things to be happy about (or at least less depressed) ...

- \* The S&P 500 gained about 4%, the Nasdaq about 10%.
- \* China was the place to be, with the Shanghai Composite index gaining nearly 97%.
- \* Interestingly, the total volume of options contracts traded, according to the Options Clearing Corporation, rose by nearly one third to around 3 billion.

### The Tycoon Report

We made quite a few changes this year to *The Tycoon Report*, which we feel -- despite the fact that it doesn't make us any money -- is the most important thing we produce here at Tycoon.

We reinvented the *Tycoon Report* [website](#), redesigned the daily email, made it easier for you to share your comments and rate our articles, and opened up the stage to allow Tycoon Report READERS to [write your own articles](#) for publication on our website and in the email newsletter.

In looking back through the stats and perusing the archives for 2007, I'm thrilled to announce a few unofficial awards:

#### The *Stick-In-The-Hornet-Nest Award*

, which is given to the writer whose articles generated the highest volume of reader comments over the course of the year, goes to Dylan Jovine. This one comes as no surprise: with titles like "[Mortgage Idiocracy](#)", "[Why Moody's and S & P Should Be Taken Out and Shot](#)", and "[Would You Let a PEZ Dispenser Manage Your Money](#)", people usually have something to say.

#### The *Highest Rated Article Award*

is a tough one, and a little less precise than I would have liked. Having switched our back-end technology mid-year, and since I don't think it's fair to give the award to an article that rated extremely high on a very low number of votes, this one is admittedly subjective ... so I'm going to choose three. (Articles rated by fewer than 100 readers aren't eligible.)

In no particular order, they are:

["WAMU WA-BUSTED"](#) by Teeka Tiwari - 202 Votes, 4.302 average rating (out of 5 possible stars).

["How to Rob an Individual Investor"](#) by Dylan Jovine - 100 Votes, 4.62 average rating