

**Our new motto: If you can't make fun of yourself, then make fun of someone else**

# The Whistleblower

Or "Some of the News They Seem to Lose" ©  
Edition # 32 January 8, 1991

## This Week's Really Big Story

### Mick the quick



Seen in the vicinity of the County Administration Building not so many mornings ago was the late, lamented Mickey Esposito sitting furtively in his car, nervously awaiting a mysterious package soon-to-be-delivered by one of his former "Breakfast Club" bimboes still employed at the Auditor's office.

One can only imagine what information was being smuggled out of the office for Mickey's benefit prior to the Dusty Rhodes take-over March 11.

It's no secret that Joe DeCourcy's son-in-law and former Chief Deputy Auditor is promoting the Restoration, that is his candidacy for Auditor in four years. Needless to note, his friends still there who did so well by doing well for Mickey are equally anxious for his return.

Meanwhile, word is they are working to unionize the office before Rhodes arrives. Esposito and Company encouraged the Teamsters to make the initial presentation to the employees.

Once the Teamsters break the ice, the plot will thicken. That's when the "Mickey-people" plan to come forward with a "better deal" from the Fraternal Order of Police. It should be noted that Esposito has some kind of an association with the state F.O.P. If they win representation, he can get his nose back under the tent.

Of course, after playing games with the Teamsters, various other body parts might be broken. Or, Mickey could find himself buried under a goalpost at the Meadowlands, a favorite resting place of those who fall out of favor with the



guys in gorilla suits.

Meanwhile, outgoing Auditor Mike Maloney, who spent the last few years working for a firm that specialized in fighting unions, told Post reporter Randy Ludlow that he had "no knowledge" of attempts to unionize his office.



## McCracken encouraged to protest



85-year-old peace activist Rev. Morris McCracken was released from a mental hospital in Washington last week after being arrested for scaling a White House fence to protest U.S. policies in the Persian Gulf.

Officials gave no reason for McCracken's release. However, one White House staffer said that the administration was encouraging McCracken to continue his pathetic protests. "If he's the best today's protest movement can muster, we have nothing to worry about," the White House staffer said.

**Blue Chip Express**

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## Top Ten List



This week, it's the top ten reasons former city residents gave for leaving the city on Jim Cissell's survey:

10. Not enough stun guns
  9. Poor performance by road crews during snow emergencies
  8. Delay building the new bridge between Cincinnati and Covington
  7. Prices at Union Terminal Museum too high
  6. Lines too long waiting for turn at Ft. Square skating rink
  5. Not enough upscale homeless shelters
  4. Too much corruption at the courthouse
  3. No self-serve gas station at 5th and Vine
  2. Wanted to beat the rush
- And the number one reason former city residents gave for leaving the city is...it's no longer legal to wear a mask at KKK rallies.

## Campaign '92 has already begun

In case you haven't noticed, Ken Blackwell has already started his 1992 Congressional campaign to unseat incumbent Landslide Charlie Luken.

As early as Dec. 10, Blackwell was speaking to Republican organizations in Butler County, an area which is expected to be included in the First District after re-districting.

Landslide Charlie, too, is not letting any grass grow under his feet.

His strongly worded fund-raising letter dated Dec. 26, sent to local business leaders, including some who had worked on Blackwell's 1990 campaign, stressed the point that "running for Congress is a full-time business."

It is not certain, however, whether the funds are being raised for his 1992 re-election campaign, or to pay off bills from the campaign he just completed.



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## Real Editorials By the Publisher Charles Foster Kane

### Serving full terms

Many people believe that early releases for convicts is a bad idea. If a man gets himself caught doing a crime, he should serve his full sentence, without hope for parole.

Such a policy would be a great deterrent. So should it be for politicians, who get themselves elected. They too should serve their full terms, without hope of being elected to another office.

Such a policy, as well, would benefit society greatly.

### Now he tells us

Bob Taft's recent op-ed piece in the *Post* called for revamping county government. After 10 years as county commissioner he finally figured out what was wrong.

Why is it that whenever a politician leaves office, he can always tell us what's wrong?

But somehow, he never gets around to telling us why he never did anything about it while he was in office.

### Following up

Several weeks ago it was reported in one of the daily newspapers that Cincinnati Health Commissioner Stanley Broadnax had been sued by Star Bank for \$133,735.

The report gave details of the financial transaction, and said that Dr. Broadnax was not available for comment on that date.

Surely, some enterprising reporter could have gotten hold of him by now.

### Citizens' concerns

Some citizens groups are outraged over the recent shooting by a Cincinnati policeman of a Corryville resident who had gone berserk.

