

Guide to the Mike Smith Editorial Cartoons Collection

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Smith, Mike, 1960-
Contributor:	Las Vegas Sun
Title:	Mike Smith Editorial Cartoons Collection
ID:	MS-01047
Date [inclusive]:	1980 to 2021
Physical Description:	52.16 Cubic Feet (2 boxes and 80 oversized boxes)
Physical Description:	106.49 Linear Feet
Physical Description:	25,724 Digital Files (15.300 GB) BMP, CSF, DOC, GIF, JPG, PDF, PSD, TIF, TIFF
Abstract:	The Mike Smith Editorial Cartoons Collection (1980-2021) contains editorial cartoons created by Las Vegas, Nevada based cartoonist Mike Smith for the <i>Las Vegas Sun</i> newspaper. Materials include Smith's editorial cartoons on NASCAR and a copy of his 2003 book <i>StockcarToons</i> . The collection also includes Smith's personal sketchbooks and letters from fans.

Preferred Citation

Mike Smith Editorial Cartoons Collection, 1980-2021. MS-01047. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Las Vegas Sun editorial cartoonist Michael B. Smith was born in San Francisco, California on May 20, 1960 and grew up in Santa Clara, California. Smith started creating editorial cartoons while he attended Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, California where he created cartoons for the school newspaper, the *Los Angeles Loyolan*. In 1982, he graduated from Loyola Marymount University with a bachelor's degree in humanities. He began sending his cartoons to the *Las Vegas Sun* during his senior year of college and was eventually hired as an editorial cartoonist for the paper in 1983. That same year, Smith won first place in the *Chicago Tribune Syndicate's* cartoon contest.

Smith's work has appeared in publications around the United States and abroad including the *Chicago Tribune*, the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Sacramento Bee*, the *London Free Press*, and *USA Today*.

A fan of stock car racing since childhood, Smith started to draw NASCAR cartoons for Vegas.com and eventually for *NASCAR Scene* magazine and *Sporting News* magazine. Smith has published three books of NASCAR cartoons: *StockcarToons* (2003), *StockcarToons 2* (2003), and *Nuts for Racing* (2008). As of 2021, Smith continues to create editorial cartoons for the *Las Vegas Sun* and King Features Syndicate. He also creates a weekly cartoon on NASCAR featuring the character Gearhead Gertie for Comics Kingdom.

Sources:

Boyd, Jason O. "Q&A with Mike Smith of StockCartoons: From rental cars to Sprint Cup cars," *SportingNews.com*, April 28, 2015. <https://www.sportingnews.com/us/nascar/news/mike-smith-stockcartoons-nascar-sprint-cup-illustrations-las-vegas-jeff-gordon-kurt-busch-kyle-busch-sporting-news/1bxh4g958g3us1fgusps7nm7lj>.

Brewer, Ray. "One for the archives: Sun editorial cartoonist's life's work gifted to UNLV," *Las Vegas Sun*, February 14, 2021. <https://lasvegassun.com/news/2021/feb/15/one-for-the-archives-editorial-cartoonists-lifes-w/>.

City of Las Vegas Charleston Heights Arts Center presents Mike Smith Smithereens City of Las Vegas, 1990.

"About," Gearhead Gertie, ComicsKingdom.com, Accessed April 16, 2021. https://www.comicskingdom.com/Gearhead_Gertie/about.

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Scope and Contents Note

The Mike Smith Editorial Cartoons Collection (1980-2021) contains editorial cartoons created by Las Vegas, Nevada based cartoonist Mike Smith for the *Las Vegas Sun* newspaper. The cartoons depict major current events and politics at the local and national level. Smith's cartoons include depictions of politicians in Nevada including Richard Bryan, Harry Reid, and Oscar Goodman. The cartoons also depict Presidents of the United States starting from Ronald Reagan in 1980 to Joe Biden in 2021. His cartoons depict local issues and topics of interest such as the gaming and casino industry, the Nevada legislature, and environmental issues like the Yucca Mountain designation as a nuclear waste repository. Materials also include Smith's editorial cartoons on NASCAR and a copy of his 2003 book *StockcarToons*. The collection also includes Smith's personal sketchbooks and letters from fans.

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged by topic then chronologically.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research. Arrangements must be made in advance to access digital files; please contact UNLV Special Collections and Archives for additional information.

Publication Rights

This material is protected by copyright. Personal, including educational and academic, use of this material is without restriction but acknowledgement of Mike Smith, the *Las Vegas Sun*, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, University Libraries is requested. Commercial use of any portion of this material is prohibited. Contact the copyright owner, the *Las Vegas Sun*, for more information.

Acquisition Note

Materials were donated by Mike Smith and Brian Greenspun (Las Vegas Sun, Inc.) in 2021; accession number 2021-012.

Additions

Further additions to this collection are expected.

Processing Note

In 2021, Tammi Kim and Jose Andre Guevara accessioned the collection and created the finding aid in ArchivesSpace. Tammi Kim minimally processed the born-digital materials and updated the finding aid. No access copies were created for any files at this time.

