

**Thanksgiving Day  
treat for the  
homeless—Twinkies  
and Squid**

# The Whistleblower

Or "Some of the News They seem to Lose"

Edition # 26

November 20, 1990

## This Week's Really Big Story

### Solomon Fires Back

In last week's issue, CFT President **Tom Mooney** had some rather unpleasant things to say about WCKY Radio talk-show host **Stan Solomon**.

This week, Mr. Solomon returns the favor:

"Tom Mooney, President of the Cincinnati Federation of Teachers, has proven, once again, how out of touch with reality he really is. Tom's attack on landlords as being the cause of "Student Mobility" because they evict families whose rent is unpaid is beyond the sublime and into



the ridiculous

"Mr. Mooney's lack of touch with economic reality is obvious from his public position of demanding increases in compensation for his union members in the face of pitiful performances by the students, bankruptcy of the district, and total disgust of the public exemplified by the overwhelming rejection of the school levy.

"Is it possible that he expects the public is so stupid that they will believe that property owners import bugs, distribute litter, and demolish their buildings so that tenants will be uncomfortable and therefore unable to be good citizens or good students?"

"Does Mr. Mooney accept any of the blame for the shortcomings of the students or the school system?"

"The CFT has no problem releasing false or partial information about someone when they are attempting to further their self interest. The arrest warrant against me was issued in error and the result of the case was and is under appeal.

"The reductions in my property tax have been upheld after review, almost without exception.

**Mr. Mooney's brother**, an attorney, has received almost a hundred thousand dollars from the union for services rendered.

**Mr. Mooney's ex-wife, Virginia Rhodes**, is on the school board and their feelings for each have affected some decisions in some unusual ways.

Stay tuned for more nonsense."

### Equal Space Provision

Most publications do not necessarily permit both sides in a dispute an equal opportunity to speak.

Breaking new ground, *The Whistleblower* is willing to allow any party who feels he has been unduly assailed the opportunity to present his side of the story.

## Top Ten List

This week, it's the top ten reasons why city council will spend \$10 million on a new bridge:



10. Remove unsightly TANK buses from Suspension Bridge

9. Provide additional shelter for the homeless

8. Make it easier to get a good seat for couch dancing

7. Opportunity to rename Clay Wade Bailey Bridge to **Ken Blackwell Causeway**

6. Preferred site forces **Jeff Ruby** to relocate the Waterfront

5. Give city council another pointless project on which to waste money

4. Make it easier for West End residents to buy cheap booze and cigarettes

3. Make it easier for Covington residents to buy Ohio lottery tickets

2. It would really piss off the Cincinnati Business Committee

And the number one reason city council will spend \$10 million on a new bridge...Nell Surber said is was a great idea.

## Quote of the Week



**"We have not yet begun to teach!"**

**Dr. Lee Etta Powell**

**Blue  
Chip  
Express**

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## Inside this Issue

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## Real Editorials Actually Written By the Publisher

### Plain brown bags

Taking bribes and illegal campaign donations used to be simple. Politicians would send their bag men around and those seeking political influence would fill the bags up with money.

Watching the early stages of the Keating Five hearings being conducted by the Ethical Six in the Senate on C-Span, it appears as if today's politicians have made bribe-taking extraordinarily complex.

When Congress returns, a high priority should be given to simplify procedures for public officials to receive money illegally.

That way, the next time a politician gets caught, it will be easier for the rest of us to follow the action.

### No honor among thieves

News executives at Channel 9 cried foul last week when Channel 5 reporter **Marty Pieratt** stole an exclusive interview with convicted child-killer **Michael Funk**.

Channel 9 called it sleazy, and Channel 5, quite understandably, called it good journalism.

Channel 9 claimed it was grand larceny, and Channel 5 shrugged it off as petty theft.

Those of us who recall when members of **Al Schottlekotte's** press gang were the bully boys of the news media might think whatever goes around, comes around.

This does not indicate a new low ebb of morality in TV infotainment. It's just show business.

### No rocket scientists

Let's see...the current dilemma for the local Democratic leadership is filling **Charlie Luken's** seat on city council without offending either black people or women.

So how smart do you have to be to pick a black woman?

### Holding the Hyatt hostage

Since when is it the responsibility of Cincinnati's taxpayers to bail out private enterprise?

The Hyatt's out-of-town owners have had enough special help from the city.

If they can't run their business at a profit, we are sure that someone else can.

