

**Better than
money, sex,
and power**

The Whistleblower

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

Edition # 45

April 9, 1991

This Week's Really Big Story

Jail crisis could be the commissioners' downfall

"The situation is out of control," said Municipal Court Judge **Mark Painter**, referring to Hamilton County's jail crisis. The "law and order" Republican added that the jail over-crowding problem should have been solved 6 or 7 years ago.

But these same "law and order" Republicans have been in control for the past 20 years.

There's nobody else to blame.

Bob Taft Jr., a 10-year county commissioner, has just been elected Secretary of State. **Stormin' Norman Murdock**, a county commissioner through most of the 80s, is now a Common Pleas judge. Young **Joe DeCourcy** is a permanent nursing home resident after crashing his county car and his political career last year. **Sandy Beckwith**, who replaced Murdock, was re-elected by a huge margin to keep on doing nothing. She'll be OK, though. A lifetime federal judgeship is coming up for her. And appointed auditor **Mike Maloney**, recently defeated by Democrat **Dusty Rhodes**, was the county administrator between 1978 and 1988.

Left to take the heat are commissioners **Steve Chabot**, an avowed anti-tax politician (except when he was on city council) and **John Smale** said it was OK to raise the city earnings tax), former Sharonville Mayor **John Dowlin**, who still doesn't know what he's gotten

himself into, and whoever **Kohnen the Barbarian** and his cohorts at 700 Walnut Street choose to replace Beckwith.

These Republican Commissioners-come-lately are now rolling their eyes and claiming that they just inherited the problems, without blaming their Republican predecessors. But time has just run out for that ploy.

With judges starting to give credit where credit is due, and High Sheriff **Simon Leis** closing the jail to emphasize the point, the Commissioners of Today are caught between the proverbial rock and a hard place.

They can either own up to their responsibilities and go for a sales tax increase to build and staff adequate jail facilities, or they can keep on trying to manage the problem with smoke and mirrors. Whatever they do, don't bet a lot of money on their re-election chances in '92.

If Beckwith trips the light fantastic onto the federal bench, the GOP goodfellas will have to defend all three commission seats next year, as well as either a tax increase or a continuing jail crisis. Democrats are already salivating—even more than last year when Auditor **Joe DeCourcy** got in trouble.



**Blue
Chip
Express**

Distribution of this week's Whistleblower to subscribers of record in the downtown area is provided by Blue Chip Express.

(513)
421-3232

Top Ten List

This week, it's the top ten ways to ease the overcrowding problem at the Hamilton County jail:

10. Let Judge Gilbert Bettman handle all the sentencing
9. Immediate executions for misdemeanors
8. Require homosexual prisoners to share bunks
7. Make the other inmates sleep in shifts
6. Give prisoners orange vests and send them out to stand on the expressway
5. Change the standards of what constitutes "cruel and unusual punishment"
4. Solve the vacancy problem in downtown hotels
3. Hire Donald Harvey as a jailhouse nurse
2. Give them all bus tickets to Cleveland And the number one way to ease the overcrowding problem at the Hamilton County jail is...stop indicting so many county officials.



"No Beating Zones"

To quiet the storm of controversy that followed recent charges of police brutality in Cincinnati, city councilman **Nick Vehr** has proposed "No Beating Zones" throughout the city.



"Our citizens need to feel secure," Vehr explained. "And providing safe areas where police cannot beat up on helpless women and children will go a long way towards bringing the community together."

New tax break for homeowners

Now that the number of homeless people exceeds the number of people with homes, homeowners have been declared an official minority and can now apply for federal funds.

Inside this Issue

Pete Rose's Tax Tips.....	18
Figuring the Reds "Magic Number".....	20
Marge Schott's favorite get-well cards.....	22
Another idea for Ft. Square West.....	24
Curse of the Kennedys strikes again.....	26



Real Editorials By the Publisher Charles Foster Kane

Reason to laugh

Many people are wondering why Cincinnati was selected for the "America's Funniest People" auditions.

They ask, "Are people in Cincinnati really that much funnier than anywhere else?"

They argue that people can dress up in funny clothes or do silly Pee Wee Herman imitations anywhere.