An autopsy revealed that the man had been high on alcohol and cocaine.

Concern about the possibility of an excessive use of force by police is always important. But at the same time, of equal concern should be—where the man got the cocaine.

### Planning for all contingencies

Changes in property values for "Friends of Joe" DeCourcy will now be bringing in an additional \$1.1 million.

Costs to prosecute and defend the former Hamilton County Auditor have already passed \$800,000. And before it's over, legal fees will eat up the entire amount that's been recovered.

Maybe the taxpayers should have hired an ambulance chaser like Eugene Rothchild. His commercials state he gets paid only after we collect, and his share would only be 33 percent.



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

### No blue-ribbon panel needed here

If the County Commissioners are really serious about cutting Hamilton County's expenditures, they should look no further than their own office.

In years past, just one Administrative Assistant served the needs of all three Commissioners. In 1990, that changed. What with Bob Taft's statewide campaign and Steve Chabot's ascension to glory, the normally tight-fisted

Commissioners saw their way to hire an Administrative Assistant for each of them. That's now three where but one used to toil. The costs is about \$100,000 per year.



Here are their names and official duties as nearly as can be determined:

**Jana Morford** - produces the county newsletter. **Paul Fallon** - spends most of his time at Republican Headquarters. **Mike Cantwell** - "the barber of Westwood."

If all the other elected county officials and judges are being asked to pare their budgets five or ten percent, why should the Commissioners themselves be exempt from biting the bullet?

And why do they need three Administrative Assistants anyhow? County Administrator Tom Wenz and the secretaries do all the work. And most importantly, this year's elections are over.

### DeCourcy still incompetent

It's nice to get progress reports every once in a while telling us that **Joe DeCourcy** is still not able to stand trial for the accident he caused a year ago while driving drunk in his county car.

But one thing you never see is who is paying the bills.

Nursing home care is expensive.

Are the taxpayers footing the bill?

How long will it last?

When will his victim get paid?

Somebody should ask.



### The case of the passionate pasta

The sentencing of **Nicola Iannone**, the Italian-born restaurateur, for drugging two Mt. Auburn women with tainted linguine sauce so he could take their clothes off and make videos, caused a real problem at *The Whistleblower* last week.

Several *Whistleblower* columnists complained that they alone had the rights to the story: **John Quichwarmer** felt that because the tape had been submitted to "America's Funniest Home Videos" the story belonged in "Boobs on the Tube."

**Sara Lee Pearce** wanted to cover the story in her "Restaurant Review."

**Marilyn Harris** wanted to reprint the recipe in "Leftovers are My Life."

**Frank Weikel** and **Simon Leis** wanted to cover the story in their "At the Dirty Movies."

**Cammy Lee Gifford** wanted to rant and rave in her "Feminine Foolishness."

Advertising executive **Jerry Galvin** offered to cover the story because Iannone was arrested while in the offices of **Jay Schloemer**, president of Stockton, West Burkhardt, one of Galvin's competitors.

**Sidney Shyster** thought that because it was a court case, the story should be covered in "Legal Briefs."

**Andy Furburger** said women-drugging should be covered in "Spoiled Sports."

The story, however, was assigned to our noted sex-therapist **Connie Lingus**.

She thought it was just the ki of hard-news story she could sink her teeth into.



## Cheap Shots

### Child's play



Many people have a problem remembering how many days are in a month.

Well, it's easy, if only you recall this simple little children's poem:

Thirty days hath September, April, June, and November. And Buz Lukens.

### PR coup

City Councilman Nick Vehr has been given the "Fiery Cross Award" for doing the most to promote attendance at KKK rallies.

"That business with the masks was brilliant. Nick got us more publicity than anyone ever believed possible," said one Klansman. "That's why we're thinking of giving Nick's ad agency our entire account."



### Another dues increase



Some members of the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce were upset at this year's dues increase.

It now costs individuals \$300 per year, just to belong.

But just think how upset they'd be if the members knew how much money Chamber President John Williams is being paid.

### Making the heart grow fonder

Pity the poor Democrats, trying their best to attract quality candidates for this year's city council race.

Tim Riker gets called up for 42 days of Coast Guard training and may even be sent to the Persian Gulf in March.

It's probably not such a bad idea. The citizens would certainly vote for any candidate who could not be within 8000 miles of the city.



### Good-bye Columbus



Jan. 14 will be a day of mixed emotions for Ohioans.

It's Dick Celeste's last day in office.

The news media is advised that all the boos and cheers they hear will mean the same thing.