Owners of the Carew Tower had financial problems, someone else took it over, and to everyone's amazement, the building is still standing.



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

### Cincinnati homeless get their own song

The Free Store may not have found a way to feed all our homeless wretches, but they have, at least, given them something to sing about.

Free Store PR gal **Jan Boldt** got **Lou Maurio**, a New York ad agency executive, to write a song especially for the homeless in Cincinnati.

*You don't have to go to New York City, To see people living in the street; You don't have to go to Mexico; To see children beggin' for food to eat...Yeah, Yeah, Yeah!*

Several homeless people contacted on a streetcorner welcomed the news that they were getting their own song.

"That ought to keep us warm on cold winter nights," they all said.

"We can't thank the Free Store enough," one itinerant catfish scaler added. "It sure beats all those Twinkies and squid they usually hand out."



### "Not Deranged fascists," Condit's suit contends

Attorney **James Condit Sr.** and his son **James Condit Jr.** have sued the *Mt. Washington Press* for \$200,000.

The suit, alleging libel and intentional infliction of emotional distress, cited *Press* editorials referring to Condit Jr. as "deranged" and both Condits as "fascists."

Opposing Condit Jr.'s candidacy for city council in November 1989, a *Press* editorial stated, "James Condit Jr., perennial candidate of the Cincinnati Party, is a colorful candidate, but only because he's deranged."

Commenting on the Platform Republicans unsuccessful coup attempt to take over control of the Hamilton County GOP last April, the *Press* referred to the Condits as "fascists."

*Press* publisher **Dennis Nichols** said that he was confident he would win in court because both editorials were true and that the terms "deranged" and "fascist" were spelled correctly.

When consulted about the merits of the Condits' suit against the *Mt. Washington Press* for referring to them as "deranged," several lawyers said that they would give a month's pay for the opportunity to cross-examine the Condits on the witness stand.



### Bombs Away

The Sisters of Charity at the College of Mount St. Joseph tapped **J. Clay Stinett** of Central Trust to head their annual fund drive. Stinett also serves on the Kenton County Airport Board.

The sweet Sisters endeared themselves to their Delhi neighbors by cutting a back-room deal with the airport two years ago.



## Cheap Shots

### Not another scam, Galvin claims

Jerry Galvin's commentary can now be heard during the 6-7 p.m. newsblock on WCKY Radio. The darling of the liberals will share his thoughts on a wide range of subjects—from the ridiculous to the sublime.

Among his many other accomplishments, Galvin, a Cincinnati advertising agency executive, has to his credit the Plummet Mall scam, his nationally syndicated talk show on National Public Radio, and an insatiable desire to dress up furry farm animals in women's clothes.



### Sexuality guidelines

Recently the Church adopted their first comprehensive guidelines on sex, portraying it in exalting terms and calling for it to be taught in Catholic schools.



Here's how Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk explained the 185 document:

Most people want sex without guilt.

Catholics must learn to accept guilt without sex.

### Local leaders lacking

"Leadership is starting to be missed locally," said Cincinnati Bell CEO Dwight Hibbard last week to a group of business leaders that had not already left for their winter vacations in Florida.

Hibbard's sometimes scathing speech leveled criticism at both the private and public sectors.

Perhaps it was not ironic that the speech was delivered at the Hyatt.



**Coming next week**  
**Special**  
**Earthquake Issue**



## Another Real Guest Editorial by Bunky Tadwell

Say...what about those political TV commercials? Your campaign contribution dollars at work. We've seen a lot of campaigns come and go. And to be honest, although this one was something of a watermark for stupidity, meanness, half truths, non-truths, and just plain boring lies, things have improved since the time of Lincoln when being called a baboon was about as civil as it was going to get.

Now you may wonder how these political commercials got so bad. One would think you'd really have to work at it. But for most ad agencies, it's a snap to make boring, fluff-ridden, mind-deadening TV fare.

Most of the political commercials were on a par with the auto dealer shouters who either stand as if a pit bull has a grip on their reproductive organs or gesture, out of sync, with anything being said.

Of course, to be fair...and we're nothing if not always fair... what you see on the air is what the client wants. Some agencies at least make an attempt to create an interesting, informative piece of work, only to be crushed by an uncaring, unknowing, rather inept blowhard who thinks he or she knows everything there is to know about advertising.

Which brings us back to our political commercials, now blessedly gone until next election.

