

Cartoons for the Classroom



Presented by NIEonline.com and the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists (AAEC)

Don Asmussen

BAD REPORTER

The LIES behind the TRUTH, and the TRUTH behind those LIES that are behind that TRUTH.

The Chronicle

NASA: CRYING INDIAN SPOTTED FLOATING NEAR SPACE SHUTTLE

SEEMS BUMMED BY ATLANTIS CREW'S LITTERING

Shuttle landing delayed until Indian stops weeping

Racked with guilt, NASA says Atlantis will not land until it cleans up its damn mess.

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.

Remarks Anger Devout Worshippers
An apology is issued, but is it enough?

The New York Times

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COKE: LATEST AD ONLY MEANT TO OPEN UP A DIALOGUE WITH PEPSI

AS ANGER GROWS, COKE INSISTS AD WAS NOT AN EXPRESSION OF ITS PERSONAL VIEWS

Aghast, Coke defenders cite Pepsi's hypocritical war against its own, less fanatical, Diet Pepsi.

Iran Ignores Pressure
Sanctions have no effect ...

CIA: IRAN ONLY MONTHS AWAY FROM ELMO T.M.X. TECHNOLOGY

ALSO: NORTH KOREA TESTING 'LONG-RANGE ELMO' SAID TO BE ABLE TO ROLL AS FAR AS ALASKA

Cartoons Courtesy Don Asmussen / San Francisco Chronicle

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FALLOUT: ONLY 99% OF NEW VOTING MACHINES SAY THEY'RE STILL VOTING REPUBLICAN

SLIDE IN NUMBERS ATTRIBUTED TO FOLEY SCANDAL, DIEBOLD MACHINES 'DISGUSTED'

Several Ohio voting machines hint they're considering being illegally manipulated by Dems.

Machines Feeling Used
A new book fans the flames.

WHITE HOUSE MADE FALSE PROMISES TO VOTING MACHINES, CLAIMS INSIDER

DAVID KUO SAYS BUSH AIDES CALLED MACHINES 'NUTS, BOLTS' BEHIND THEIR BACKS

The news further erodes voting machine support to 98%.

Karl Rove insults Diebold.

Other Machinery Scandals Erupt
Should televisions be allowed near kids?

The New York Times

VOL. CLVI... NO. 55,327 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2006 \$1.00

HALLMARK TV SPECIAL ADMITS TO BEING 'INAPPROPRIATELY TOUCHING' IN 2005

'HEATHER, PLEASE EAT' TELEFLICK ATTRIBUTES CLOYING PLOT TO DRINKING PROBLEM

Did other Hallmark shows know about the problem and keep quiet?

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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/>