Are candidate gaffes important?

Talking points
1. Artist Olle Johansson's cartoon suggests Mitt Romney's statements are sinking him, while Tim Campbell accuses the media of overemphasizing gaffes. Are verbal slips important? Do they reveal anything about a candidate?
2. Is a recording of a candidate's extended statements in private a gaffe or something else?
3. Find examples of candidates' verbal mistakes in this election. How have they impacted the polls?

Between the lines
"It's time to admit the Romney campaign is an incompetent one. It's not big, it's not brave."
- Peggy Noonan, columnist and former Reagan aide.

Additional resources
More by Olle Johansson
http://www.cagle.com/author/olle-johansson/

More by Tim Campbell
http://www.cagle.com/author/tim-campbell/

Association of American Editorial Cartoonists
http://editorialcartoonists.com/