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Related Materials

Related Collections

The following resource may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection:
Smith, Mike. Interview, 2018 August 17. OH-03460. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Editorial cartoons
- Politics and government
- Current events

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Editorial cartoons	
Editorial cartoons, 1980 to 1983	oversized box 01
Editorial cartoons, 1981 to 1983	oversized box 02
Editorial cartoons, 1982 to 1988	oversized box 18
Editorial cartoons, 1983 to 1988	oversized box 03
	oversized box 08
	oversized box 10
Editorial cartoons, 1983 to 1990	oversized box 05
Editorial cartoons, 1983 to 1992	oversized box 11
	oversized box 13
	oversized box 14
Editorial cartoons, 1984 to 1985	oversized box 09
	oversized box 47
Editorial cartoons, 1984 to 1987	

	oversized box 07
	oversized box 22
Editorial cartoons, 1984 to 1989	oversized box 04
	oversized box 12
	oversized box 27
Editorial cartoons, 1984 to 1990	oversized box 06
	oversized box 20
	oversized box 21
Editorial cartoons, 1984 to 1991	oversized box 29
Editorial cartoons, 1985 to 1990	oversized box 30
Editorial cartoons, 1985 to 1992	oversized box 31
Editorial cartoons, 1986 to 1993	oversized box 16
Editorial cartoons, 1987 to 1993	oversized box 28
Editorial cartoons, 1988 to 1991	oversized box 23
Editorial cartoons, 1989 to 1991	oversized box 17
	oversized box 26
Editorial cartoons, 1990 to 1995	oversized box 34
Editorial cartoons, 1990 to 1996	oversized box 35
Editorial cartoons, 1990 to 1997	oversized box 38
Editorial cartoons, 1990 to 2004	oversized box 72
Editorial cartoons, 1991	

	oversized box 43
Editorial cartoons, 1991 to 1993	oversized box 15
	oversized box 32
Editorial cartoons, 1992 to 1993	oversized box 39
Editorial cartoons, 1992 to 1997	oversized box 33
Editorial cartoons, 1993	oversized box 43
	oversized box 47
Editorial cartoons, 1993 to 1995	oversized box 19
	oversized box 24
Editorial cartoons, 1994 to 1995	oversized box 25
Editorial cartoons, 1995 to 1997	oversized box 79
Editorial cartoons, 1996 to 2000	oversized box 44
Editorial cartoons, 1996	oversized box 75
	oversized box 78
Editorial cartoons, 1996 to 1997	oversized box 76
Editorial cartoons, 1996 to 1999	oversized box 36
Editorial cartoons, 1997 to 1999	oversized box 45
Editorial cartoons, 1997	oversized box 77
Editorial cartoons, 1998 to 2000	oversized box 40
Editorial cartoons, 1998	oversized box 37
Editorial cartoons, 2000	

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Editorial cartoons, 2000 to 2001	oversized box 61
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Editorial cartoons, 2007 to 2008	oversized box 81
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Editorial cartoons, 2008 to 2009	oversized box 50
Editorial cartoons, 2009	oversized box 51
	oversized box 57
Editorial cartoons, 2009 to 2011	oversized box 42
Editorial cartoons, 2010	oversized box 43
	oversized box 47
Editorial cartoons, 2010 to 2011	oversized box 37
Editorial cartoons, 2012	oversized box 41
Editorial cartoons, 2013 to 2015	oversized box 57
Editorial cartoons, 2014	oversized box 56
	oversized box 58
Editorial cartoons, 2015 to 2016	oversized box 67
	oversized box 68
Editorial cartoons, 2016 to 2020	oversized box 66
	oversized box 70
Editorial cartoons, 2017	oversized box 53
Editorial cartoons, 2017 to 2018	oversized box 54
Editorial cartoons, 2018	oversized box 55
Editorial cartoons, 2019	oversized box 59
Editorial cartoons, 2019 to 2021	

	oversized box 60
Editorial cartoons, 2001 to 2021 Physical Description: 25,752 Digital Files (15.300 GB) BMP, CSF, DOC, GIF, JPG, PDF, PSD, TIF, TIFF	digital file 00
Personal papers and sketches	
Sketches from college, 1980	oversized box 71
Nevada Press Association's "Best of 2017" newspaper, <i>Las Vegas Sun</i> 1988 editorial cartoon calendar, <i>StockcarToons</i> by Mike Smith, <i>OD'd on OJ: Fresh Squeezed Pulp from the World's Greatest Cartoonists</i> by Jerry and Jens Robinson, 1988 to 2017	oversized box 71
Mike Smith's personal sketchbooks, approximately 1980 to 2020	oversized box 69
Thank you letters to Mike Smith, 1995	box 52
Sketches and professional correspondence, approximately 1998 to 2020	box 46
Sketches and fan mail, approximately 2016 to 2020	box 52