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The Whistleblower

Or "Some of the News They Seem to Lose" ©

Edition # 36

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This Week's Really Big Story

CNN admits "pirating" WLW

CINCINNATI—The advantages of a 50,000-watt clear-channel signal, like 700 (AM) WLW can have some disadvantages as well.



the problem lies.

Like the booming signal, which reaches across 38 states and Canada at night.

And that's where

Bill Cunningham, attorney-by-day, and talk-show host at night claims that CNN—the Cable News Network—has used his advice to conscientious objectors on the air.

WLW has reportedly sent CNN a cease and desist letter and says that the network may face some questions from the FCC.

CNN executives said that they were looking into the situation.

Top Ten List

This week, it's the top ten ways to make military briefings from Riyadh more exciting:



10. Giant tote board to keep track of the Iraqi body count

9. Instant replay to score the strafing

8. Scantily-clad cheerleaders shaking their pom-poms

7. Former Medal-of-Honor winners to describe all the action

6. Clock continues to run during injury time-outs

5. Correspondents doing the wave

4. No two-minute warning

3. Both sides use hurry-up offense

2. Miller Lite Award for bomb-run of the week

And the number one way to make military briefings from Riyadh more exciting is...pour Gatorade over General Schwarzkopf's head the moment the war is over.

Blackwell reports from Geneva

GENEVA—J. Kenneth Blackwell, picked by The White House to represent the United States on the United Nations Commission of Human Rights, arrived in Geneva early last week.

The former Cincinnati Mayor is currently attending meetings having as their focus the alleged human rights atrocities committed by Iraq in occupied Kuwait.

Blackwell's reports are being carried exclusively via the newly created *Whistleblower Wire Service*, by which important communications on issues vital to the national interest are being relayed to local news media outlets which subscribe to the service.



Saddam Look-Alike Contest

Entries are pouring in for the local Media/Celebrity Saddam Hussein Lookalike Contest.

The *Cincinnati Enquirer* unanimously nominated George Blake, who has often been mistaken for the Iraqi TV announcer.



Folks in the *Post* newsroom nominated Neighbors reporter Pat Crowley, who doesn't always find the comparison amusing.

Courthouse employees are solidly behind auditor's employee Jeff Corcoran, a previous winner of the Adolph Hitler Lookalike Contest.

City Hall denizens believe that Councilman Dwight Tilbery will be the odds-on favorite.

Over at NewsChannel 5, newstuffers nominated Norms Rashid. Saddam's mustache is a little larger, but they both have that same crazed look in their eyes.

Up at Channel 12, they've still fallen and can't get up.

While down at WCPO-TV, an investigator from Channel 9's "I-Team" asked, "Doesn't that have something to do with that war thing?"

Cincinnati Ding-Dong

Plans are on track for Cincinnati Street Railway Inc. to operate electric street cars from Longworth Hall to the Adams Landing Condominium project.

Cost for the first phase is projected at \$2.3 million, which does not include \$600,000 to restore three street cars or the cost from CSX for getting use of the existing rail facilities.

Community Development Chairman Pete Strauss said that this is a fine example of what can be

done when the public and private sectors work together.

The only problem is, it would connect a building that is 85% empty to a condo which will probably never be built and will be intersected by the new bridge from nowhere to nowhere.



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Real Editorials By the Publisher Charles Foster Kane

History repeats itself

In 1989, William Randolph Hurst single-handedly goaded the United States into the Spanish American War to improve circulation for his newspapers.

Word has it that the Persian Gulf Conflict is being fomented by radio and TV stations across the country as means of boosting their audience.

Some claim air superiority and others claim air supremacy.

The reason that this editorial is so short is because in 10 seconds we have to go back to the network for another Persian Gulf Update.

WAR IN THE GULF

Last week, our roving reporter visited the Home and Garden Show at the Convention Center to ask ordinary people which weapon would be most effective in a land battle.



"I'd say the M-1A1 Abrams tank. It's a top of the line weapon that carries a 120-mm smoothbore gun and can reach 45 miles per hour while maneuvering."

Jack Mehoff
Delhi Township

"My preference would be the M-2 Bradley—an Infantry Fighting Vehicle which transports troops. I'm especially impressed with the heavy armor and TOW missiles as well as its chain gun and machine gun."

Darlene LeBeaux
Clifton Heights



"No land battle can be won without the AH-64A Apache helicopter. It's an attack helicopter with a 30-mm automatic cannon. It can carry such antitank missiles as the Rockwell Hellfire. But we'll have to watch out for maintenance problems."

