When it gets close, politics gets rough

Talking points
1. After Newt Gingrich won the South Carolina primary, the competition - and the attacks - stepped up in the Florida race. Find newspaper reports, editorials and other cartoons about the Republican primary battles.
2. Is it more interesting when political races are close? Why?
3. Find and evaluate political attack ads on the Web. Do voters learn more or less about candidates when they attack each other?

Between the lines
"(Mitt) Romney cast (Newt) Gingrich as inflammatory and prone to wild, costly promises, ranging from colonizing the moon to dredging the port of Charleston. Gingrich, in turn, painted Romney as a cold-hearted profiteer and the most 'anti-immigrant candidate.'"


Additional resources
More by Jeff Parker
http://www.cagle.com/author/jeff-parker/
More by Rick McKee
http://www.cagle.com/author/rick-mckee/
Association of American Editorial Cartoonists
http://editorialcartoonists.com/