Between the lines
As President Bush prepared for his second term, the press noted that he was surrounding himself with the most loyal of loyalists, staff members he has worked with for decades. To some that indicated that the President wouldn’t tolerate dissent in the ranks. Blind loyalty was valued higher than thinking for one’s self.

With apologies to . . .
Tucked into the corner of Nick Anderson’s toon is the line “With apologies to Robert Minor.” Who is Robert Minor and why is Anderson apologizing to him? Anderson has borrowed a concept from another source -- in this case, Robert Minor’s famous 1916 cartoon -- and is acknowledging his debt. It’s a different cartoon, making a different point, but the relationship between the toons is obvious.

Talking points
1. Robert Minor’s cartoon has been called a “timeless indictment of war.” Does the point of this 1916 cartoon still resonate today, decades later?
2. Anderson adds the words, “Blind Loyalty” to his toon to make his point clear? Is that necessary?
3. Why would a soldier (or an employee) with no head be considered perfect?

Additional resources
Association of American Editorial Cartoonists (AAEC)
http://editorialcartoonists.com/
Nick Anderson’s Pulitzer Prize (2005) portfolio
http://www.pulitzer.org/year/2005/editorial-cartooning/