But in a city where nobody could think of what to do with the prime piece of commercial real estate for the better part of a decade, a county auditor is indicted for lowering tax rates, other criminals are being sent home because public officials didn't believe that there would be no room in the jail, and a St. Bernard is entitled to a World Series ring seems like a pretty funny place.

Which, of course, is what keeps us in business.

Executions on TV?

Television shows many things just as bad. Last Friday they even showed an exorcism.

Any night of the week you can see vivid pictures of people being blown up in a war, police brutality, rapes, murders, and every other inhumane thing that man has conceived to inflict upon his fellow man.

And that's during prime-time entertainment programs.

So why not show executions on TV?

If people can stand to watch Pat Barry doing weather reports, they can survive anything.

Spring break

It's no surprise that the news media has shown so much interest in the allegations that Sen. Ted Kennedy's nephew was involved in the assault of a woman at the Kennedy compound in Florida last month.

There's always an intense amount of curiosity whenever you have a story with sex, crime, and celebrities. Come to think of it, two out of the three aren't bad either.

How we did it

Last week many people—including other publishers—called to ask how *The Whistleblower* was able to find someone to print our publication.

Obviously, a journalistic endeavor that neither sells advertising nor accepts money for subscriptions is rare, if not unique.

There is no way we could afford to pay to have it printed.

But to get one of the city's finest printing companies to agree to run thousands of *Whistleblowers* each week—and not charge us for it—was not all that difficult.

We merely told them that if they didn't, we would tell everyone else that they did.



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

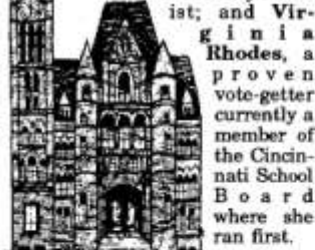
Politics as usual at city hall

Two big dates for political insiders at Cincinnati city hall are Apr. 11, the date the Cincinnati Democratic Committee decides which candidates to endorse in this year's city council elections, and Apr. 13, the date scheduled for city council to review the performance of City Manager Gerald Newfarmer after his first six months in office.

The Democrats have already endorsed six candidates that include incumbent Mayor David Mann; councilmen Pete Strauss; Republican-turned Democrat John Mirlisena; Dwight Tillery, who was appointed to council when Landslide Charlie Luken went off to Congress; scandal-ridden CMHA chairwoman Roxanne Qualls; and attorney Tim Riker, currently in Bahrain on a significant military assignment.

Others seeking party approval include African American Woman activist Shirley Rosser; attorney

Richard Buchanan, an officer with the local homosexual rights organization; Chaunston Brown, a black community activist; and Virginia



Rhodes, a proven vote-getter currently a member of the Cincinnati Board where she ran first.

Here are some of the questions to be answered at the Apr. 11 meeting:

- Will there be cross-endorsements with Charter Committee?

- If so, then Tyrone Yates and Bobbie Sterne will get endorsed by the Democrats, along with one of the hopefuls above, that is, if the Charterites agree. Last time they endorsed out-of-favor Republican Guy Guckenberger.

- So the big question is, if there are cross-endorsements, who will be the agreed-upon ninth candidate?

- If there aren't cross-endorsements, the next question is...do the Democrats run 7 or 9 candidates?

- If they run 7 candidates, which one of the hopefuls is included? If they run 9 candidates, which one is left out?

- Another question is can the Virginia Rhodes steamroller be stopped, should she choose to run without the party endorsement? And should it be? She's the most likely winner the first time out.

- And will the ticket be "politically correct?"

To prepare him for his six-month review, friends of Gerald Newfarmer were overheard firing off one-liners for the city manager to use at his appearance before city council.

One that's sure to get a laugh is: "What's the difference between some members of city council and a puppy dog scratching at your door?" "When you let the dog in he stops whining."

School Board rejects teachers' pay proposal



Cincinnati Federation of Teachers reported last week that the School Board negotiators rejected the union's alternate salary proposal.

The teachers had offered to ac-

cept the same arrangement the School Board made with Superintendent Lee Etta Powell, who will receive a 10.5 percent increase for each year of her three year contract, with payment deferred until the end of the three years with interest. Powell is also receiving a "professional expense allowance" equal to 5 percent of her current salary.



