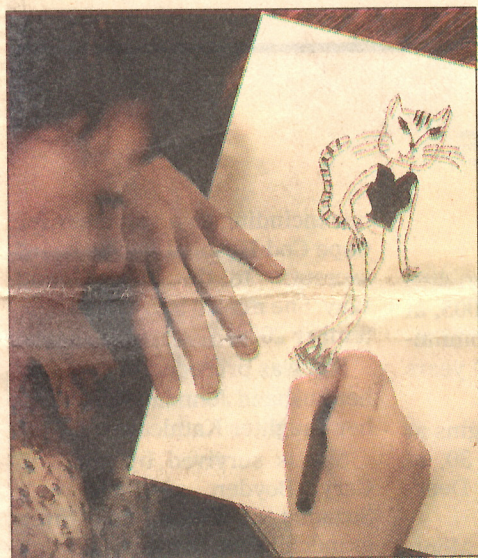


CHRISTINE BAKER/MCNAUGHTON NEWSPAPERS PHOTOS

Cartoonist Robert Armstrong shows his technique at a class in Dixon for 8- to 14-year-olds.

Animation fascination



Carly Courtney, 10, of Dixon works on a cat during a recent cartooning class.

Underground artist inspires children

By Claire St. John
MCNAUGHTON NEWSPAPERS

DIXON — Robert Armstrong is modest. When teaching cartooning to 8- to 14-year-olds after school in Davis, Dixon, Vacaville and Fairfield, he never mentions a host of Web sites calling him one of America's best underground cartoonists.

He demonstrates proportion with sketches of Superman, not characters he penned and gave fame to in comic books that sold like crazy in the 1970s and '80s.

And in his mind, there's no reason to mention he's worked with Harvey Pekar, writer of "American Splendor"

Find out more

What: Robert Armstrong's cartooning classes

Where: Davis Art Center, 756-4100; Dixon Senior/Multi-Use Center, (707) 678-7022; Vacaville Senior Center, (707) 469-6660; or Fairfield Community Center, (707) 428-7435

Info: www.armst.net/robert

and the subject of a recent film by the same name, or that he's released three jazzy, Hawaiian, ragtime albums with famed cartoonist Robert Crumb or even that he played the musical saw in the opening and closing credits of the 1975 film "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest."

"Kids have their own things they like,

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