The big guys had fairly slick production values. The state wide races and, of course, the real Run for the Roses—a lifetime of undreamed of power, largess, and security the congressional race. Not that the actual content meant anything, the things were just a little more well produced.

The auditor's race was interesting. The incumbent stood upright with a pointer



and pointed. Sort of like a VD lecture in the army. The contender, and eventual winner, mercifully had less of a budget for TV. You may have noticed Mr. Rhodes adopted the "a pit bull has me and I can't move" technique. He looked as he if he used the same embalmer who does the makeup for D.C. Schultz.



The one lady judge did a pretty good job of acting. The press did the hard part by deflating the claims of her opponent. Some of the other offices had campaigns that no one remembers. Which puts their advertising efforts in the same category as most other businesses blow money in all directions on the telly.

Is it TV's fault? No. Are all the negative approaches in vogue the fault of TV? No. You have to put the blame on the clowns who pass themselves off as advertising experts. You have to put the blame on the candidates who approve the commercials. And, you have to put the blame on voters who buy that kind of political advertising and make it effective.

Hey...don't look at me. For once, I'm innocent on all counts.



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.



## Real Letters from Real Readers

Sirs:  
We lost our assignment sheet. Can you tell us which one of us is scheduled to write this week's story about *The Whistleblower*?

**The Reporters at the Enquirer**

Sirs:  
Whoops again!

**Judge Gilbert Bettman**

Sirs:  
I stood in line with 20,000 people last week to see the exhibit at the Union Terminal, but where were all the dirty pictures?

**Dennis Barrie**

Sirs:  
I understand you're having a few problems with the Lewis Center. Perhaps I can be of some assistance. I just got my criminal record expunged and I'm ready to go back to work.

**Jan Taylor**

Sirs:  
Remember during the campaign when I said that the first thing I'd do when I got to Congress is make sure PAC contributions are eliminated?

Well, considering the crisis in the Persian Gulf and all the other problems our country faces, it may take me a while.

But trust me. PAC contributions will never be far from my thoughts.

**Landslide Charlie Luken**

Sirs:  
Help me. I'm running out of excuses.

**Marvin Warner**

Sirs:  
So are we.

**The Hamilton County Commissioners**

Sirs:  
Can you please tell the people in the auditor's office to stop worrying. I don't plan to fire every one of them. Really.

**Dusty Rhodes**

Sirs:  
It wasn't a meeting. It was only a lunch.

**John Glenn**

Sirs:  
The reason the local Democratic party is only looking for unqualified and incompetent black freeloaders to appoint to city council is because all the unqualified and incompetent white freeloaders have already been appointed.

**Don Dreihaus and Bill Mallory**

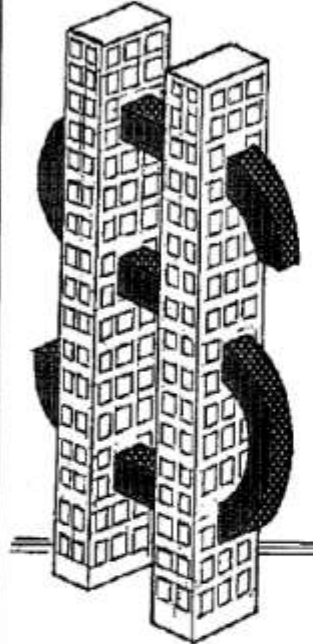
Sirs:  
With that kind of logic, Cincinnati should be under strong consideration for the 1993 Super Bowl.

**Paul Tagliabue  
Commissioner of the NFL  
and don't you ever forget it**



## Another Whistleblower Exclusive Report

Recently, Thomas D. Bredwell, President of the Skywalk Merchants Association, was interviewed by The Whistleblower about the rendering he planned to present to city council for Folly Square West.



Your building is very imposing, Mr. Bredwell. How tall will it be?  
We don't really know at this time - we just want to be sure that it is tall enough to cast a shadow over all of downtown Cincinnati.

How much do you think it will cost to construct your building?

We can only estimate at this time, given the several million it has already cost before we can break ground - probably somewhere between the City's deficit for 1990 and the national debt.

How long do you think it will take to finish the building?

With given unforeseen work stoppages, recessions, depressions, wars, and what have you, we would like to come on line of the building of the National Cathedral.

Will your building be connected to the existing Skywalk system?

No, we would prefer connecting it to a path of broken dreams, promises and ruined businesses.

