

**We do more
than cover
the news, we
create it!**

The Whistleblower[®]

Or "Some of the News They Seem to Lose"

Edition # 41

March 12, 1991

This Week's Really Big Story

Rhodes fails to deliver...



Although Democrat Dusty Rhodes promised to clean up the corruption in the Hamilton County Auditor's office during his campaign, most courthouse observers can honestly admit that they have seen little improvement since he was sworn in.

One Republican employee in the Auditor's office found Rhodes' list of things to do on his desk. It illustrates what taxpayers may expect during the Rhodes' administration.

Things to Do Today March 11, 1991

- Get sworn in
- Tell lies to reporters
- Walk through office and watch people sweat
- Go through Mike Maloney's desk
- Re-assess Ralph Kohnen's property taxes
- Arrange for county car
- Get special deputy's badge from Sheriff Leis
- Order another case of Grecian Formula
- Arrange for courthouse parking place
- Fill out expense reports for next two weeks
- Find somebody to buy my lunch
- Call fat cat contributors to pay off campaign debt
- Listen to employees kiss up to me
- Make list of people I plan to fire
- Organize re-election campaign

...but Delhi Democrats come through

The task was thought to be impossible, but finally, Delhi Township Trustees Nicholas LaScalea and Carol Esperlage found a Delhi Township Democrat who was willing to take over as replacement for Dusty Rhodes.

The other three had been camped out in front of the Auditor's Office at the courthouse waiting to apply for jobs as soon as Rhodes took office.

Ed Riley, 81, said he was proud

of the appointment and would vote "his heart and mind," exactly as the other trustees told him to do.

Riley does not plan to run for the seat in November.



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Top Ten List

This week, it's the top ten things a soldier wants to do as soon as he comes home:

10. Pull the tab on a Miller lite
9. Bite down on a Big Mac and fries
8. Have sex with anything not wearing camouflage
7. See if he still has a job
6. Find out if unleaded gas is down to 29.9 cents a gallon
5. Punch out a protestor
4. Watch CNN tapes to see what combat was really like
3. Catch up on some of the articles in Playboy and Penthouse.
2. Stop in at Operation Orange Ribbon and thank them for their support

And the number one thing a soldier wants to do as soon as he comes home is...tell everyone he meets how he won the war single-handed.



It's no laughing matter by Baghdad Pete

Well that did it. They finally kicked me out of Baghdad. No more puff pieces about freedom-loving Iraqis. Now I can tell it like it is.

The best part about being out of Baghdad is catching up on all the Saddam Hussein jokes, the kind they wouldn't let you tell in the bunker—like the one where Saddam executes the new general for choosing the prettiest camel.

Fifty years ago, during World War II they had war jokes too. Like "Whistle while you work, Hitler is a jerk, Mussolini bit his weenie, and now it doesn't work."

We've come a long way.



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Real Editorials By the Publisher Charles Foster Kane

The way we were

You can tell that the Crisis in the Gulf is just about over. That is, unless we re-bomb Baghdad because the incredible shrinking dictator is using the chemical weapons on his own people that he was afraid to use on us.

Every day we see more and more pictures of the happy troops returning home.

Last week, on the "Today Show," Bryant Gumbell had a particularly touching interview with a horny Marine and his wife at Andrews Air Force Base. Gumbell asked the woman the obligatory "how does it feel to have your husband home" question, and the woman said, "I don't know, it hasn't sunk in yet."

The Bush administration plans to drag out the homecoming and parades as long as they can, with the last soldier scheduled to return the day of the '92 elections.

Network television interview and discussion programs have shifted their focus to keeping Democratic presidential hopefuls on their defense because of their Jan. 12 votes against using military force.

The Democrats are so desperate that they are even talking about nominating Teddy Kennedy, just to see if he would sink or swim.

Even CNN has begun to show some of the other important events taking place in the world—like dog sled racing in Alaska and smelly gym shoe contests.

Locally, the news media is also beginning to wean the public from continuous war coverage. Sounds of Lee Greenwood's singing "God Bless the U.S.A." are all but a memory. Maurice McCracken hasn't been seen protesting anything in weeks, and—believe it or not—two days last week, there was no mention at all of Operation Orange Ribbon.

