



## Guide to the Mike Smith Editorial Cartoons

---

This finding aid was created by UNLV Special Collections and Archives staff. This copy was published on July 08, 2024. Please contact [special.collections@unlv.edu](mailto:special.collections@unlv.edu) for questions regarding this collection.

Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1hn09>

© 2024 The Regents of the University of Nevada. All rights reserved.

**University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.**

Box 457010

4505 S. Maryland Parkway

Las Vegas, Nevada 89154-7010

[special.collections@unlv.edu](mailto:special.collections@unlv.edu)

---

## Table of Contents

---

Summary Information .....	3
Biographical Note .....	3
Scope and Contents Note .....	4
Arrangement .....	5
Administrative Information .....	5
Related Materials .....	6
Names and Subjects .....	6
Collection Inventory .....	6

---

## Summary Information

---

<b>Repository:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
<b>Creator:</b>	Smith, Mike, 1960-
<b>Contributor:</b>	Las Vegas Sun
<b>Title:</b>	Mike Smith Editorial Cartoons
<b>ID:</b>	MS-01047
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1980 to 2023
<b>Physical Description:</b>	53.06 Cubic Feet (5 boxes, 79 oversized boxes)
<b>Physical Description:</b>	97.14 Linear Feet
<b>Physical Description:</b>	13,248 Digital Files (15.802 GB) PDF, JPG, TIF
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Mike Smith Editorial Cartoons (1980-2023) contain 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, 1980-2023. MS-01047. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1hn09>

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## 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](https://www.comicskingdom.com/Gearhead_Gertie/about).

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Scope and Contents Note

---

The Mike Smith Editorial Cartoons (1980-2023) contain 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.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Arrangement

---

Materials are arranged chronologically.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## 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 and 2024; accession numbers 2021-012 and 2024-060.

### 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 accessioned the born-digital materials. In 2023, Sarah Jones created access copies and standardized file names. In 2024, Sarah Jones re-organized the collection back into chronological order and added the 2024 accession.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Related Materials

### Related Collections

The following resource may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection:

Mike Smith oral history interview, 2018 August 17. OH-03460. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Names and Subjects

- Editorial cartoons
- Politics and government
- Current events

## Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Editorial cartoons	
Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1980 Physical Description: 3 Files	oversized box 01
Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1981 Physical Description: 3 Files	oversized box 01
Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1982 Physical Description: 4 Files	oversized box 01  oversized box 02
Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1983 Physical Description: 5 Files	oversized box 03
Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1984 Physical Description: 9 Files	oversized box 04

oversized  
box 05

oversized  
box 06

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1985  
Physical Description: 9 Files

oversized  
box 07

oversized  
box 08

oversized  
box 09

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1986  
Physical Description: 8 Files

oversized  
box 10

oversized  
box 11

oversized  
box 12

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1987  
Physical Description: 8 Files

oversized  
box 13

oversized  
box 14

oversized  
box 15

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1988  
Physical Description: 9 Files

oversized  
box 16

oversized  
box 17

oversized  
box 18

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1989  
Physical Description: 8 Files

oversized  
box 19

oversized  
box 20

oversized  
box 21

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1990  
Physical Description: 8 Files

oversized  
box 22

oversized  
box 23

oversized  
box 24

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1991  
Physical Description: 8 Files

oversized  
box 25

	oversized box 26
	oversized box 27
Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1992 Physical Description: 9 Files	oversized box 28  oversized box 29  oversized box 30
Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1993 Physical Description: 8 Files	oversized box 31  oversized box 32  oversized box 33
Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1994 Physical Description: 4 Files	oversized box 34  oversized box 35
Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1995 Physical Description: 6 Files	oversized box 36  oversized box 37
Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1996 Physical Description: 6 Files	oversized box 38  oversized box 39
Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1997 Physical Description: 6 Files	oversized box 40  oversized box 41
Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1998 Physical Description: 5 Files	oversized box 42  oversized box 43
Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 1999 Physical Description: 6 Files	oversized box 44  oversized box 45
Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches, 2000 Physical Description: 5 Files	oversized box 46



