

Cartoons for the Classroom



Presented in cooperation with the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists (AAEC)

WHICH MANAGER WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE?



Courtesy Chuck Asay / Colorado Springs Gazette

Now that's debatable!

President Bush and Sen. John Kerry have very different views on the war in Iraq. And political cartoonists have very different views on President Bush and Sen. John Kerry. The cartoonist's job is to persuade, to take a side, to present you with an argument that makes you look at an issue in a new way. The toons selected here approach the issue of the Iraq war from different perspectives to present a case about the candidates. How you feel about the war will most likely affect how you feel about the candidate.

Talking points:

1. One of these toons draws an analogy to make its point. The other toon takes a more satirical approach. Define analogy and satire and explain which toon uses which approach.
2. Examine the symbolism Chuck Asay uses to get his point across in the toon above. Who is the fighter? How do you know that? One manager is comforting the boxer, the other is lecturing him. What does that imply? What do the French have to do with anything? Based on this cartoon, what's your answer for the question the toon's title poses?
3. The Bush/Kerry caricatures in Rob Rogers' toon at right tell a lot about how Rogers' feels about the Iraq issue. Which candidate just looks goofier. Why? Explain the toon's message.

Additional resources

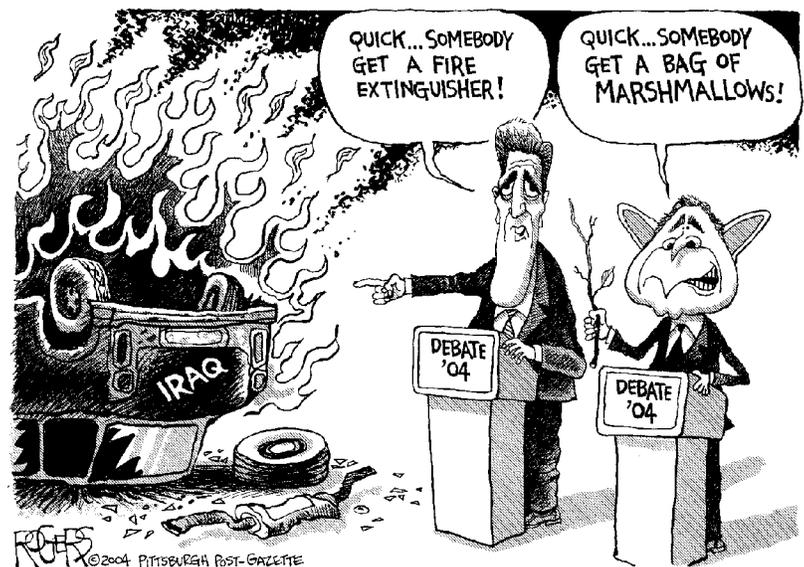
Association of American Editorial Cartoonists (AAEC)
<http://editorialcartoonists.com/>

More by Chuck Asay
<http://www.gazette.com/group.php?gid=2>

More by Rob Rogers
<http://www.post-gazette.com/robrogers/>

Get out your newspaper

Gather a week's worth of political cartoons from your newspaper. Using the Cartoon Evaluation Worksheet (available online at the NIE Website) analyze each cartoon and discuss the campaign issues raised. Is it clear which candidate the cartoonist agrees with? Which issues are the toons emphasizing? Explain.



Courtesy Rob Rogers / Pittsburgh Post-Gazette