

It's Happy Hanukkah time, except on Fountain Square

The Whistleblower

Or "Some of the News They Seem to Lose"

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This Week's Really Big Story

My Vision for Cincinnati

by David S. Mann

Think of Cincinnati as one neighborhood - one great neighborhood. Sure, each of us is a resident of Hyde Park, Walnut Hills, Price Hill, Kennedy Heights, or some other community. But we are also part of a larger whole—the neighborhood of Cincinnati.

We are taxpayers; we are engineers, janitors, nurses, teachers; we are disabled; we are Black; we are rich, environmentalists, children, poor ... different types of people united by our boundaries and our hopes. First and foremost, we are neighbors.

Each of us is affected by what happens to our neighbors—down the street and across town. Inadequate schools hurt us all. Pollution problems in Lower Price will diminish the entire community. Drug crimes in Laurel Homes and assaults in Corryville damage the quality of life of each of us. The lonely senior, the sick baby, the hungry child, the unemployed adult, the struggling single head of household—each of these human souls is a neighbor of ours.

We treat our neighbors differently than the stranger. When you discover that the elderly woman moving too slowly at the store or on the road is your neighbor, your *whole* approach changes. We need to see

each person as our neighbor.

Good neighbors look after each other. They help each other. They reject hatred in all its forms whether based on race, class, religion or creed.



The best neighborhoods filled with neighbors who agree on what makes the neighborhood good and, more importantly, on what needs to be done to improve it. Good neighbors are united in their vision of how their neighborhood should evolve and im-

prove. And for all of us, the most important neighborhood is Cincinnati.

Each member of the neighborhood of Cincinnati must come to feel a deep, personal stake in the success of downtown development, the vitality of our local economy, the quality of our housing stock and the success of our transportation system. Clean air, pure water and effective, efficient public employees must be understood as inescapably touching us all.

When my time as Mayor closes, I hope we can all look each other in the eye and say we have responded to one another as neighbors. Please join me and let us work together to better our city...to make it safer, more prosperous for all our citizens, and guided by the ties that bind neighbor to neighbor.

Top Ten List

This week, it's the top ten reasons Congress is holding hearings on the Persian Gulf crisis:



10. Divert attention from the Keating 5 scandal
 9. Prepare voters for a big tax increase
 8. Improve their own chances for the Democratic primaries
 7. Make sure their own kids don't get drafted
 6. Be interviewed on ABC's "Nightline"
 5. Get autograph from Tariq Aziz
 4. Try to look as smart as Henry Kissinger
 3. Avoid the need to make a decision
 2. Look busy till their pay raises come
- And the number one reason Congress is holding hearings on the Persian Gulf crisis is...to do whatever it takes to make sure George Bush doesn't get credit for winning the war.

Rhodes banned from budget meeting

When Hamilton County Commissioners called a meeting of all county elected officials to discuss next year's budget crisis, Auditor-elect Dusty Rhodes, a Democrat, was not invited.



Letters went out last Tuesday from County Administrator Thomas Wenz inviting all elected officeholders, including judges, to meet with the commissioners for a "state-of-the-budget" address.

"Considering the seriousness of the situation, one would think that it might have been instructive for the county's chief financial officer for the next four years to attend, regardless of his political affiliation," Rhodes said.

Blue Chip Express

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Real Editorials By the Publisher Charles Foster Kane

News judgement

It's not often that a publication as well-respected as the *Wall Street Journal* publishes a story about a Cincinnati. When you finally see one, it's usually about some Fortune 500 type involving a significant issue.

It was, therefore, somewhat mystifying last week to read Alecia Swasy's article about Karl Kleve, a 77 year-old junk-car collector who is battling sanitation workers over cleanup of his snake-infested property.

Even more puzzling is the fact that the *Post* chose to reprint Ms. Swasy's non-story, along with a color photo on the front page, when there were so many of their own reporters' non-stories they could have run.

Still work to be done

Many people are sighing in relief now that the DeCourcygate tax cut review has been completed. Joe DeCourcy and his son-in-law Mickey Esposito have resigned in disgrace and the wheels of justice, although they are grinding exceedingly slowly, are grinding away nevertheless. Auditor-elect Dusty Rhodes will take office in March.

"I guess that cleans up all the corruption in Hamilton County," they say. Nothing, of course, could be further from the truth.

State Auditor Tom Ferguson's audit, politically motivated as it may have been, was only a first step.

Had it been up to anyone in Hamilton County, particularly the news media, DeCourcygate would still be hidden under a rock.

The Whistleblower thinks that it's now time to turn over a few more rocks.

MY STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

I.