Cheap Shots

Schwarzkopf A.W.O.L.

Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf did not show up to throw out the first pitch on Opening Day, as had been previously announced on 55 WKRC Radio.

The hero of Operation Desert Storm had accepted the Reds invitation to attend, but was kept busy writing get-well cards to rich, elderly widows.

No explanation was given by the radio station, but it was reported that program director **Doug Silver** was seen at an all-night Army surplus store with one of his overweight announcers buying desert fatigues in an effort to salvage the station's annual Opening Day promotion.



Governor grandstands

One reason some people didn't get the seats they wanted at yesterday's Opening Game was that Ohio Governor **George Voinovich** rounded up about 30 members of the Columbus press corps and drove them down in a bus so they could sit in the blue seats behind third base and report on his throwing out the first pitch.



On the record

Music critics **Cliff Radel** and **Larry Nager** must be the only men alive who didn't like the way **Kim Basinger** sang "Let's Do It" in "The Marrying Man."



The *Enquirer's* Radel referred to her musical interpretation as "the vocal equivalent of Agent Orange."

The *Post's* Nager said the way she pronounced "Honeysuckle Rose" should have been rated NC-17.

The Whistleblower thinks both men ought to get his eyes checked.

All roads lead north

According to a newsletter published by **Monty Lobb Jr.** for the *Citizen for Community Values*, there are more than 6,000 sexually explicit hard-core adult video tapes available in 14 video outlets located in Butler County.



What Lobb's newsletter didn't mention, however, was the location of any of those video stores.



Another Real Guest Editorial by Bunky Tadwell

A couple of years ago some guy—Ernie or Eric or some such Yuppie name—wrote a book about love and mushy stuff. In it was a catch phrase everyone took to his or her heart. Something like "being in power means never having to say you're sorry." At least that's what it should have said.

Think about it. Who apologizes for anything? People who want to avoid trouble. People who want to gain something. People who don't want to lose something. People who are trying to cover up something. People who don't mean it.



But people in power? Apologize? Hey—did Stalin say he was sorry? Adolph? Saddam? Your boss? People in power do not have to apologize for anything.

So how did this apologizing business get started? Simple. Everyone, no matter how powerful, wants to hedge the bet. Take those powerful guys in ancient history. When you can get thousands of people to bust their humps dragging tons of rock to pile up in the desert, you must have some influence. Or those Roman and Greek emperors throwing live tasty morsels to lions just to amuse the local folk. They had power. But, as most of us, they had a sneaking suspicion that maybe—just maybe—they might need a backup someday. Now, they just couldn't come out and tell someone they were sorry about overrunning a village or whacking off a head or enslaving a million or so conquered people. That would be losing face. Or, their butts.

How did they do it? Simple. They invented a god. They invented gods to handle everything. Going to war? Offer up a little something to good old Mars. Worried about that thunder and lightning? Ask Thor to knock it off. Going kanoodling? Put out some grapes or something for Venus. The Greeks and Romans had gods by the dozens. Societies, in one

form or another, have set up gods for any and all situations. So, when the need was felt to soothe feelings, to make excuses, or to, as we now say, "apologize," they invented the goddess Apaula.

The whole thing was simple. Say Emperor Clyde does a little raping and pillaging, he steps on a few toes, so to speak, and finds he has offended more than a few folks who might have the wherewithal to do some heavy duty revenge work some night. Can he apologize? Not unless he is willing to admit he's not as powerful as he might like people to believe. But he doesn't want to take chances. So, he goes to the temple, offers up a gift or two (probably stolen) to the goddess Apaula. He can talk to her in private, implore her to make things right, give the impression he is a pious and religious leader, and save the embarrassment of having to apologize. You don't believe this? Where do you think the word "apologize" came from? And have you ever received a sincere apology from a powerful person or company that didn't have an ulterior motive?

If you are still not convinced, think back to the last time you saw an apology—or series of apologies—in print. Were they sincere? Or, was there some other purpose in the public display of contriteness?

The goddess Apaula is still getting her due—in private. Because today, more than ever before, being in power means never having to say you're sorry.

