



THE PLAIN DEALER

Cheers & Jeers

Friday, May 05, 2006

CHEERS . . .

to the members of the Leathernecks Motor Club International Inc. and other volunteers who spent last Saturday fixing up the Parma property of Staff Sgt. Dan Priestley, a Marine Corps reservist recovering from serious leg injuries suffered last year in Iraq. Priestly, who has already undergone 22 operations on his legs, with two more planned, hopes to return to active service once he's healed.

JEERS . . .

to Cleveland City Councilman Zack Reed, who continued to enjoy the Warehouse District bar scene despite a probation order that he not drink and drive. Now he's experiencing an altogether different bar scene - a 10-day stay in jail. Cleveland Municipal Judge Joan Synenberg pushed him to an admission that he has an alcohol problem, but it seemed half-hearted at best.

CHEERS . . .

to the Ohio News Network (ONN) for providing more than five hours of comprehensive, election night coverage of Tuesday's primary.

JEERS . . .

to ONN for the atrocious decision to give lobbyists Neil Clark and Paul Tipps hours of airtime as Election Night "commentators." Care- ful not to offend their clients, Tipps and Clark added absolutely nothing of value to the broadcast. They should have been required to pay for their nightlong infomercial.

CHEERS . . .

to the organizations and volunteers who comprise Cuyahoga County's Earned Income Tax Credit Coalition. Thanks to their efforts, some 2,500 low-income residents got their tax returns done free and they will be getting refunds totaling nearly \$3 million.

JEERS . . .

to the two photographers who got so close to a family of bald eagles nesting at LaDue Reservoir in Geauga County that they scared the adults away, leaving the two eaglets to die. Bald eagles are making a comeback in Ohio, but they're still best viewed from a distance.

CHEERS . . .

to the Greater Cleveland Film Commission, the city of Cleveland, COSE and all of the downtown residents and workers whose hard work and cooperation helped the shooting of "Spider-Man 3" go so smoothly. And thanks to Spidey's crew for spending several million dollars in town. Let's hope there are more such projects to come.

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