Andrew Jackson
Election of 1824

• Differences in opinion within the party emerged
• William Crawford, Henry Clay, Andrew Jackson, and John Quincy Adams ran for President
• No one got more than half the electoral votes, so House voted

Clay used his influence to get Adams elected, than Adams appointed Clay as his Secretary of State (“corrupt bargain”)

![Election of 1824 chart]

*All candidates represented factions of the Democratic-Republican Party.*
The Party Splits

• Democratic-Republicans (Democrats)
  ▫ Andrew Jackson
  ▫ States’ rights
  ▫ Frontier, immigrants, factory workers supported the party
    • Jackson seemed like an ordinary man, just like his voters

• National Republicans
  ▫ John Quincy Adams
  ▫ Strong central government
  ▫ Road building
  ▫ Bank of U.S.
  ▫ Merchants and farmers supported the party
Election of 1828

- Andrew Jackson v. John Quincy Adams
- Election slogans, rallies, buttons, and events (barbecues) used to rouse enthusiasm
  - Now a central part of politics
Mudslinging

- Democrats accused Adams of betraying the people
  - Pamphlet: election is a “contest between an honest patriotism on the one side, and an unholy, selfish ambition on the other.”
  - Song: “But Jackson he was wide awake, and wasn’t scared at trifles, For well he knew what aim we take with our Kentucky rifles; So he led us down to Cyprus swamp, the ground was low and mucky, There stood John Bull in martial pomp, and here was old Kentucky.”

- National Republicans created a campaign song that emphasized embarrassing incidents in Jackson’s life
  - “Little know ye who’s comin’ If John Quincy not be comin’ Fire’s comin’, swords are comin’ Pistols, guns and knives are comin’ Famine’s comin’, famine’s comin’ Slavery’s coming, knavery’s comin’ Fears are coming, tears are comin’ Plague and Pestilence’s comin’ Satan’s comin’, Satan’s comin’”
Results

- Andrew Jackson received votes from western states and southern states – 178 electoral votes (56% of popular vote)
- John C. Calhoun switched sides and became Jackson’s vice president
Andrew Jackson

- Admired for being a
  - Patriot
  - Self-made man
  - War hero
- Ordinary Americans felt they could relate to Jackson
- Came to hear his Inaugural Address, then flooded the White House to shake his hand
- Made so many changes to politics that his presidency is known as “Jacksonian Democracy”
New Voters

- Before, only men who owned property and paid taxes could vote
- Now, states loosened restrictions on voting
  - Went from 26.9% to over 80% of men who could vote
  - Women, African Americans, and Native Americans still couldn’t vote
- People began choosing electors for the electoral college
Spoils System

- Jackson thought that having nonelected officials enforce the laws was undemocratic
  - Fired many federal workers and replaced them with his supporters
- Opponents called him a tyrant; supporters responded, “To the victors belong the spoils.”
  - This began the practice of replacing government employees with the winning candidates supporters
Electoral Changes

• Caucus System: members of Congress choose who will represent their party in the Presidential election
  ▫ Not democratic
• Nominating Conventions: delegates from each state meet to choose who will represent their party in the Presidential election
  ▫ More democratic; involves more people
Tariff Debate

• 1828: Congress passed a high tariff on manufactured goods from Europe
  ▫ North loved it, because it protected their manufacturing businesses
  ▫ South hated it, because it raised prices and almost lost them British business (“Tariff of Abominations”)

• South, led by Vice President Calhoun, argued that states could nullify a federal law that was against state interests
  ▫ Some argued that secession was okay. Since states had created federal government, states were final authority of constitutionality of laws.
Webster-Hayne Debate

- January 1830
  - Robert Hayne of South Carolina defended the right to nullify or secede
  - Daniel Webster responded in defense of the Constitution and Union. “Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable!”
Jackson’s Opinion

• April 1830: states’ rights supporters invited Jackson to speak at a dinner
• Jackson stood up, looked at VP Calhoun, and said, “Our federal union must be preserved!”
• Calhoun responded, “The Union – next to our liberty, most dear.”
Nullification Act

- 1832: Congress passed a new tariff, lower than the first, but the South still protested
- South Carolina, led by Calhoun, passed the Nullification Act
  - Declared that they would not pay the “illegal” taxes
  - Threatened to secede if the federal government tried to interfere
Compromise

- Henry Clay proposed a compromise bill that would gradually lower the tax over several years
- Congress passed the Force Bill
  - Jackson can use army to enforce laws
- South Carolina accepted the new tariff, but nullified the Force Bill
  - Claimed a victory over federal government
- Proved the federal government would fight to keep a state
War Against the Bank

- Nicholas Biddle convinced to apply early for a new bank charter
- Andrew Jackson vetoed the new bank charter
  - Thinks it is undemocratic and unconstitutional
- Election of 1832: most people supported Jackson’s veto, and he is reelected
  - Orders withdrawal of government deposits from Bank, and places them in smaller state banks
Political Cartoons

Andrew Jackson
TO THE VICTORS \nBELONG THE SPOILS.

A. JACKSON
What does it mean?

Jackson’s motto seemed to be “To the victor belong the spoils,” and he certainly employed the spoils system. One of his first acts was to fire dozens of federal employees, some who had been there since the days of George Washington. In their place he appointed people who had supported him. These appointments did not always work out so well. One member had to quit after having a well publicized affair. The words, “fraud, bribery, and plunder” are seen underneath the pig. A skeleton is also seen under the pig and the pig has dollar signs on it.
What does it mean?

- Andrew Jackson hated the idea of the Bank of the United States. He thought it wasn’t fair to the poor people. He wanted to destroy it. The many-headed monster is the states, sho are fighting Jackson to keep the bank. Jackson raises a cane that says “veto.”
King Andrew

- After his veto of the Bank of the United States bill, Andrew Jackson’s opponents accused him of abusing his Presidential powers. This cartoon shows Jackson as a tyrannical king trampling on the Constitution.