oversized  
box 47

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2001

Physical Description: 5 Files

oversized  
box 48

Physical Description: 106 Digital Files

oversized  
box 49

digital  
file 00

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2002

Physical Description: 5 Files

oversized  
box 50

Physical Description: 268 Digital Files

oversized  
box 51

digital  
file 00

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2003

Physical Description: 5 Files

oversized  
box 52

Physical Description: 282 Digital Files

oversized  
box 53

digital  
file 00

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2004

Physical Description: 5 Files

oversized  
box 54

Physical Description: 364 Digital Files

oversized  
box 55

digital  
file 00

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2005

Physical Description: 5 Files

oversized  
box 56

Physical Description: 525 Digital Files

oversized  
box 57

digital  
file 00

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2006

Physical Description: 4 Files

oversized  
box 58

Physical Description: 607 Digital Files

oversized  
box 59

digital  
file 00

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2007

Physical Description: 4 Files

oversized  
box 59

Physical Description: 794 Digital Files

oversized  
box 60

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2008

Physical Description: 6 Files

Physical Description: 608 Digital Files

oversized  
box 61

oversized  
box 62

digital  
file 00

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2009

Physical Description: 5 Files

Physical Description: 568 Digital Files

oversized  
box 63

oversized  
box 64

digital  
file 00

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2010

Physical Description: 5 Files

Physical Description: 591 Digital Files

oversized  
box 71

digital  
file 00

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2011

Physical Description: 5 Files

Physical Description: 514 Digital Files

oversized  
box 72

digital  
file 00

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2012

Physical Description: 4 Files

Physical Description: 534 Digital Files

oversized  
box 73

digital  
file 00

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2013

Physical Description: 4 Files

Physical Description: 576 Digital Files

oversized  
box 73

oversized  
box 74

digital  
file 00

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2014

Physical Description: 5 Files

Physical Description: 562 Digital Files

oversized  
box 74

oversized  
box 75

digital  
file 00

---

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2015

Physical Description: 6 Files

Physical Description: 569 Digital Files

oversized  
box 75

oversized  
box 76

digital  
file 00

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2016

Physical Description: 5 Files

Physical Description: 571 Digital Files

oversized  
box 76

oversized  
box 77

digital  
file 00

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2017

Physical Description: 5 Files

Physical Description: 568 Digital Files

oversized  
box 77

oversized  
box 78

digital  
file 00

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2018

Physical Description: 5 Files

Physical Description: 513 Digital Files

oversized  
box 78

oversized  
box 79

digital  
file 00

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2019

Physical Description: 4 Files

Physical Description: 501 Digital Files

oversized  
box 79

oversized  
box 80

digital  
file 00

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2020

Physical Description: 4 Files

Physical Description: 515 Digital Files

oversized  
box 80

oversized  
box 81

digital  
file 00

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2021

Physical Description: 4 Files

Physical Description: 456 Digital Files

oversized  
box 81

digital  
file 00

Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2022

Physical Description: 4 Files

Physical Description: 515 Digital Files

oversized  
box 82

digital  
file 00

<p>Editorial cartoons: hand-drawn final sketches and digital files, 2023                  Physical Description: 4 Files                  Physical Description: 816 Digital Files</p>	<p>oversized box 83  digital file 00</p>
<p>NASCAR cartoons: digital files, approximately 2001 to 2023                  Physical Description: 1259 Digital Files (0.950 GB)</p>	<p>digital file 00</p>
<p>Draft sketches, approximately 2016 to 2020</p>	<p>box 67  box 68  box 69  box 70</p>
<p>Personal papers and sketches</p>	
<p>Sketches from college and Nevada Press Association's "Best of 2017"                  newspaper, 1980</p>	<p>oversized box 65</p>
<p><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</p>	<p>box 66</p>
<p>Mike Smith's personal sketchbooks, approximately 1980 to 2020</p>	<p>box 66</p>
<p>Thank you letters to Mike Smith, 1995</p>	<p>box 66</p>
<p>Personal sketches, professional correspondence, and fan mail,                  approximately 1998 to 2020</p>	<p>box 66</p>