Elmo Ridley Florence



Real Facts "More of the News They Seem to Lose"

"Auditor's employees below poverty level," union organizer says

Employees at the Hamilton County Auditor's Office are really steaming, ever since Odell Hinkle, organizer for Teamsters Local 100, sent letters to all 170 employees showing how much everybody was paid.

"Some of you are being paid pretty well, while others are being paid at or below the poverty level," Hinkle's letter said.

Of the 170 employees listed, 79 were paid more than \$26,000 per year, or were people with the same last name. The lowest total for which was for Catherine and Robert Moore, shown living at the same address, who were paid a combined \$37,259.

Some other similarly impoverished people were: Robert and William Grauvogel—\$63,874; Antonette, Carol, and Michael Ebert—\$61,263; Donna, Ronald, and Thomas England—\$62,103; Nancy and Raymond Gertler—\$54,801; and Joan, Melody, and Thomas Woods—\$52,218; Cathy and William Vanderveide—\$51,979; Paul and Peter Cussen—\$48,027; Barbara and Susan Smith—\$45,274; Loryne and Patricia Garner—\$45,099; Kathleen and Teri Mastin—\$42,081; Beth and David Connors—\$43,131; and Cynthia and Gloria Schmidt—\$38,803.

"It's an outrage to see what some of those people are making," said our Whistleblower in the auditor's office.

Of special concern was the \$31,898 annual salary paid to Stephanie Frank, secretary and dancing partner of former Deputy Auditor Mickey Esposito.

When asked to explain why

Top 30 Annual Salaries in the Auditor's Office

1	DIETZ, Kenneth	65,794
2	MALONEY, Michael	60,215
3	MUNZ, Terrence	55,793
4	TILTON, James	54,999
5	OSSENBACK, Victoria	47,091
6	GRAUVOGEL, Robert	46,066
7	BISHOP, Clifford	45,829
8	VOGELPOHL, Marilyn	43,289
9	EVANS, James	41,828
10	DELANEY, Judith	39,560
11	ALTMAN, Richard	39,251
12	REI, Mark	37,379
13	WACHENDORF, Roger	37,251
14	GANNON, Ernest	37,172
15	PACK, Brenda	36,638
16	McDANIEL, Mariene	36,621
17	NURRE, David	36,881
18	ROBERTS, Diana	33,897
19	FLOTTMAN, Edward	33,381
20	GARNER, Loryne	33,253
21	PETERS, Thelma	32,642
22	WOOD, Shelby	31,978
23	FRANK, Stephanie	31,898
24	KRAMER, Gregory	31,553
25	AHRENS, Mark	31,438
26	DRESSELL, Thomas	31,188
27	ENGLAND, Thomas	30,792
28	GERTLER, Nancy	30,724
29	WEIKEL, Joyce	29,834
30	MESSERLE, George	29,726

there were no job titles on the list, our Whistleblower inside the Auditor's office asked, "What's that?"

Hamilton County Auditor Mike Maloney, appointed to replace Joe DeCourcy last March, said that his recovery following his coronary bypass surgery last year is virtually complete and the prognosis is that he can finish the campaign vigorously and keep the Auditor's Office on a straight course.





Cheap Shots

School daze

"I was really worried when I first heard that in Cincinnati, 80% of the ninth graders failed at least one of the four sections of the state freshman exam," said Cincinnati School Superintendent Lee Etta Powell.



At first she thought they were talking about was the teachers.

Truth will out

Just because records from Jim Cissell's law practice have been subpoenaed by a federal grand jury investigating his connection to Dickie Weiland in the DeCourcygate Scandal in the Hamilton County Auditor's office doesn't necessarily mean that the Cincinnati City Councilman has done anything improper.



Then again, maybe it does.

Wrong question

Last week, a motion from Cincinnati Council Member Tyrone Yates was referred to the law committee to look into how city council is elected.



The question to be answered, however, is not "how," but "why."

War on two fronts

As is he didn't have enough trouble with his name being linked to suspects being tipped off in the state audit of the Hamilton County Auditor's Office, the State Supreme Court says it's now OK for Elizabeth Techant's case to proceed against State Auditor Tom Ferguson.



Paying his dues

Columnist David Wecker, whose columns appear three times a week in *The Post*, writes some of the blandest stuff in town.



But there's a reason for it. Wecker's editors have told him that if he waters down his writing enough, they'll give him Nick Clooney's column when the elder statesman retires.