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.

Coming next week
Sesquicentennial edition: 150 years of
Whistleblower Ads



Real Letters from Real Readers

Sirs:
I told you so.

Sheriff Simon Leis

Sirs:
Maybe you can help us out. All day Monday wherever we went we were an hour late. And all the clocks were an hour fast. What gives?
Channel 9's "I-Team"

Sirs:
What's all the commotion about? We won the war. The troops are coming home. Vietnam is behind us. My re-election is assured. Who cares about the Kurds anyway?

George Bush

Sirs:
As the new boss at WLWT, it will take me a while to get catch up on what's going on in Cincinnati. It will probably take me six months to read every bad thing your publication has written about our station and to check out Jerry Springer's "Women I'd Like to Boink" list that I've been hearing so much about.

Gary Robinson

Sirs:
Just to the record, I was nowhere near the Kennedy compound in Palm Beach, Florida last month.

Jerry Springer

Sirs:
Most people that appeared as children on TV are in jail like the whole cast from "Different Strokes." They're the lucky ones. I wound up as the bitchy white chick doing mid-days on 55 WKRC.

Claudia Lamb

Sirs:
If the city is still looking for someone to manager the deteriorating slums in the East End, I'm available.

Stan Solomon

Sirs:
I think Judge Gilbert Bettman is imminently qualified to hear the civil suit filed against me by a former employee who says he was fired for political reasons.

Joe Deters/Clerk of Courts

Sirs:
With Michael Jackson's new billion-dollar contract, I figure I deserve more money.

Rob Dibble

Sirs:
After watching the new Reds TV broadcasting team, I bet you're sorry for all those bad things you said about me last year.

Tommy Hume

Sirs:
Did you see me in the Opening Day parade? I was there. Really.

Landslide Charlie Luken

Sirs:
What jail overcrowding problem?

Commissioner Steve Chabot



Another Exclusive Whistleblower Report

Dusty Rhodes—new darling of the news media

Two things happened this week in the Hamilton County Auditor's office that show W. Emerson "Dusty" Rhodes is going to be a different kind of public official.

First, you won't be able to say that Rhodes doesn't respond quickly to criticism in the press.

In last week's *Whistleblower*, Rhodes was reminded about the impropriety of allowing his employees to solicit money for a fundraiser to pay the legal fees for Mickey Esposito, the former chief deputy indicted in February for allegedly appraising properties lower than their real values.

The *Whistleblower* story was followed two days later with a good-sized story by Randy Ludlow in the *Post*.

Those news accounts prompted Rhodes to issue a memo to his staff prohibiting such solicitations that netted him seven paragraphs and

his picture in the *Enquirer* on the following day.

Second, you won't be able to accuse Rhodes of missing a trick to get his face in front of the voters.

The *Whistleblower* has obtained a copy of the new inspection sticker that county employees will be putting on gas pumps all over the county.



"Impotence isn't a problem anymore. We're enjoying a full life together once again."



Call for our free book—"Making Your Partner Smile" at (513) 1-BIG ONE



**Bluegrass
Holler**
by Ken Camboo

**Nude dancing ban
is no joke**

Couch potatoes in Newport dismissed reports of a ban on nude dancing as an April Fools prank when the new law went into effect last Monday. But Mayor Steve Goetz says its for real.

From now on, bars offering adult entertainment will have to pay \$5000 for a special license, operate between 6 p.m. and 2:30 a.m., and get rid of B-girls hustling drinks.



All bar employees will have to be fingerprinted and photographed by police, who swear they will not require strip searches before photo sessions. Dancers will be required to perform at least three feet away from customers.

No more touchy-feely.

Brass Bull owner **Roger Peterson** fought all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court over the city's 1982 law which prohibits total nudity where liquor is served by the drink. He lost the fight and isn't sure yet if he'll mount another offensive.

"We'll wait till it comes off," Peterson said when he first hear about the new law.

**Snake eyes, boxcars,
and other crap**

Covington Landing impresario **Ben Bernstein** was aboard The President when the venerated steamer revived riverboat gambling on the Mississippi River last week. No word on whether he won any money, but we know for certain he wasn't able to lose his wife **Shirley** in the crowd.