People are beginning to think about things that are really important, such as how much money baseball players are being paid, obscene rap-music concerts at the coliseum, and teen-age sex.

But we can still count on some Cincinnati city councilman like Nick Vehr to introduce a motion to rename a street after Norman Schwarzkopf. Then again, Dwight Tillery and Tyrone Yates might complain that Black History Month in February was another example of racial injustice because the month only had 28 days.

Over at the courthouse, Joe DeCourcy's and Mickey Esposito's pre-trial activities will dominate the news for months, while behind the scenes, Ralph Kohnen, Joe Deters, and all the other Republican officeholders will be doing their best to sabotage any idealistic ideas for reform that the new Democratic Auditor, Dusty Rhodes, may harbor.

And six months from now, we'll all come home, flip on TV, and wish we had another good war to watch.



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

Downtown Achievement Awards

The Downtown Council will hold its annual luncheon this Thursday, May 14, at the Westin Hotel.

No expense will be spared at this \$25-per-plate gala affair with a cash bar, emceed by Channel 12 meteorologist Tim Hedrick.

The speech will be about the "Emergence of a New Vision for Downtown." Yeah, right.

Highlight of the event is the presentation of this year's achievement awards for outstanding accomplishments in the downtown area.

That is, if anybody can think of something worthy of mentioning.

Another queer notion

There's good news for some Cincinnati city employees who have felt discriminated against in the past.

Council is now considering amending city policy making it illegal to discriminate against homosexuals, people with AIDS, divorcees, and Appalachians.

Which isn't fair. If you can't discriminate against an Appalachian homosexual divorcee with AIDS, who can you discriminate against?

Bunning in the bullpen

Congressman Jim Bunning must be getting antsy about the prospect of re-districting. He's warming up on the sidelines for a possible run at the Senate in '92.

His campaign against incumbent Wendell Ford seems to be based on Ford's vote against giv-

ing George of Arabia the go-ahead on the War in the Gulf.

"No Hit" Jim is banking on the anticipated Bush landslide in '92 having long and strong coattails for GOP candidates across the ticket. Bunning has pointed to Ford's liberal record and his advanced age as negatives for the former governor. And Ford has never pitched a perfect game.



After the storm

Although last week's Rent-a-Rally on Ft. Square to celebrate the victory in the Persian Gulf was termed a success, not everyone was happy with the way things went.

One unhappy on-looker was Leslie Isaiah Gaines, who was all prepared to lip-synch his new hit record—"Kick Some Butt Blues." But nobody asked him.

Another was WLW radio personality Bill Cunningham, who had begged, pleaded, threatened, and cajoled city officials in an attempt to permit him to appear as master of ceremonies for the patriotic event.

His requests had been turned down, however, when veterans groups associated with the event could not find where Cunningham had ever served in the armed forces that guard our country and our way of life. "It wouldn't be appropriate for a draft dodger to be up there waving the flag," said one irate Orange Ribbon Lady.

The sunshine patriot got even that night on his radio program when he thoroughly trashed Cincinnati Mayor David Mann for his convenient display of patriotism.

In all fairness, even if Mann is a leftist-leaning commie-scum liberal who has an autographed picture of Teddy Kennedy in his office, he is the only male member of city council to have served in the military.





Cheap Shots

Peace is hell

Friends of Jim Borgman say the *Enquirer's* political cartoonist has become despondent since the war ended and it became more difficult to come up with ideas.

Co-workers say he now wanders the halls all day mumbling, "Mapplethorpe, Mapplethorpe, where for art thou, Mapplethorpe."



Travel plans delayed

Rep. Bob McEwen's trip to Kuwait has been postponed. The Hillsboro, Ohio, Republican had been invited to visit the war zone by the by Kuwaiti ambassador to the United States, Saud Nasir Al-Sabah.

McEwen said that he wasn't sure why he had been selected. A spokesman for the ambassador, however, explained that the congressman had been chosen because they had heard that he liked kissing other men in public.



Beating the rap

One person who was disappointed with the cancellation of the "Rap Jam 91" concert at the coliseum was Dwight Tillery.