Another Real Guest Editorial by Bunky Tadwell

Whenever someone or some group sets out to change the world, they brook no objections. It is not allowed to enter anyone's mind that there might be a bug or two in the scheme or that it needs a little more thought.

Remember ERA? Not the real estate company, but the Equal Rights Amendment. Full speed ahead and damn the practical side of our society. You may recall that a few folks sat back and looked at what was being proposed and spotted a glitch or two. How many can recall that had the language—which was very simple but very vague—been adopted, we would have had unisex restrooms? Nay, nay, the backers assured us. That was silly and was just a knee-jerk reaction of conservative fuddy-duddies who opposed everything warm and wonderful in this brave new world.

How many recall a few weeks ago a lady, obviously under a lot of pressure, figured—what the hell?—and slipped into a men's restroom and did whatever it was she had to do real bad? Seems she was at some event and the ladies' room was backed up and she just couldn't wait. So, in she went. And went.

Like many a desperate person who tries something rash and gets away with it, the lady couldn't let well enough alone. So she blabbed to a cop and was arrested. She was not convicted. The judge, like most of us, had been in similar circumstances and said let's just forget it.

So are we there yet? Not yet. But we're getting there.

There was a story a week or so ago about an attempt to resolve the overloaded ladies' room syndrome. Someone came up with an invention. I don't know which gender conceived the stand-up urinal for women, but it is bound to be an interesting experiment. I'm not real sure how this thing works, but it seems there's this tube that has some kind of disposable paper cup. Women, I'm sure, will figure out how it oper-

ates. It would seem a little unhandy for the lady in distress to lift up, pull down, hold on, grab the tube, put in the paper cup, let fly, toss the cup, and put back the tube. But what do I know?

It would seem to be simpler to put in more of the conventional facilities. At least the technology has been perfected and most everyone is familiar with the way to use them. The new devices sound expensive. I don't know if they are to be set apart as individual units or if the trough approach will be used. Will there be coat hooks? A place to put packages? You many scoff, but when you take into consideration one hand will have to be keeping clothing at bay and the other hanging on to that tube so it won't get in the way, there will have to be some kind of an arrangement to free up the user's hands.

This also brings up the matter of open-toed shoes and sandals in the summertime. A whole new world of hazards will be visited upon the users. Bathroom humor—such as "Stand Close, the Next Lady Might Be Barefoot"—will appear on walls.

We Aim To Please. So You Aim Too, Please.

Is this invention a result of women who want to stand up and be counted in the Battle for Equal Rights? Will it lead to some train blazing woman being the first to write her name in the snow? Time will tell.

I suppose if we want more information, we'll have to wait for Jane Fonda to bring out her next video.

The views and opinions in this column do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the author. They do, however, reflect the philosophy of *The Whistleblower*, its staff, its management, and most importantly—its advertisers.



Real Letters from Real Readers

Sirs:
The reason local broadcasters claim to have 24-hour war coverage is because they're all buying commercials on CNN.

George Blake

Sirs:
Many people have asked where I came up with the idea for those "orange" ribbons. Actually, God told me he liked that color best.

Ellen Lambing

Sirs:
OK. So I made a mistake when I reported that the Iraqi Republican Guard had been "decimated." But I still have the neatest name of any correspondent covering the war.

Wolf Blitzkrieg

Sirs:
Many people think Margaret Lowrie and I are acting as stooges for Saddam Hussein when we broadcast his propaganda from Baghdad.

But if you look closely, we're blinking the location of hospitals, mosques, and baby-milk factories in Morse Code.

Peter Arnett

Sirs:
Can you tell me who does NBC's Saudi Arabi Correspondent Arthur Kent's hair.

Ken Broo

Sirs:
There will be no professional basketball in Cincinnati, at least not for a while. I was going to buy a franchise for Cincinnati, but I bought one in Louisville instead.

Dudley Webb

Sirs:
Maybe the reason Saddam Hussein is hiding out in a bunker is because he has a lot of creditors.

Henry Dorfman

Sirs:
TV is unfair to demonstrators protesting the war. These are just a bunch of beautiful people trying to bring peace and love to a troubled world.

Judge Sylvia Hendon

Sirs:
The real reason I don't like to eat jail house food is that I'm watching my weight. I just can't afford to outgrow my FreeStore pants.

Rev. Maurice McCrackin

Sirs:
I surprised everybody when I had a baby. Most people in the Channel 12 newsroom thought I was too mean to conceive.

Debra Silberstein

Sirs:
I understand that the Bengals are still looking for a new offensive coordinator.

Stormin' Norman Schwarzkopf

Sirs:
How about Operation Drug Storm?

