Cartoons for the Classroom



Between the lines

"Donkeys and elephants are history," screamed Ted Rall, in his 2002 anthology, *Attitude: The New Subversive Political Cartoonists*.



Don Asmussen

"Bad Reporter" cartoonist Don Asmussen was profiled in Rall's book as one of "the NEXT generation of artists out to save the world."

Alternative approaches

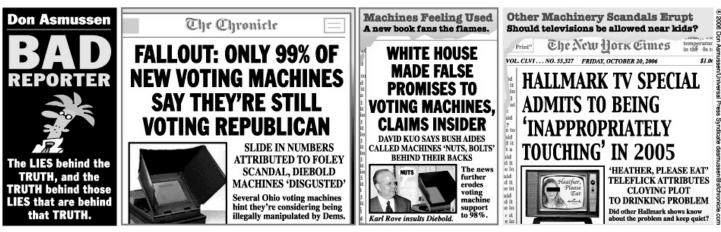
"Bad Reporter" redefines the news

Talking points

1. How does Don Asmussen's approach to cartooning differ from political cartoons you're familiar with? For example, compare Don's multi-panel approach to single-panel cartoons from your own newspaper. Does Don take a "take a stand" in his cartoons?

2. Webster's defines "satire" as "holding up human vices and follies to ridicule or scorn." Does this definition fit Don's work? Must cartoons be angry?

3. Define 'irony', 'sarcasm' and 'parody' and explain how each term might be applied to define Don's work.



Get out your newspaper

Gather a collection of political cartoons from your newspaper. Using the Cartoon Evaluation Worksheet (available online at the NIE Website) analyze each cartoon and explain the issues addressed and determine the artist's point of view.

Additional resources

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

More by Don Asmussen http://www.sfgate.com/columnists/asmussen/