## Another Real Guest Editorial by Bunky Tadwell

*Bunky Tadwell, whose column normally appears in this space, is vacationing at the Tadwell compound in Southampton, and will return next week. This guest editorial was left on our doorstep along with a pint of wine in a brown paper bag.*

As sure as there will be a Super Bowl, area newswatchers are in for an overdose of news coverage on the county budget crisis and the sales tax increase that will surely occur.

No less an authority on local affairs as *The Whistleblower* pointed this out months ago.

Commissioners have been busy for weeks looking at ways to save money in every county department except their own. They told elected officials to cut their budgets by 5 to 10 percent, but the budget proposals which were presented exceed projected revenues by \$ 24 million.

Sheriff Simon Leis says he can't feed his felons for less. Prosecutor Art Ney says the cost for subpoenas is going up. Municipal Court Judge Al Mestemaker is tired of criminals laughing at him when he tells them to take a number before serving their jail sentences. Lame-duck Auditor Mike Maloney is looking the other way while former Deputy Auditor Mickey Esposito unionizes the auditor's office. Clerk of Courts Joe Deters has not yet begun to give pay raises to his friends and relatives. And Judge Ron Panioto just gave his referees 24 percent raises.

Anticipated revenues of \$ 1.1 million resulting from property tax increases to "Friends of Joe" won't amount to a hill of beans after taxpayers foot the bill for

legal costs to prosecute and defend the former auditor.

The cleaning company has promised to repay the county for all the "900 sex calls" their employees made.

But the county just decided to kick in a fast \$2 million for the bridge to Covington.

Commissioners Sandra Beckwith and Steve Chabot have said "no new taxes." Bob Taft wisely resigned early to begin the gerrymandering process for Republican officeholders as Ohio's new Secretary of State.

Chabot, of course, wants to appoint a blue-ribbon panel to study how county operations can be more efficient. Any recommendations such a panel might make won't be in time to solve this budget crisis, and Chabot will be able to duck the blame for the forthcoming tax increase at re-election time.

GOP party boss Ralph Kohen has counseled his commissioner to "keep an open mind" about raising taxes.

Case closed. Yes, Virginia, there will be a tax increase in Hamilton County.

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





## Real Letters from Real Readers

Sirs:  
If there's anything I want to be remembered for, it's my integrity.

Tom Luken

Sirs:  
Sorry we had to raise the price of the Sunday Enquirer to \$1.50. But after all, it costs us a lot of money to deliver all those advertising circulars.

George Blake

Sirs:  
Got anything we can investigate?  
Channel 9's "I-Team"

Sirs:  
We liked your story "Yes, Virginia...there is Corruption at the Courthouse" in Issue # 30 so much that we took it, changed all your references to "corruption at the courthouse" to "Santa Claus," and ran it as our lead editorial on Christmas Eve.

Who says we don't know what to do with a good story when we see it.

The Cincinnati Post

Sirs:  
Who says downtown developers aren't doing everything possible to keep their tenants happy.

Our landlord is even sending back our rent checks.

Henry Dorfman

Sirs:  
Watching John Glenn and the other Senators at the Senate Ethics Hearings is really confusing.

It's hard to tell which Senators are being investigated, and which are doing the investigating.

Perhaps each group should wear different colored uniforms and change sides after every quarter.

Charles Keating

Sirs:  
Maybe we should call it the "2018 Plan."  
Dwight Hibbard

Sirs:  
Why is it such a big deal when I play a round of golf at an all-white country club? It will be interesting to see if the news media asks the same questions when all those city officials, judges, and business leaders show up to hear Pete Rose speak at the "Sports Stag" at Western Hills County Club in Cincinnati.

Dan Quayle

Sirs:  
The true measure of a man is the size of his office.

Tyrone Yates

Sirs:  
Because you kept harping about my residency status I had to drop out of the race for Cincinnati city council. Well, hope you're proud of yourselves. At least you won't have me to kick around any more.

Betty Mauer



## Another Exclusive Whistleblower Report

### Pete Marino

Hamilton County Veterans Relief Commission



Bilked funds from county!

18 The Whistleblower Sleaze Card Series

Here's something else to put on your calendar for Jan. 15.

Besides everything else in the world that's going on that day, Special Prosecutor Tim Oliver has until then to initiate action to obtain repayment of \$ 27,327 from Pete Marino, according to the findings of a state audit released Sept. 18.

Marino is paid \$44,964 per year as administrator of the Hamilton County Veteran's Relief Commission.

Oliver, the Warren County Prosecutor, was appointed to pursue recovery of the money after Hamilton Prosecutor Art Ney declined to handle the matter because of his long-time friendship with Marino.

Marino, who according to his listing in the legal directory, runs his private law practice out of the courthouse, continues the tradition of using that office as a conduit for untold benefits for county officials.