Folks in Covington City Hall got edgy when they heard rumors that Captain Ben was in Iowa measuring wharf space for some of his party boats. Local bankers have dismissed the speculations saying that Bernstein and his partner **Gary Wachs** are already running a crap shoot at Covington Landing.

Trixie's Bed 'n Breakfast



a new concept
in Northern
Kentucky
hospitality

(606)
261-8844

All major credit
cards accepted



J. R. Hatfield
Northern Kentucky
Bureau Chief

Dr. Floyd takes his lumps

The Democratic "gubernatorial" race got a lot nastier this week when The *Lexington Herald Leader*



reported it had found records from **Dr. Floyd Poore's** 1973 divorce case, in which Poore's ex-wife claimed the good doctor had physically abused her on numerous occasions.

The judge in the case found that **Shirley Jones** "had proved as her cause for divorce cruel and inhuman treatment for a period longer than six months in that the defendant (Poore) was extremely jealous and on numerous occasions beat the plaintiff (Jones).

In her deposition, the former Mrs. Poore stated that "On several occasions he threatened to kill me

if I ever tried to take any of his money." The Florence physician recently denied that he was ever a millionaire, contrary to published articles flaunting his wealth.

Dr. Floyd and his handlers are denying that before Kentucky's no-fault divorce rules were in effect, "couples invariably hurled bitter and often exaggerated accusations in the course of a separation. They have even produced a statement from the ex-wife in which she is supposed to have said that her charges were exaggerated and unnecessarily bitter"

Political opponents of the Florence non-practitioner are speculating that the statement was extracted in the same manner used by Saddam Hussein on captured POWs.

Frankfort Follies Update

In case you haven't revised your Kentucky Primary Scorecard, here's this week's accusations and innuendos:

• **Martha Wilkinson** says she didn't realize that she had been registered as a Republican until 1983.

• **Wallace Wilkinson**, the unofficial entry in the race, pointed out that Lt. Governor **Brereton Jones**, who was a Republican in West Virginia before coming to the Bluegrass State, hasn't completely changed his stripes.

• **Larry Forgy** accused his GOP rival Congressman **Larry**

Hopkins of being a closet Democrat.

• **Hemp-head Gatewood Galbraith** is so stoned that he took his Kentucky gubernatorial campaign to a marijuana rally in Cincinnati, looking for votes and loose joints.

• Former UK basketball captain **Scotty Baesler** is still trying to find people who remember **Adolph Rupp**.

**Campbell pols say weiners not
bad for Licking**

In a move that stunned and infuriated conservation groups, the Campbell County Fiscal Court voted 4-0 last week for a five-mile pipeline to carry salty discharge from the Kahn's weiner plant in Clareville to the Licking River.

Judge Executive **Ken Paul** defended the action by pointing out how many jobs it would save, including his own. "How much longer can you beat a dead horse?" Paul asked when Bluegrass ecologists cried that the alternative hadn't been fairly evaluated. Both

sides are waiting for the definitive answer to that question from noted dead horse (and wife) beater, **Dr. Floyd Poore**.

A county appointed committee who was studying the issue wasn't even notified that the Fiscal Court was ready to vote on it at last Wednesday's meeting. "The Blue Ribbon committee served no purpose other than to waste money," said panel member **Robert Smith**, executive director of the League of Kentucky Sportsmen. Isn't that the point of Blue Ribbon panels?



Spoiled Sports
by Andy Furburger



Baseball '91

Time for ballplayers to begin a new season? Don't believe it.

It's finally time for the hacks and sportswriters to get back to work. They've already put new batteries in their calculators to figure out their expense reports.

It's now time, once again, for Joe Minster of the *Hamilton Journal News* to reinstitute his AP—or for those not fortunate enough to sit in the press box at Riverfront Stadium—the nightly Attendance Pool.

Yes, my friends, these same scribes that lambasted poor Pete Rose about his gambling woes, conduct a nightly lottery in the press box to guess the attendance at Riverfront.