It's not that Tillery is such a big fan of obscene lyrics and sexually explicit performances, but word from the newsroom is that the Cincinnati city councilman had sent around a press release saying that he planned to attend the concert to monitor complaints of police brutality.



No such thing as bad publicity

John Glenn's popularity seems not to have suffered from his involvement in an ethics committee investigation of the "Keating Five."

A recent Ohio poll reported that 61 percent of the voters surveyed said Glenn had done a good job and should run for re-election.

Borrowing a line from Abraham Lincoln, a spokesman for the Ohio Senator said that you may not be able to fool all of the people all of the time, but 61 percent isn't all that bad.



Another Real Guest Editorial by Bunky Tadwell

The end of Operation Desert Storm has created heartache and trauma not only for Saddam Hussein, but for news junkies and trash-talk radio stations.

Sensational rags like *The Whistleblower* will be hard pressed to fill the void. WKRC Radio got rid of all its personnel except the cross-dresser in the morning (is there a story in that?) and replaced them with a recording that says 55 WKRC every 4.5 seconds while pea-brained callers embarrass themselves mouthing totally uninformed gibberish.

An aftermath of the cruel rape and pillage of a city is evident. Grey hulks of buildings. The shattered remains of once-thriving business. Debris in the streets. And bewildered residents wandering around slack-jawed and confused. And that's just Ft. Square West after Cincinnati City Council got through with it. You can imagine what those bozos could do with high-tech weapons.

If you wonder how Saddam could even think of remaining in power, it's easy. The first thing he did was claim victory. All politicians know how to keep talking in circles and confusing the issue until no one knows for sure what's happening. Then he raised the pay for the Republican Guard, his loyal henchmen who distinguished themselves by gassing helpless Iraqi citizens. He lies and pays off those who do his bidding. Members of the United States Congress do the same thing and they have a 98% success rate of staying in office. As you see, Saddam might be around for a while.

Now about those folks who poo-pooed the weapons systems used so successfully during the past few months. They have a problem.

Oh, it won't be convincing the voters in their districts that they were for them all the time. These people were put into office by voters with the collective I.Q. of a turnip. What should bother them is that for years, they have been totally, absolutely, 100% wrong. Since the Vietnam War began—what seems decades ago, we've had the hand wringers telling us to disarm, that the United States is wicked, that every two-bit culture-killing left-wing slimeball is the salvation of the country in which he practices the cruel art of genocide.

More than a few of us have said that if the politicians had not meddled in Korea, there might not have been a Vietnam. And had they kept their hands

in other people's pockets instead of on the operation of the military in Vietnam, we would have been in and out there a hell of a lot sooner. Thankfully, someone finally got the message. Let the pros plan it and stay out of the way.

Those who have made a career out of prodding the wounds of Vietnam just may have to find another way to ride the nation's collective guilt to office.

I'm betting they will.

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 issue

Why the Chamber of Commerce had to offer a money-back guarantee on membership fees



Real Letters from Real Readers

Sirs:

Please tell Dennis Barrie that his 15 minutes were up months ago.

Andy Warhol

Sirs:

It's a good thing Bob Quinn is only the general manager and not the equipment manager of the Reds.

Or else, the whole team would be down at spring training without any balls.

Marge Schott

Sirs:

Please don't tell your friends at the local radio stations about the owners of the Enquirer Building filing for Chapter 11.

If they knew, they'd try to say it was a result of our sagging circulation.

George Blake

Sirs:

As you may be aware, I underwent elective coronary by-pass surgery in July. My recovery is virtually complete and the prognosis is that I'm ready to finish the campaign vigorously and keep the Auditor's Office on a straight course.

Mike Maloney

Sirs:

We understand that 6000 wives of soldiers serving in the Persian Gulf had babies while their husbands were away.

But what we want to know is, how many of them got pregnant during the same period?

Channel 9's "I-Team"

Sirs:

You know what we're going to do with all that money we raised? We're going to buy our own Congressman.

Ellen Lambing

Sirs:

A lot of people think I've been vastly overpaid for the job I've been doing since going to Congress.

But this week alone I complained about the jet noise of the planes landing over Delhi, read a congressional statement honoring the Orange Ribbon Lady, and spent three hours as a celebrity DJ on 55 WKRC Radio.