I will provide the people of this city with a publication that will tell all the news honestly.

II.

I will also provide them with a fighting and tireless champion of their rights as citizens and as human beings.

Signed
Charles Foster Kane



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

Shenanigans in the suburbs

Following their much-publicized "gag order" fiasco earlier this year, Hamilton County Commissioners began holding monthly meetings in the suburbs to appear more accessible.

Public interest, however has been underwhelming.

People stayed away in droves when traffic lights were the hot topic at the Oct. 17 meeting somewhere in Symmes Township.

Sharonville Mayor John Dowlin, on the other hand, was happy to show up at the Nov. 19 meeting. At least he got the chance to show that he was good commissioner material.

These days, overpaid commissioners' assistant Jana Morford is still planning the

December meeting, presumably somewhere in Carthage.

Commissioner Steve Chabot told *Post* reporter France Griggs that so far the meetings have met his expectations and will continue.

Our *Whistleblower* source inside the commissioners office admits that although nothing is actually accomplished at these suburban meetings, commissioners can always claim the program was an outstanding success at election time.

"Holding these meetings in predominantly Republican areas doesn't hurt either," our whistle-blower said.



Finan defies history



In case anyone's interested, State Senator Dick Finan has been elected President Pro-Tem of the Ohio Senate for the next session of the General Assembly. This is the number two leadership position.

The number one leadership position is held by Senator Stanley Aronoff, as President. This means the two top leaders in the Ohio Senate will be from the same county, for the first time in Ohio history.

Campaign on the move

Friends of Betty Mauer hope to clear up some confusion about her residency—the minor sticking point which has so far deprived the announced city council candidate of Democratic Party endorsement.

The postman still thinks she lives in Indian Hill. Betty is telling people she lives in Clifton. Betty's campaign manager, Joe Ruscigno, however, says she resides in Walnut Hills.



Prosecutors honored



Two Hamilton County assistant prosecutors were recently honored by the Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association. Tom Logano, chief administrative prosecutor, and James Butler, who heads the county's Child and Sexual Abuse Task Force, received their awards at the Hyatt.

"We're extremely proud of their accomplishments," said their boss Art



Ney. "However, they still need a little more practice before we turn them loose on anything as complicated as courthouse corruption."



Cheap Shots

Looking for Mr. Rohrer

Last Wednesday, *Enquirer* columnist Jim Rohrer's column on Christmas gifts for tristate newsmakers suggested the need for *The Whistleblower* to hire a new writer for our weekly Top Ten lists.

"Someone familiar with clearly written English," is what Rohrer wrote.

Regrettably, Rohrer, who also teaches journalism at Hodgepodge U., forgot the verb in the very sentence he wrote to complain about our colloquial usage.



Run, Julie, run



Marathon runner Julie Isphording has left her public relations job at Turfway Park and has returned part time to her old job at a local law firm.

Julie says it's to devote more time to train for future races.

Track officials agree. Lately, her time over six furlongs has been awfully slow.

Storm warnings ahead

"Not to worry," says Ohio State Auditor Tom Ferguson, when it comes to a possible \$1.5 billion deficit facing the state next year.

"We could always use some of the \$364 million in our Rainy Day Fund," Ferguson added.

Even a television weatherman could predict that won't be enough.

The state doesn't need an umbrella. It needs earthquake insurance.



Good sportsmanship

Listening to some of the post-game pundits apologize for Sam Wyche and the Bengals following Sunday's overtime loss to San Francisco, was like listening to the Democrats after the last election.



There's no glory in coming close, or doing better than expected.

Not unless you were really betting against them in the first place.



Another Real Guest Editorial by Bunky Tadwell

To war, or not to war—that is the question to be beaten to death for political purposes.



In spite of what some people would have you believe, there are not many on this planet... at least

not in our section of it... that are all that happy about this war business. Your foreign legion types. The guys with a death wish. But your average person...no. Especially us guys who've been in one.

So let's not believe all this crap about the President or his advisers wanting a war in the Middle East. What they do want is maximum results with minimum losses.

And that means the quicker the U.S. is ready to take out Saddam Hussein, the better it will be.



No what, you may ask, is Congress up to? Congress is doing what Congress does best. It's maneuvering for political advantage. It's doing everything possible to further its quest for political dominance and a perpetual place at the taxpayer's trough.

As we understand it, a group of 40 or so Democratic Congress-people want to have the say-so as to whether the U.S. starts shooting at Saddam and his plundering herds. Sounds OK. Surely Congress should be part of such actions that will certainly lead to bloodshed. So why would the President be hesitant to take Congress into his confidence and give them a role in the nation's foreign affairs?