Nick Vehr



Another Exclusive Whistleblower Report

Counting their chickens ...

Republican joy at the possibility of wresting the Delhi Township Board of Trustees from Democrats has died aborning.

Unable to win control in township elections since 1967, the Delhi GOP thought they finally had a chance to cross over to glory with the upcoming resignation of Dusty Rhodes to become County Auditor.

Had the remaining Trustees, Democrat Carol Espelage and Republican Nick LaScala, been unable to agree on an appointment, the choice formerly went to the County Probate Court. And the resident Republican there could be counted on to follow the instructions of the party in selecting a replacement trustee.

The licking of chops and jockeying for position amongst Delhi Republicans hopefuls was a sight to behold. The minute the last votes were counted in the Auditor's race, prospective candidates began lining up as Flanagan's Landing on Pete Rose Way. That's where former bailiff and Delhi GOP Chairman Bob Lunsford cooks hot dogs and dispenses political favors.

Figuring they could prevail upon LaScala to deadlock the choice, they were certain the selection would wind up with the Probate Court and therefore with Lunsford.

But happiness and anticipation turned to weeping, wailing, and gnashing of teeth in the outer darkness.

State law on vacancies on township Boards of Trustees has just been changed. Now, if the remaining

two Trustees can't agree, the right to select a replacement goes to the outgoing Trustee's nominating committee.

These are the five people named on the Trustee's nominating petitions, and Rhodes' are all Democrats.

Embittered Delhi Republicans, never known for their political skill or intelligence, are blaming State Rep. Jerry Luebbers for engineering the change in law. In fact, the amendment to a Senate bill was proposed by a representative from Akron.

What's more, the bill received almost unanimous support in both houses of the legislature from Republicans and Democrats.

Now township vacancies will be filled locally, in much the way vacancies in city and county offices are filled—by the party that originally won the election.

Given the record of playing "Musical Chairs" with county offices, you'd imagine it might be pretty hard for the GOP to bitch about the change, which gives the Democrats a chance to fill and office on the rare occasion when one of their own moves up.

But consistency isn't one of local Republicans' long suits.

And the Delhi GOP are the worst of the lot.

Word is they're burning with rage at getting outfoxed by the lowly Democrats.



Iraqi Mobile Scud Missile Launcher



Controversy raged last week after *The Whistleblower* published a Doonsbury cartoon that some readers felt was in poor taste.

Extra operators fielded calls from 4,827 animal rights activists, all objecting to the war-time cruelty depicted.



Bluegrass Holler by Ken Cambo

Kenton County Republican Party Chairman Eric Deters has stepped in deep do-doo by making a public endorsement of gubernatorial candidate Larry Forgy. All the big elephants, led by Congressman Jim Bunning are lining up behind favorite Larry Hopkins. Local Democrats are ecstatic about Deters' impending doom, since he's the guy responsible for knocking them out of the courthouse. "He's a nasty little turd," said one out-of-office donkey. "He makes Lee Atwater look like a saint. He's got it coming to him."



Covington gets another four years of Denny Bowman since none of his detractors on City Commission had the guts to run against him in the mayor's race.

Commissioner Jim Egemeier said a race for mayor would detract him from his plumbing business. Butch

Callery is too busy chasing speeding trains and Jim Ruth wasn't about to run for a job that requires him to actually have an opinion on anything. All three will try to retain their seats on the Commission; running against two women, a black, and an intellectual cripple.

Now that The Boot is history, where do Northern Kentucky gay blades for a late night snack? Try getting a table at the Anchor Grill after dark.

Although local gad-about Jani Gardner has been working for months to publicize the Bellvue Harbor condo project, we can't find ten people who say they want to live on the riverbank between Newport and Dayton. And so convenient to the Vet's Hall, too.

Newport Mayor Steve Goetz says he's not worried about losing his job to candidate Johnny "Thunder" Stewart.

"Newport is beyond electing guys with funny middle names," said His Honor. "We used to do that, and you can see where it got us."

As Advertised in The Enquirer

Radio Personality Talk Show Host

Local 50,000 watt radio station.
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Box Q244, 617 Vine Street, Cincinnati,
Ohio 45201-0116



Frankfort Follies by Ernest P. Worrell

The continuing drama of the Kentucky gubernatorial campaign, and the candidates that make it worth watching.

First lady Martha Wilkinson made it official when she filed her candidacy papers last week. She declared her independence from her husband's influence by disclosing her 1990 income tax return.