Next week I'm off to Kuwait to tell the Kuwaiti government how I solved the pothole problem when I was mayor of Cincinnati.

If that's not worth \$2500-a-week, I don't know what is.

Landslide Charlie Luken

Sirs:

It's not surprising that my "Basement Tapes" show was cancelled. Channel 64 will probably be off the air next week anyway.

Eddie Fingers

Sirs:

Most sports experts say the team to beat in the NL West is the L.A. Dodgers. Out here we say it's the L.A.P.D.

Tommy Lasorda



Another Exclusive Whistleblower Report

A lamentable legacy

Doing his best to imitate Saddam Hussein's "scorched earth" policy, departing NewsChannel 5 bigshot



Tony Kiernan cashiered local legend Johnny Bench from the Reds TV broadcast booth as his parting gift to area baseball fans.

What's worse, the official line from WLWT flacks was that Bench's departure was "mutually agreed upon." Don't believe it.

Bench had offers from several other major league teams to do play-by-play, but turned them down in anticipation of doing the Reds again this year. Then, Kiernan pulled the rug out from under him.

It was "typical Tony" from those

that knew him. The same sort of thing that caused the Mother of All Exoduses from the newsroom last year.

Word from the station is that Kiernan's contract would have been up next month and was not going to be renewed.

So now he's gone, but his legacy lingers on. Reds fans will be able to remember him fondly, whenever they hear the cable tag team of Coleman and Lamar doing the games this summer.

But things could be worse. Kiernan could have brought back Tommy Hume.

Keirnan is said to be planning to work in the TV industry in some other city.

Which is a good idea, since he's surely worn out his welcome here.

Winning through intimidation

If you're an advertiser, you can meddle in NewsChannel 5 programming whenever you want.

Say there's a news story you don't want to air. Just call and threaten to cancel your account.

It's a practice the station knows something about.

That's how WLWT got Radio Station WGRR (Oldies 103.5) to stop talking about Johnny Bench getting canned from the Reds TV game crew. It's also how they got another radio station personality to stop doing a bit about which Channel 5 personality was the ugliest.



Channel 5 buys advertising on local radio stations during ratings periods. Word is they threatened to pull their commercials from the offending stations and, of course, management at those radio stations caved in.

Maybe that's why Jerry Springer leads a charmed life.

Nobody else in the media dares to report on his adventures and lose any WLWT business.

And people wonder why *The Whistleblower* chose never to accept advertising.

Attention all county employees

Contributions to the Mickey Esposito Legal Defense Fund can now be made through payroll deductions, just like your voluntary contributions to the Hamilton County GOP.



The former chief deputy in the Auditor's Office has been indicted on 210 misdemeanor counts, and cannot afford his own lawyer.

We're sure the whole thing is a misunderstanding, and will be easily explained as soon as Mickey has his day in court.

Please save your former fellow employee the embarrassment of appearing at an indigency hearing in front of Judge Crush on Mar. 20.

If found indigent, he could be assigned a public defender who is really a Democrat.

As always, those at party headquarters will be aware of your support.



Bluegrass Holler

by Ken Cambo

Beware of cheap imitations

Another weak attempt at being a real newspaperman has been made by Latonia publishing ace Mike Hornback.

His latest scam sheet is called *The Press*, which consists of two pages of pseudo-sensationalism and four pages of ads.

On page one, Hornback and editor Bonnie Sage have a knock-off of *The Whistleblower* called "City Secrets." The entire contents of the March 1 feature was a re-hash of items from our "Bluegrass Holler" columns.

At least we know we're not the only ones watching the Clabes dynasty. But we don't have to sell full page ads to Marge Schott's Chevrolet dealership to stay in business.

Another one bites the dust

The Easter bunny came early for Covington city commissioners when Economic Development Director Tom Fiorini turned in his resignation last Friday, to become Cincinnati's downtown development officer.

The Gang of Five have made no bones about their desire to run him out of town, the same way they took credit for hastening the exit of Fiorini's deputy Dan Tobergte last year. It seems the elected officials have a distrust for anyone with both frontal lobes in working order.