Will there be retail space in the building and what kind of retail are you going for?

Oh yes, we are now negotiating with such up scale retailers as Elder Beerman, Woolworth Co., Potter Shoes, & Gucini Shoes, Lerner Stores, James & Co., Footlites Shoes, Radio Shack, Mayors Jewelry, and Saxony Imports to name a few.

What about restaurants?

We are currently trying for Hardees, Roy Rogers, Long John Silver, Heart Bakers, and Scully's.

What about those businesses that will be cutoff by no Skywalk connection?

They will just have to fend for themselves - besides they've got a bakery up there so let them eat cake.

Given the bleak economic picture being painted over the next few years, where will you get financing for such a major project?

Since our deal with Charles Keating recently fell through, we are now hoping for some low interest financing along with numerous tax abatements from the City.

We figure if we play our cards right we can come out owning prime Cincinnati real estate without really spending any money. There are ways of doing this, you know.

We certainly wish you luck and God speed on completion of your Folly Square West project, Mr. Bredwell. Do you have any further comments?

We know how very important it is to the City of Cincinnati to have a building taller than the Carew Tower and we would like to assure them that no matter what it takes or who we have to step on, Folly Square West will be realized.



**Bluegrass  
Holler**  
by Ken Camboo

**Not exactly poor**

Bill Straub's *KY Post* article last week stated that Dr. Floyd Poore was the first gubernatorial candidate to release his tax returns. Poore's disclosure puts him at the bottom of the four main Democratic candidates in terms of wealth.

But it's hard to feel sorry for Poore, whose average annual income since retiring in 1983 has been about \$84,000. He was worth millions in the 1960s and cruised to and from work in a Rolls Royce.

Is Poore expecting sympathy from the average Kentuckian? Is he running short on campaign funds and looking for newspaper publicity? Perhaps since he did not manage his own funds properly, he's over-qualified to be Governor. Maybe he should go straight for a try at the Presidency.

**Calling gamblers  
anonymous**

A hard fought campaign for a seat on the Crescent Springs City Council came down to the luck of the draw last week.

Roy Rudd, Sr. and Louis Hatfield drew cards to determine the winner after both candidates got 199 votes.

Hatfield drew a Jack and won.

**Little print means  
little dollars**

Dean Casey of Louisville was sitting pretty in February. Having picked all six numbers, he was waiting to collect a cool \$2 million from the Kentucky lottery commission.

But there were two other winners and Casey received only \$344,000 before taxes. It seems that an unpublicized rule says that if multiple winning tickets are worth less than a million, each winner shall be paid in one cash payment.

All right, said Casey, expecting a third of \$2 million, or \$667,000. But somewhere buried in the fine print it said he could receive less.

Casey sued the lottery commission.

**Price on Peluso's head—  
about \$1.29**

Peluso has been afraid that two former associates, Martin Smith and Charles Schaffner, hired an assassin to try to kill Peluso since 1981.

Peluso filed suit in Campbell County District Court last week seeking compensatory and punitive damages for medical expenses and emotional pain.



**J.R. Hatfield**  
Northern Kentucky  
Bureau Chief

**There's corruption in local government**

A former clerk at the Newport Housing Authority pled guilty to taking \$5,000 in deposits in the past year. Irene Hawkins will be sentenced December 19 by Circuit Judge William J. Wehn.

Her attorney Mott Plurraner said she kept money from rent payments for low income Government subsidized housing. Misuse of funds seems to be the latest trend at this particular agency.

**Maybe they should use training wheels**

Comair has had more than their share of problems in the past with their pilots. Thursday night didn't help when pilot Thomas R. Sblendorir failed to put down the landing gear on a Fairchild Metro 3.

FAA and Comair officials couldn't explain why a warning didn't go off which resulted into a belly landing and blocked two main runways. Ted Bushleman, airport spokesman, said it shut down the airport for an hour and a half. Bushleman suggested that maybe they should add training wheels to the Comair planes.

Sblendorir cannot act as a pilot until he completes additional training and takes another test. Drug and alcohol test results were not available.

**Seediest Kids of All**

Louis "Porky" Dorkman is an adorable little illegitimate waif whose mother stood in line for six hours at the Free Store and brought home 28 packages of Twinkies and a bucket of squid for Thanksgiving Day Dinner.

Not many welfare mothers know how to prepare ordinary squid loaf, much less have the culinary skills needed to turn Twinkies and squid into a sumptuous Thanksgiving Day feast the family can remember all year long.

