

Answers

The Man Who Bought Washington, DC

(pages 2–3)

1. Abramoff has admitted to defrauding four Indian tribes and to buying off public officials.
2. DeLay resigned from his post as House Majority Leader.

When George Met Jack

(page 4)

1. In one photo, the President appears with Abramoff and a casino owner. Another photo shows Bush shaking hands with Abramoff in front of a window and a blue drape. Three other photos are of Bush, Abramoff and one of the lobbyist's sons. A sixth picture shows several Abramoff children with Bush and House Speaker Dennis Hastert.
2. \$100,000

Did Libby Lie?

(page 5)

1. Plame is a former covert CIA operative and the wife of Joseph Wilson, a former ambassador who went to Niger to assess assertions by Cheney's office that Iraq had tried to buy uranium yellowcake from Niger.
2. Libby was indicted on five counts: two for perjury, two for making false statements to the FBI, and one for obstruction of justice.

Has Bush Gone Too Far?

(pages 6–7)

1. After the intelligence-gathering abuses of the Nixon years, Congress passed a 1978 law called the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA), requiring the National Security Agency to obtain a warrant any time it seeks to monitor communications within the U.S.
2. The Administration had the option of revising the law or of ignoring it.

Judging Mr. Right

(pages 8–9)

1. Roberts worked for Second Circuit Judge Henry Friendly and for Chief Justice of the Supreme Court William Rehnquist.
2. He worked as a corporate lawyer for many years and argued both sides of many controversial issues.

An American Tragedy

(pages 10–11)

1. Katrina caused a large section in a main levee near the 17th Street Canal to rupture, letting Lake

Pontchartrain pour into the city.

2. Critics argued that the government had not heeded warnings and had instead cut funding for flood control and storm preparations.

The Impact of Hurricane Katrina

(page 14)

Answers will vary but should be supported by sound reasoning.

An Unlikely Alliance

(pages 15–16)

1. The goal of the alliance is to eliminate poverty.
2. Bono knows how to appeal to politicians, never leaves his audience feeling helpless, brings people from many different ideological points of view together, and invites everyone to participate.

A Rebel Crack-Up?

(pages 17–18)

1. Iraqi insurgents are interested in ridding Iraq of occupation forces and object to al-Qaeda's killing of innocent Iraqi Shi'ites.
2. Reed sees continuing fighting by the Sunnis as the greatest threat.

Violence in Iraq: A Gallery of Views

(page 19)

1. In the top cartoon, an Iraqi woman and man are crossing the street carrying gasoline and groceries and commenting on an explosion in the distance. The gas can and groceries represent the basic needs that Iraqis are still lacking three years after the American invasion; the wide-eyed look on the man symbolizes the fear of everyday Iraqis due to the constant violence. President Bush and military personnel are shown looking worriedly at a map of Iraq in the second piece. The smiley face and podium represent what the public hears about Iraq from the Administration. The bottom image shows a man with a bullhorn labeled "common sense" blowing away anti-war demonstrators with the force of his message. The man and the protesters represent the two sides of the debate on staying the course in Iraq.
2. While the U.S. is stressing the elections and democracy, the woman in this cartoon is too busy trying to secure the necessities of life to be aware of when the election is happening. The cartoonist suggests that insurgents have set out to disrupt Iraqi elections in order to cause a setback for the U.S. in Iraq.
3. The second cartoon depicts Iraq as a bomb blast or black

hole. The podium and smiley face represent the "public face" that the Bush Administration is putting on its campaign in Iraq; the cartoonist suggests that this public message is starkly different from the bad news that the generals are reporting.

4. The third cartoonist sees the Iraq war as necessary to defeat Muslim extremism. He conveys this point of view by labeling the bullhorn "common sense" and by blowing the "hard-of-hearing" protesters away with what he says. Answers will vary in response to the final part of this question but should be supported by well-reasoned arguments.
5. The creator of the bottom cartoon clearly believes—along with the Bush Administration—that the U.S. mission in Iraq is aimed at defeating Islamic fundamentalists who are trying to kill Americans. The other two cartoons suggest that the violence is so bad that it might prove futile to stay in Iraq, contrary to U.S. policy.
6. Answers will vary.

Can Militants Make Peace?

(page 20)

1. In the past, Hamas has been committed to the destruction of Israel.
2. Voters wanted to rid themselves of the incompetent and corrupt Fatah party, which was in power until the latest election.

Troubled Soil

(page 21)

1. Ehud Olmert, formerly Deputy Prime Minister, has taken over as Prime Minister.
2. Sharon's credentials as a hawk put him in an ideal position to make peace with the Palestinians.

Nightmare in the Mountains

(pages 22–23)

1. India controls two-thirds of the Kashmir region; Pakistan controls the rest.
2. The Bush Administration sees earthquake aid as a chance to help a Muslim country and to improve America's image in the Islamic world.

Can a New Chief Remake Germany?

(page 24)

1. Merkel is the first woman ever to become Chancellor of Germany.
2. Merkel's party objects to Turkey joining the European Union, while the Bush Administration strongly supports the idea.

Why Paris Is Burning

(page 25)

1. The violence began following the deaths of two teenagers who thought they were being chased by the police.
2. Officials tried to strike a balance between condemning the violence and seeking to understand it, but they seemed powerless to impose order on the streets.

Global Warming: The Culprit?

(pages 26–27)

1. Scientists have observed that hurricanes have become increasingly powerful over the past decade.
2. The entire planet warmed dramatically in just three years.

A Transplant First

(page 28)

1. Answers will vary.
2. The media reported that the patient was suicidal and therefore psychologically unfit for the surgery; the doctors involved in the case denied this claim.

A Jury of Their Peers

(page 29)

1. First-time offenders under age 19 and who admit guilt to minor crimes are eligible for youth court.
2. Youth court dates back to 1947, when kids in Mansfield, Ohio, held neighborhood trials for young bicycle snatchers.
3. A study found that youth courts are often more effective in preventing repeat crimes than are other methods used to discipline first-time minor offenders.

War on the Water Front

(page 30)

1. Nestlé
2. They're proposing a ballot referendum that would tax large bottled-water operations.

Wal-Mart's Urban Romance

(page 31)

1. It will create between 150 and 200 construction jobs, as well as 300 permanent jobs.
2. Jackson charges that Wal-Mart does not provide a living wage, retirement benefits or affordable health insurance.

Current Events in Review

(page 32)

1. d 2. a 3. a 4. c 5. b 6. c 7. b 8. a 9. b 10. b 11. H 12. J 13. I 14. C 15. E 16. B 17. L 18. K 19. G 20. D