Fiorini had kept his job under wraps; but City Hall matriarch Alma Dressman, who is two years older than dirt, recognized a familiar clue when she received a requisition from Fiorini for three cases of white-out. Dressman, who has outlasted a dozen city managers, says the time-honored tradition of departing city employees is to remove their names from all city documents to avoid future embarrassment.

Covington Business Council, which had previously employed Fiorini, will roast him aboard the Spirit of America. Host Ben Bernstein will apply the barbecue sauce. CBC Executive Director Pat Ewing (pictured without the beard he's currently trying to grow) expects his board meetings will be a lot shorter, now that the "Dump Fiorini" committee has been disbanded. The organization has also asked Fiorini to return the framed proclamation of praise the group awarded him when he was hired by the city.



J. R. Hatfield

Northern Kentucky
Bureau Chief

Just what we need-another blowhard!

Part-time attorney, part-time trash radio talk-show host, but full-time know-it-all Bill Cunningham, invaded the south-



ern shores of the Ohio River recently when he and somebody with money bought the dismally failing Glass Menagerie in Covington.

Mr. Mouth immediately closed the glitzy flesh palace for a two-month renovation, after which he will re-open it as Willie's Sports Cafe.

Since Cunningham will be relying on his close personal friendships with local sports stars for the success of the venture, it is certain that the previous owners' racist policies will be abandoned. A few years ago, the Glass was sued by several black people who said the nightclub's VIP entry policy was tougher than South Africa's pass book system.

Inside sources say Cunningham's decor will feature a prominent display of his unbridled affection for one Peter Edward Rose. But, they tell us, the Rose portrait will be substantially smaller than the shrine to Cunningham.

Friends in high places

The word around the federal courthouse in Covington is the Corporex chief Bill Butler bought some insurance in his lawsuit against the General Services Administration over the bid he lost to build the IRS tower at Third and Scott.

It seems that Butler called on his GOP buddies in Congress, Jim Bunning and Mitch McConnell, to exert some pressure on the U.S. Attorney's office to push for an out-



of-court settlement favorable to Corporex.

It just so happens that the attorney assigned to the case was Karen Caldwell, Senator McConnell's local squeeze, whom he has recommended to President Bush as a candidate to replace U.S. Attorney Louis DeFalsaise.

Word is that cash poor Butler was hoping to get a refund of the money he spent preparing the bid document. Rather than go to trial with a case they would win, the feds opted for the expeditious settlement which may cost taxpayers up to seven figures. Corporex spin doctors had hoped to scare off competitors, but Cincinnati developers, licking their chops, are thanking Bill Butler for the free legal work and their impending success. If Corporex forces the job to be re-bid, the City of Covington stands to lose about a million dollars a year in payroll taxes if the IRS builds outside the city. This is Bill Butler's thanks for the help the city gave him on RiverCenter.

Money talk

Power brokers in the Bluegrass, nervous about their diminishing clout

within the Northern Kentucky banking scene, are scrambling to find investors to start their own financial institutions.

Since Ronald Reagan de-regulated the money moguls, local independent banks have been gobbled up by out-of-state giants like Huntington, Star, and Fifth Third.

Inspired by the short-term success of The Bank of Boone County, good old boys in Kenton County have started raising cash for their own bank.

Lips in the banking industry are tighter than a Newport G-string, but we expect at least two new banks being formed by out-of-work yuppies pushed aside by the pending merger of Star and Kentucky National.





Boobs on the Tube

by John Quichwarmer

Did you hear me last week on the radio? Was I great, or what?

There I was, a celebrity guest announcer on 55 WKRC while Jerry Thomas was on vacation, permitting lucky listeners to hear how the worlds greatest radio-TV critic doing a radio show the way it should be done.

But not everybody got a chance to be a guest host while Jerry was on vacation—just real celebrities. Like me.

Some of the lesser lights that appeared during those two weeks included Rob Braun, Kit Andrews, Mary Krutko, Ken Broo, Leslie Isaiah Gaines, Mayor David Mann, that loudmouth from Buddy's Carpet Barn, Jeff Ruby, Anthony Munoz, and Land-slide Charlie Luken.

None of them was as great as I was, but what the heck—I'm sure the station had some purely political reasons to have those other people on the air.