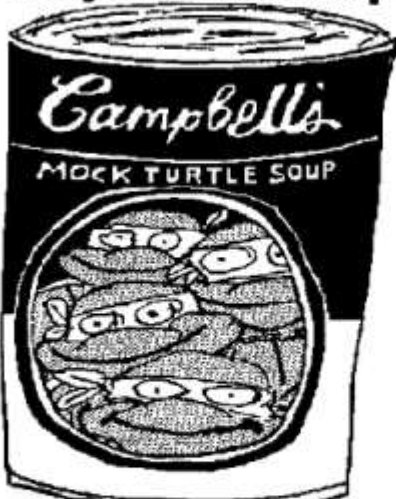
They collect a buck from each of the boys and the closest one to the actual attendance announced collects the pot.

Unreal, you say? There ought to be a law, you say? Check with Minster at the *Journal News*. He may be a rich man today.

The Whistleblower hears that he takes a cut off the top.

"Awesome! Boadacious! Tubular! Cowabunga!"

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle Soup



The Secret of the Ooze



Real Gossip
by Linda Libel

Here are some of the hottest rumors on both sides of the Ohio River:

In his quest to keep creditors from pulling the plug on the wildly successful Covington Landing, Ben Bernstein has sold



the Mike Fink to former news anchor/talkshow host/ gameshow host/ singer and God-knows-what-else Nick Clooney, who will be taking it

up river to Maysville. Just what he needs...to add restaurateur to his long list of accomplishments.

In addition, it looks as though Crockett's will be purchased by Rolling Stone Bill Wyman, who plans to convert it to one of his Sticky Fingers bar/restaurants.

This news has got to have Jeff Ruby gulping Maalox by the bottle...don't you think?

For years Ruby has marketed the Waterfront as the place "to see and be seen." That may attract the sports stars, entertainers, and "wannabees" now, but the reality is...no amount of butt kissing will ever compare to the words "Rolling Stone."

Did you see the want ads in the Cincinnati Enquirer? Looks like every position held by a female at Turfway Park is vacant.

Seems staff media mavin Steve Ford has become engaged to a Miss Laura Carlos who he met in 1986...on a beach...in Mailbu. Turfway owner Jerry Carroll, in an uncharacteristically brilliant move, kept a lid on this tasty tidbit until after the running of the Jim Beam Stakes.

Says Carroll: "I hated to seem them cry like that. We found one of the public relations girls trying to hang herself with her pantyhose. Thank God they wouldn't support her weight."

We attended a "Sneak Preview" of the new Albert Brooks/Meryl Streep movie "Defending Your Life." The biggest laugh in what may be the funniest movie of the year occurred when Brooks, who was supposed to be dead and on his way to heaven, turned on a

really bad TV talk show and the host was none other than Bob Braun. Looks like Bob finally found his audience.

WKRC-TV News Director Mike Horsley is hotly denying rumors that the station is joining in the latest local "fad"...assembling teams of black anchormen and bleached blonde anchorbimbos at 6 and 11 p.m. during the week.

Word has it from J. Kenneth Blackwell himself that the former Cincinnati mayor will soon be sitting in for Rob Braun, who will be away on "temporary assignment." Right. We've heard that one before.

Big news in real estate is that financially troubled George Ballou, former owner of West Shell, has put his Indian Hill estate on the market for a cool \$2.4 million. The sign says "For Sale By Owner."

Enquirer Radio-TV critic John Kiesewetter is waging a tireless one-man campaign to take

NBC's David Letterman up on his offer to pitch an inning for the Reds, with little help from the ball club, it would seem.



The Reds should jump at the chance. But Marge Schott seems to know as much about good promotion as she does about baseball.

Letterman should never have made fun of Schottzie last year when Lou Pinella was on the Late Night Show. Wonder what he'll say when he finds out that dumb dog is getting a World Series ring.

When Warren County Prosecutor Tim Oliver was appointed special prosecutor to recover \$24,327 from Hamilton County Veterans Service Administrator Pete Marino, it looked like just another fruitless investigation of a local public official.

Last week, Marino agreed to repay the money. Somebody ought to ask the Warren County Prosecutor to stick around. It's too late for him to handle the DeCourcygate investigation, but there's lots more that somebody with his demonstrated abilities could do.