The audit also cites Marino's former executive assistant Evelyn Smith, who has already been sentenced for theft.

Marino appears to be well qualified for such activities, having gotten his early training as an advertising salesman for WCPO-TV.

Oliver has been waiting for the county to reconstruct certain files and records before approaching Marino for the money. Marino, has denied the allegations and said he isn't obligated to repay the funds.



## At the Dirty Movies with Weikel & Leis



This week Frank Weikel and Simon Leis have spent all afternoon in the sheriff's office reviewing Madonna's "Justify My Love" video. Let's listen in:

"It was another erotic masterpiece, Si. It's a genuinely sexy video that celebrates a woman's sexual awakenings with unabashed enthusiasm."

"Right, Frank, even better than Madonna's earlier works. It's an exceptional work—gorgeous and tremendously entertaining, with fabulously talented actors."

"I call it a perfect 10, Si. Voyeuristic and fascinating."

"And the sexual scenes were so realistic, weren't they, Frank?"

"I'll say, Si. Great penetration, athletic thrusting. One of the best hump films I've seen in years."

"Obviously we both enjoyed it, Frank...I guess that means we both give it 'Thumbs up.'"

"Thumbs up hell, Si...neither of us will be able to stand up straight for a week."





## Traffic Tie-Ups

by John Phillips Sousa

This is a very momentous week for me. Not only am I proud to be part of the most influential publication in Cincinnati, but I also get to unveil the very latest in traffic reporting technology.

Now that's some pretty heady stuff. As some of you may have noticed, I have had occasional problems getting air borne, due to mechanical problems and a lack of a back-up helicopter. Well, never more. I am very proud to display here for the first time my "Head-O-Copter." Now I'll have no excuse for daily down time or the infrequent two weeks without getting it up.

I still have a few minor flaws to work out, mainly the inability to keep my body from spinning faster than a dog stuck on the tire of a Mack truck. Until I work out the bugs, I can still pick up some spare cash boring holes for power poles and a fencing company. Besides, my sex life has improved immeasurably.



## Boobs on the Tube

by John Quichewarmer

WKRC-TV General Manager Terry Connelly threatened a law suit this week against a company advertising a battery-operated emergency two-way radio system for sick people prone to falling while alone in their homes.

The subject of the complaint was a commercial showing Debra Silberstein in an advanced stage of pregnancy lying askew on the news set floor with a Channel 12 banner in the background. Debra is heard crying, "Help me! I've fallen and I can't get up!"

"That's not funny," said Connelly. "There's a thin line between a satirical advertisement and libel. It's just like the weasel who keeps making the 911 calls from our newsroom and whispers, 'We're dying. We're dying. Come help us.' It's just not funny."



**Coming next issue:  
Combat Correspondent  
reports from Saudi  
Arabia  
exclusively in**

**The Whistleblower**



## Landslide Charlie Goes to Congress

### Landslide Charlie sued by Capitol custodian



John Evers, a 23 year employee of the Congressional Maintenance Department of the U.S. government, has filed suit in U.S. District Court alleging that freshman Congressman Charlie Luken has brought "undue hardship to his professional integrity."

It seems that young Luken, having less clout than a TV evangelist these days in the nation's capitol, was awarded a bucket and rag closet for an office, the smallest confines of the entire 1991 Congressional class. Guess whose closet? Right. Evers'.

"I'll be making over \$125,000 of hard tax money," Charlie said. "He makes a nickel ninety-eight. He can hang his wet rags over the end of his broom handle. But I need a place to lay out my important papers," he added, in defense of his commandeering the maintenance man's storage closet.

Several Congressional aides passing Luken's tiny office heard loud shouting and several glass objects crashing against the wall.

"That must be Luken interviewing for his Washington staff," one aide explained. "It's nice to seem him carrying on the family tradition."

## Solomon's building burns



WCKY Radio talk-show host Stan Solomon is the winner of the "Eric Warren Award." The prize is given by local insurance companies to media personalities whose rental property burns and arson is suspected. Fire officials estimated damage at \$250,000 to a two-story brick building Solomon owns at 7607 Reading Road last week.

Cincinnati Federation of Teachers President Tom Mooney, who has often called Solomon a "disgraceful slumlord," was quick to point out that Solomon's Reading Road building was not among the properties reported as having been cited for numerous citations by the city's Building and Inspection Department in the Nov. 13 *Whistleblower*. "That property is located at 2015 Weron Road," Mooney clarified.

Mooney also pointed out that the Reading Road property that burned is not Solomon's building at 3896 Reading Road, where tenants complained to officials about shutoffs of heat and power and lack of maintenance.