Well, think about it. You've seen Congress in action. Would you trust it with anything as important as getting the country in and out of a war? Especially this gaggle of Democrats.



If a race horse had a performance like theirs, it would be shot.

Democrat Woodrow Wilson took care of World War I. F.D.R. led us to Korea. Jack Kennedy took time out from his amorous adventures to kick-start Vietnam, the Berlin Wall, the Bay of Pigs. Lyndon gave us guns and butter and the news media showed us the body bags. Jimmy took a shot at getting the hostages out of Iran and crashed and burned in the desert.

So given their record, you could understand why any President might blanch at the thought of taking a Democrat-dominated Congress into his war room and letting them in on the inner workings of this war business.

Rather than let Congress have a say in making war, maybe something could be worked out so they could tax Saddam out of existence. This, they could handle.

Of course, nothing will be official about a war anywhere until the Cincinnati City Council passes a resolution on it. And Dave Mann sets up a soup kitchen outside a hotel in Baghdad to protest something some Republican is doing.

The views and opinions in this column do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of *The Whistleblower*, its staff, its management, its advertisers, or even the author. And then again, maybe they do.

Coming next issue: Weikel and Leis review Madonna's new video



Real Letters from Real Readers

Sirs:

If any of your high-tech jets cross over into Iraqi air space, I'll send terrorists to blow up Dan Quayle's hair.

Saddam Hussein

Sirs:

Does anybody know the name of the person WKRC Radio program director Doug Silver called a "horse's ass" that got him suspended?

Andy Furman

Sirs:

\$10.95 to get in to the Museum Center at Union Terminal is not expensive, not when you compare it to a trip to France on the Concorde.

Scott Johnson

Sirs:

Don't look for any quick-fix suggestions on making the government work better when I get to Congress. After all, it took me 8 years as mayor to figure out our present city manager method doesn't work.

Landslide Charlie Luken

Sirs:

Here's how it works. First you lie for a friend to cover up when she gets her arm eaten off by a bear. Then you sue the zoo for retaliating against you for complaining about safety violations. Then Judge Nadel gives you \$41,322.

Being a whistle-blower is a good way to make a living. The only problem is, how do I talk another one of my friends into feeding a grape to a bear?

Leigh Ann Haynes

Sirs:

Let's see if I've got this straight. If Judge Luebbers finds the 8 Mapplethorpe protestors guilty, they'll go to jail where they can be abused by great big homosexual inmates.

So where's the punishment in that?

Dennis Barrie

Sirs:

Please beware of poney telephone solicitors trying to raise money by selling squid for the FreeStore. The FreeStore does not sell squid over the phone; plenty of squid is still available, however, if you're willing to wait in line for two hours.

Steve Gibbs

Sirs:

There's no truth to the rumor that I'm giving up my radio program to become the Bengals' new offensive coordinator.

Turk Schonert

Sirs:

No, I didn't just walk away from the Lewis Center. I always act this way.

Steve Chabot



Another Exclusive Whistleblower Report

"It's hard to teach without books," Mooney explains



This fall, Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) implemented two new curricula—Math K-12 and Science 7-12 (with K-6 Science scheduled for implementation

next year. New books and materials were supposed to accompany both curricula. But implementation has not gone smoothly, according to Tom Mooney, President of the Cincinnati Federation of Teachers.

Both programs were launched without the "captains" who led the process of developing the curricula and selecting materials. CPS started the school year without math or science supervisors. The Science supervisor, widely respected by teachers, was ordered to apply for that position in the district's alternative programs office last June. The Math supervisor quit, reportedly due to frustration with top administration, and is now currently working for the Hamilton County Office of Education. Neither was replaced until well after the school year began.

"Further, books and materials needed for the new program did not show up in many schools,"

Mooney added. In one school, that's on the list of low income and "low achieving schools" whose progress is monitored by the Federal Court, three entire grade levels did not have math books as of the end of the first term. Shortages, i.e. fewer books than students, were widespread.

Science materials, called for by the new "hands-on" curriculum, were widely lacking. "Teacher inquiries led to the discovery that \$115,000 worth of needed science materials had never been ordered," Mooney explained. It is likely that this oversight was linked to the abrupt reassignment of the science supervisor. During budget deliberations last spring, the School Board debated postponing implementation of the science curriculum. "Looks like that would have been wise," Mooney added.

"Removing the 'captain' just as the ship is about to leave the harbor isn't too bright," Mooney said. "Teachers experienced the same lack of logistical support when the new Unified Reading and Communication Arts Curriculum was introduced in 1988."