There was only one moment when things didn't go as planned. That's when I was supposed to read an announcement that included my competitor's name, that guy who tries to write radio-TV commentary for another paper. Naturally, I skipped it.

Speaking of people who write for newspapers who will do absolutely anything to get on the radio, did you ever notice how many columnists just happen to drop by some of the local radio stations at the same time every week?

WLW Radio shows the good sense to have me visit Jim Scott's morning show every Monday. The rest of the week writers from another paper (entertainment critic Larry Nager, columnist David Wecker, movie critic David Lyman, Connie Yeager, and Maureen Conlan) stop by to plug their columns.

WKRC Radio invites my competitor to be on with Jerry Thomas on Mondays, and Jim Knippenberg tells people where to go on the weekends on Friday.

Sara Lee Pearce, who does salad bar reports, and Marilyn Harris who does some kind of leftover microwave cooking thing have appeared on WKCY.

WEBN features its "DJ From Hell" program every Sunday morning. Jim Knippenberg was on Sunday, and sooner or later, most of these other newspaper people will wind up on that program too.

And all the while, these same radio stations keep running commercials telling how half the homes don't get newspapers and the only way an advertiser can reach more people by buying spots on the radio.

You'd think people who work for newspapers would know better than to go on the radio and help their competitors prove their point.



Real Gossip

by Linda Libel

The Blue Chip Yuppie Scum Republicans held their first annual Lincoln Day Banquet at the Clarion Hotel Friday night. A gala extravaganza, to be sure.

We looked lovely as always, even touched up our roots for the occasion. The evening was marred though, when our escort confiscated the note we were trying to slip under Simon Leis' salad plate. It was no big deal, really. All it said was, "I am not wearing any panties."

Keynote speaker, slumlord Stan Solomon showed up wearing a rented tuxedo. This wouldn't be so unusual, but he was the only man wearing one.

One politician's wife, looking very confused, spent the cocktail hour stuffing her \$175 navy blue Gucci purse with so much propaganda from the National Rifle Association display she didn't have room for cocktail weiners or silverware.

At the next table, a leggy blonde hawked wares such as a life-sized target of Saddam Hussein that read: "The Butcher of Baghdad. Time to meet Allah," shirts reading "Shorter Names, Younger Women, He's In, He's Out, He's In Again. Hart for President in '92," as well as one with the picture of a missile that said "Trident, When You Care Enough to send the very Best."

We snapped up the button that read "Bush-Powell '92."

Hitler Youth Chairman Bill Kintner was in his glory introducing GOP officeholders "big league" style.

Among them included Simon Leis, Art Ney, Judge Patrick Dinkelacker, Mike Allen, Dick Roeding, Patrick Meyer, Jim

Cissell, Ron Wolwine, Jim Bunning, and the painfully well-groomed Nick Vehr.

You should have seen these guys. When they heard their names, they ran up to the podium, gave Kintner a high-five, then ran down the line-up slapping hands and patting each other's asses.

Dinner was a disappointment, but no surprise. No one has had a decent meal at the Clarion in years. Where was General Manager Bob Hoeh? Probably off playing with one of his many charities. Everyone knows he thinks that's much more important than supervising the hotel's Food and Beverage operation.

Before taking the podium, Solomon's wife, St. Mary of the Tina Turner Wig, gave the patron saint of the Young Republicans a note saying "don't cuss." Sound advice since Sheriff Leis was sitting three feet away.

Stan laughed it off telling the crowd, "She's always telling me to cool my tool!" at which point Mrs. Leis put a trembling hand to her forehead.

The rest of the speech was nearly inaudible due to the poor sound system and the din of Nick Vehr collecting signatures for his petition to limit the terms of other guys on City Council.

Highlights of Solomon's speech:

On Cincinnati's educational system: "Our educators can tell you why it rains, but not how to come in out of it."

On the war: "People using 500 lb. suppositories become less effective."

On peace in the Middle East: "I think we should let the Israelis subdivide."

A Marge Schott clone wearing an aqua double-knit twin sweater and stretch pants ensemble with sensible shoes tried to start a standing ovation.

Her attempt failed, because people weren't getting up to applaud, they had already begun streaming for the door.