"I just wanted to make that clear," Mooney added.



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## Bluegrass Holler

by Ken Camboo

Here's what some of Northern Kentucky's movers and shakers found under the tree this Christmas. It wasn't necessarily what they wanted, but certainly what they deserved.

**NKU President Leon Boothe:** A trainload of Z-brick to make his school look less like a prison and more like a college.



**Governor Wallace Wilkinson:** A pair of elevator shoes so he is as tall as the Japanese investors he deals with.

**First Lady Martha Wilkinson:** A public approval rating higher than Saddam Hussein's.

**Ex-state Rep Bill McBee:** A case of Maker's Mark to replace the freebies he used to get as a member of the state's Alcoholic Beverage Control committee, which he will not be lobbying as a private citizen.

**Joe Condit and Joe Meyer:** Dueling pistols and enough ammo to get the job done.

**Kenton County Judge Executive Clyde Middleton:** A copy of the Nelson Mandela guide to minority politics.

**William T. Robinson III:** A bridge to Newport as consolation for the one that Cincinnati didn't give him.

**Kentucky Post Editor Judith Clabes:** Appointment to another corporate Board of Directors to enhance her status as an objective journalist.



**Kenton County Airport Board:** A sensible name for the Greater Cincinnati International Airport owned by Kenton County and located in Boone County.

**Newport Economic Development Director Laura Long:** A set of pasties with the H.J. Heinz logo.

**Exotic dancer Elyise LeShay:** A set of pasties with the logo of the Northern Kentucky Visitors Bureau.

**Ben Bernstein:** Flood insurance and hip boots.

**Ex-State Senator Patti Weaver:** An invitation to Bill McBee's for Christmas drinks and a designated driver.

**Senatorial loser Gordon Martin:** A ride to Bill McBee's party with Patti Weaver and a case of near beer.

**The Kentucky Enquirer:** A full-time staff that doesn't have to read the Kentucky Post for story ideas.

**Covington Mayor Denny Bowman:** An unlimited expense account for taking big-city officials like Cincinnati Mayor David Mann to lunch at the Conservatory.



## J. R. Hatfield

Northern Kentucky Bureau Chief

### Kentucky Democratic Party declared brain dead

FRANKFORT—Good old boys crying in their juleps over the untimely passing of the Democratic Party in Kentucky. The party was officially declared brain dead by State Representative Kenny Rapier of Bardstow, who told reporters, "Kentucky has no Democratic Party. I think we have reached the peak of our downward plunge. We've let it slip over the last decade."

The party lost consciousness shortly after the election of Governor Wilkinson and encountered further decline after a prolonged bout of Republican Fever in 1990. Efforts by House Speaker Don Blandford failed to resuscitate the ailing patient. Blandford was unaware that the proper CPR procedure was to blow rather than suck. "Old habits die hard," he said.

Not even a cash infusion of \$250,000 from Louisville matriarch Mary Bingham could rally the fading giant. The party has required four chairpersons in the

past three years. Its dwindling strength was evidenced by its anemic presence during the November elections. "The Democratic Party didn't do anything for anybody," said Covington Senator Joe Meyer.

### Right to Lifers protest decision to pull plug

Right to Life protesters have been a daily presence on the lawn of the Governor's Mansion while Wilkinson pouts over the decision to pull the plug. "We will not stand witness to the senseless destruction of a living organism, no matter how low life it may be," said spokesperson Wendy Raver from Frankfort. "As long as there is a dollar left in the Bluegrass, we will see that it is force-fed to the Democratic Party, even if we have to re-insure the feeding tube ourselves."

## Names in the News

Corporex honcho **Bill Butler** was plenty miffed when IRS announced there would be using a Nashville developer to build a new office tower in Covington.



When pushed for reasons for the out-of-town decision, an anonymous source at IRS confessed that the team they sent to review local projects was still lost in the RiverCenter garage.

State Senator **Joe Meyer** will be leading efforts to draft a law to make vote buying illegal. A recent Kentucky Supreme Court ruling restored the time honored tradition in the Commonwealth by declaring that an earlier bill passed by the General Assembly was "too value." How clear do you want it?

Kenton County Judge Executive **Clyde Middleton** is rounding up a posse to crack down on truck ban violators on Death Hill.

A Task Force of the 329 towns that line I-75 between the airport and the river will study the matter.

Newport City Manager **Jim Parsons** was all hopped up over the way city commissioners and department heads passed recent voluntary drug testing. This should assure the citizens that Newport is not run by dopes. It just seems that way.

Congressman **Jim Bunning**, who came close to being named to the Baseball Hall of Fame last year, is in his final year on the ballot in 1991.