"It all makes teachers wonder—if administration cannot handle the logistics of running the school system, how can they presume to tell teachers how to teach," Mooney added.

Seediest Kids of All



Butch Pryor Workout Tape so Butch could channel all that aggressive energy. Butch still beats up little children and steals their lunch money, but instead of punching them in the stomach, he's using clean shots to the head and face.

The truth is, he was illiterate. And he tried to cover up his feelings of inadequacy by punching smaller children in the stomach and stealing their lunch money.

So the **Seediest Kids of All** sent over copies of the latest **Aaron**

The LaDeux family is no longer on welfare, due to the substantial amount of money Butch now brings home every week. They're grateful to the Seediest Kids of All, but it's really you they have to thank, because it's your guilt throughout the year which makes it all possible.



**Bluegrass
Holler**
by Ken Camboo

Kentucky Post ruled libelous rag

The Kentucky Supreme Court has upheld a jury verdict that the *Kentucky Post* libeled Commonwealth Attorney Lou Ball in a series of articles written in 1984. The High Court awarded \$175,000 in damages to Ball.

The unanimous decision affirmed that reporter Al Savato made "false statements with actual malice." Consistent with Scripps Howard personnel; policy, Savato was promoted to a beat on the *Cincinnati Post*.

"The public is a big loser," said editor Judith Clabes. It appears that our readers will have to rely on paid political advertisements for distortions and lies about elected officials from now on. Clabes vowed that the case would be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.



Johnny "TV" Peluso pleads incompetence

Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals has told former Newport Mayor, Johnny "TV" Peluso that his 10-year sentence for perjury will stick. Peluso was jailed in 1985 for lying to a federal grand jury about corruption in Newport's Community Development program. Peluso was paroled in 1989. He appealed to the court that his false statements were made during a period of incompetence. The court didn't buy it, based on the fact that it was his incompetence that kept him in office.

In recent weeks, Peluso has claimed that enemies had put a price on his head and that his assassin would be rewarded "with money and a license to steal in Campbell County." At the close of business yesterday, the price on Johnny's head was \$1.39 per pound, down from last week's high of \$1.45. No figures were available at press time as to the market rate for a license to steal in Campbell County.

Last minute gift ideas from Dr. Poore

Gubernatorial candidate Dr. Floyd Poore will host a party on December 11, where for only \$2,000 you can have your picture taken with Reds millionaire pitcher Tom Browning.

Poore's media advisors have worked up a list of other Reds items, which are priced right for the holiday season.

Schottzie's hair (6 oz. bag)	\$ 500.00
Billy Doran back pack	250.00
Eric Davis kidney stones	100.00
Pete Rose autograph (faxed)	41.92



J. R. Hatfield
Northern Kentucky
Bureau Chief

Here are some revealing glimpses of the world around us, through the world of numbers:

- Number of Cincinnatians who attended the World Series-432,125
- Number of beer cans manufactured since they were introduced in 1935-650 billion
- Percentage of Americans who don't recognize Dan Quayle-44%
- Percentage who don't recognize Bart Simpson-21%
- Number of Americans who are currently in the hope of one day coming back to life-15
- Number of Americans who believe Pete Rose never bet on baseball-14
- Number of people on Pan Am's waiting list for a trip to the moon-95,364
- Percentage of Cincinnatians who sleep in the buff-15%
- Percentage of those people who think Si Leis is out to get them-100%

- Percentage of American adults who cannot swim-47%
- Cost of an annual family membership at the nudist colony in Burlington-\$487.00
- Number of alligator farms in America-38
- Percentage of Americans who want to live to be 100-47%
- Number of Americans who drink Pepsi-cola for breakfast-985,000
- Cost of a week at a summer camp in Maine for a Cabbage Patch doll-\$ 175.00
- Number of Americans who have been killed on the job by robots-1
- Percentage of Americans who think Rocky 5 will be his last-25%
- Percentage of Americans who knew the earthquake would not occur-100%
- Number of x-rated videos rented each month at the Crescent Springs Video Village-2,633

Nuke your pet, get a check

Crowded conditions force three animal shelters in Northern Kentucky to nuke more animals than they can place for adoption.

Through October, 190 dogs were adopted, but 329 dogs were nuked. Only 112 cats were adopted, but 481 furry felines were dispatched to kitty hell.

Because of overcrowded shelters, Kenton County Judge Clyde Middleton suggests that people

start microwaving unwanted pets.

Director of the Kenton County Animal Shelter Alpo Rominger said the first 1000 owners to nuke their pets in February would receive a \$20 check in March.



