

Cartoons for the Classroom

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Adam Zyglics / Buffalo News

Tooning into the Candidates: John Edwards

Between the lines

John Edwards, the running mate of Democratic presidential nominee Senator John Kerry of Massachusetts in 2004, announced his entry into the 2008 Presidential election on Dec. 27, 2006. He is a one-term U.S. Senator from North Carolina.

Talking points

1. When the press discovered that Edwards' campaign committee picked up the tab for two haircuts at \$400 each for the candidate, that provided instant fodder for cartoonists. How can someone rich enough for \$400 haircuts and living in a mansion claim to stand for common folk? Better yet, why do common folk believe him? What commercial is Zyglics spinning off?
2. Is this cartoon complimentary to or critical of Edwards? How does Zyglics' portrait of Edwards contribute to your impression?
3. Candidates try to present lofty themes as they campaign -- jobs, Iraq, health care, education, etc. But missteps or embarrassing revelations often get the most attention. Why is that?

Get out your newspaper

Gather a collection of political cartoons from your newspaper and other resources on the Presidential campaign. Using the Cartoon Evaluation Worksheet (available online at the NIE Website) analyze each cartoon and explain the issues addressed.

Additional resources

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

More by Adan Zyglics
<http://editorialcartoonists.com/cartoon/browse.cfm/ZygliA>