Martha claims that her greatest pride comes from being a common farmer. Last year she earned \$357,706 from dividends and interest income.

What the hell is she growing on that farm?

Lexington Mayor Scotty Baesler claims to be the most viable candidate in the race, since he is the only one to have played basketball deity Adolph Rupp.

It's billed as "The Battle of the Larrys" as the GOP gears up for its first primary in a governor's race since the Nixon administration. Congressman Larry Hopkins is the first clear-cut favorite over Lexington attorney Larry Forgy, who walked away from his party's nomination four years ago. Elephants in the Common-

wealth will never forget how that opened the door for Wallace Wilkinson

Congressman Jim Bunning will be working overtime to put Hopkins in the Governor's Mansion. Kentucky will lose at least one seat in Congress due to a short count in the census. Big Jim is covering his bets by making sure Hopkins already has a job when re-districting occurs.

Pro-pot candidate Gatewood Galbraith is down to seeds and stems after his only celebrity Willie Nelson ran into tax problems. So far, Galbraith's campaign has barely raised enough to finance a nickel bag. Rumor says that ads will start appearing in packs of Zig Zags next month.

Dr. Floyd Poore's epic "I Hear Kentucky Calling" will be available in video stores soon. don't look for it to show up in the Crescent Springs Video Village. "We got into enough trouble with Rambone the Destroyer," said the night manager at the store. "We don't need anymore headaches."



I Bombed at Music Hall by Phil Samp

"Good evening, symphony fans. This is Phil Samp, along with Carmen DeLeone, with tonight's play-by-play of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra."

"Thanks, Phil. Tonight we're playing the Floggermeister von Nurenburg."

"The symphony's just getting under way, and there's the overture. And what a fine overture it is. Right, Carmen?"

"Right, Phil. Sixty bars. You just can't do better than that."

"And picking up the melody is a flute. No, it's piccolo on the five-bar line." "No, Phil. That was the oboe player."

"Right, Carmen. And what a

great pair of hands he has. Just what Cincinnati's been needing. They traded away a tuba player and a fifth-round draft choice to the Boston Pops for him."

"No, Phil. That was our all-pro clarinet."

"Right, Carmen. He can play long. He can play short. He can carry a tune or counterpoint with the rest of them. You should see him fugue on special teams. And there he breaks through on a piasano."

"No, Phil. That's a crescendo."

"Right, Carmen. I was thinking about last week's Italian Symphony."

"Phil, let me ask you something. How long have you been broadcasting the symphony?"

"Ever since I told Paul Brown what was wrong with the Bengals."



Up Your Image
by Alex Stolley

Local ad agency wins really big account

Cincinnati advertising agency Hogan Nolan & Stites has been awarded the Saddam Hussein Merchandising Account, which includes licensing of all products bearing the Iraqi president's likeness, according to a highly placed source at the Iraqi Embassy in Washington.

"We were especially impressed with the presentation made by HN&S Account Executive Nick Vehr in Baghdad last week," the Iraqi spokesman said. "Vehr had some terrific ideas for promotions, similar to the ones he did for the KKK."

Vehr's plan calls for coordinating efforts by minor officials in local governments to continue to make resolutions condemning the Iraqi dictator to keep Saddam's name alive long after his regime has been destroyed.



The Iraqi Song

(Sung to the music of "The Beverly Hillbillies")

This is the story of a man named Saddam
A petty little dictator livin' next to Iran
He was out one day killin' him some Kurds
When down from Allah came the followin' words

Invade Kuwait. Don't wait.

Well, next thing you know, he sends in all his tanks
And tells the world "I ain't afraid of Yanks"

Iraq starts claimin' its 19th new state
While at the U.N., they start the debate

War is here. Don't fear.

Well, over in America, the boss is named Bush
And he's gonna kick Saddam in the tush
He sends plane and troops, and lots of ships
This ain't about taxes, just read my lips

Hey, Hussein, Feel Pain

Now smart bombs are dropping right through the front door
I bet Hussein regrets ever starting this war.

But now that it's started we're gonna carry it through

Hey, Hey Saddam, this bomb is for you



Property Tax Advisory Board Can Help Whistleblower Readers



Nearly 3000 angry property owners have filed formal complaints with the Hamilton County Auditor's Office challenging their 1990 tax bills.

To help readers with their property tax challenges, *The Whistleblower* has assembled a group of

property tax experts to answer questions in weekly columns that will be published prior to the March 31 filing deadline.

Send your questions to: Whistleblower Property Tax Advisory Board, 1000 Main Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.

What's The Whistleblower's Secret?