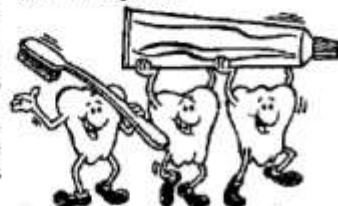
NKU looking for a few good teeth

Students in the dental hygiene program at Northern Kentucky University this semester are learning how to use dental tools by trying them out on each other.

Next semester they'll be ready to practice on other people. That means they'll need patients.

The program is looking for volunteers with green teeth or people who have not brushed for at least 6 months.

Anyone interested should contact the Dental Department at NKU. No screamers please.





Boobs on the Tube

by John Quichwacher



Last week, a frightened city held its breath to see who would replace Ben Hevel as news director at Channel 5.

The station's news ratings have slipped lately, station manager Tony Kiernan pushed the panic button, and Hevel was history.

But it's not that there's just so much of Jerry Springer and Norma Rashid an audience can take, there were many other things responsible for the station's loss of credibility which contributed to Hevel's downfall.

• Newschannel 5's 24-hour-a-day news briefs are the laughingstock of broadcasting.

• The exodus of friendly faces like Clyde Gray, Ken Broo, and Thom Brenneman.

• Failure of the Toria Tolley look-alike contest to produce a suitable replacement.

• Keeping Pat Barry on the air, even at 6 o'clock in the morning.

• Constant battles with the sales department—like the one over the Heartland eggs commercial where the station is continuing to run ads for allegedly low-cholesterol eggs after the station's consumer-affairs reporter Tome Kurtzman had done a piece on it.

• Stealing the courthouse phone-sex story from auditor candidate Dusty Rhodes and presenting it as their own.

However, the problems in Channel 5's news department cannot all be blamed on the late Ben Hevel.

It was pretty hard to maintain a top-flight news operation when so much of his time needed to be spent keeping the latest Jerry Springer rumors out of the papers.



And get this...Bob Trumpy did pre-season football games for the Cleveland Browns and was paid by Browns' owner Art Modell. So now NBC has pulled Trumpy off all Browns' games for conflict of interest. Trumpy, however, denied the move when he yelled at Andy Furman on the radio.

Also, Trumpy denied the conflict he had with Pete Rose. He defended Rose and why not? He did his daily "Head First" show on the radio. He denied getting paid for that too, but WLW General Manager Dave Martin admitted Trumpy got \$10,000 for the deal.

Still, there is no animosity between Furman and Trumpy. In fact, the two have been deeply in love for many years.



Rascals on the Radio

By Bill Backstabber

Doug Silver suspended

55 WKRC *Jungle Radio* director Doug Silver

was suspended Thursday after being repeatedly warned about bashing the competition during on-air promos.

Somehow, a promo, the guys were fooling around with in the production studios, got on the air by mistake. The promo referred to a competitor as a "horse's ass."

WKRC Radio GM Nick Miller announced Silver's suspension on the air shortly after 3 p.m. Thursday.

A record number of listeners (including the Mayor of Fairfield) called the station. Nearly all sup-

ported Silver. Instead of being suspended, most listeners said Silver should have received a high five, a pat on the back, and a raise.

Jerry Thomas' computer poll also reflected overwhelming support.

Then WKRC personality Dave Lee began playing all Elvis songs in protest, with every other one being "Blue Christmas."

Just before noon Friday, GM Nick Miller lifted the suspension, because of the overwhelming support by listeners, and, according to Miller's secretary Janelle Sowder, Miller couldn't stand to hear "Blue Christmas" one more time.

Silver did not recant, promising to call a "horse's ass" a "horse's ass," every time he sees one in the future.

The unnamed "horse's ass" referred to in the ill-fated promo has not been officially identified. However, most people know who it is.

Whistleblower Wisdom

Is there life after Luken?



Last week, Councilman Reggie Williams switched sides and David Mann will soon get his chance to be Mayor of Cincinnati.

Mann's compassionate vision of a kinder, gentler city holds promise.

WW says: "Making it work won't be easy."

The Whistleblower®

- ▲ David Mann: The big winner. Says he knows all the right buttons to push. Puts him in the driver's seat to win the mayor's job outright in 1991.
- ▼ Pete Strauss: Passed over for promotion again. Might do better in one of our sister cities.
- ▼ Guy Guckenberger: Didn't get the mayor's job, but after 20 years on council, he was finally feted to a free lunch.
- ◀ City council: Lots of problems to deal with, and little time to do it. Election campaigns have already begun.
- ▼ Local Democratic Party: Called on to help pick a replacement councilmember, but not the mayor. Its lack of influence is clearly shown.