But the Seediest Kids of All sent over a copy of *Enquirer* restaurant critic Sara Pearce's latest book "Let 'Em Eat Squid"—which included 28 nutritious holiday recipes for squid and Twinkie dressing.

So Thursday night, while Porky and his family are dozing off, their stomachs stuffed with squid, watching the Simpsons Thanksgiving Special on TV, they'll have you to thank—for it's your guilt throughout the year which made it all possible.



**Courthouse phone-Sex tapes  
seized**

The FBI said Friday that *Whistleblower* tapes of phone-sex conversations made from courthouse offices were really a riot and that the tapes would be returned after every agent in the office had a chance to listen to them.

Many voices on the tapes were clearly identifiable, the FBI said.





## City Hall Report by Neil Surber

### First lady sweepstakes

Since revelations of Nancy Reagan's influence on Reagan administrative policy and personal decisions, some local observers have carefully been noting possible contributions of potential "first ladies." Here are the most recent assessments by those in the know:

**Sheila Guckenberger:** top-notch intellect when focused, otherwise eclectic, sometimes seems a bit of a loner, disproves theory that opposites attract.

**Betsy Mann:** Spirited with great energy often quietly applied to solving problems of the poor. Probably headed a "good deeds" club as a youngster. No gray hair.

**Katherine (Kitty) Strauss:** Proven skills at organizing and leading major efforts. No longer seen as an extension of downtown business interests. Proves theory that opposites attract.

### Committee against facial hair

Philosophical comrades potential-Mayor-to-be **Guy Guckenberger** and lame duck Governor **Richard Celeste** have apparently formed a Committee of Two dedicated to fighting unnecessary facial hair.

Celeste (beard) at the prospect of a visit from his mother and Guckenberger (moustache) reportedly under order to show he's "really changed" by party boss **Ralph Kohner** before his return to the GOP, each removed their discretionary facial hair at about the same time this year.

Both politicians say they feel cleaner now.

### Finan's Findings by State Senator Dick Finan

I'm still not convinced it's the money that's ruining the legislative process. I think the big problem is the 30-second commercial on television.

The General Assembly is afraid to vote against a bill that has a good title.

All they can see is their opponent with a 30-second television commercial that says something like, "Finan Voted Against Crime." No matter that it might have busted the budget or that it wasn't going to work, people simply make their decision based upon that headline.

As they say, it is killing the system.



### Publisher sweepstakes contest

Due to the overwhelming response to our request for resumes to help us find a new publisher, interviews are being scheduled this week to determine those applicants to be included in our publishers sweepstakes contest.

More than 100 resumes have been received from area publishers and columnists, some from the applicants themselves, but more often from others working at their publications.

Not everyone, however, will get an interview.

*Enquirer* publisher **Bill Keating**, who sent a letter of congratulations to auditor-elect **Dusty Rhodes**, congratulating him on his being elected county commissioner, won't get an interview.

*Cincinnati Magazine* editorial director **Felix Winternitz**, who would have to learn what it's like to work in an environment not completely dominated by women, won't get an interview.

*Business Record* publisher **Henry Dorfman**, who doesn't understand the meaning of "anonymous," won't get an interview.

*Business Courier* publisher **Scott Bemis**, who thinks that Fountain Square West will never be built, won't get an interview.

*Mt. Washington Press* publisher **Dennis Nichols**, who has not yet learned how to avoid frivolous lawsuits while calling politicians "deranged fascists," won't get an interview.

*Enquirer* "tip-off" columnist **Jim Knippenberg**, who gave up sex to protest the Bengals losing streak, won't get an interview.

*Post* political **Sharon Moloney**, who is no relation to unelected auditor **Mike Maloney**, won't get an interview.

*Enquirer* political reporter **Howard Wilkinson**, who has trouble getting his own name in print, won't get an interview.

Three-times-a-week *Post* free-lance contributor **Nick Clooney**, who is still struggling to make the difficult transition from TV to print, might get an interview.

And then again, maybe he won't.

### The Cincinnati Enquirer

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WILLIAM J. KEATING  
OWNER and PUBLISHER

November 7, 1991

The Honorable W. Emerson Rhodes  
5454 Alomar Drive  
Cincinnati, OH 45238

Dear Dusty:

Congratulations on your election to the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners.

I wish you continued success.

Best regards,

*Bill*