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# THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER

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Five backing Mallory need one new member to retain balance

## Council majority up for grabs

By Jane Prendergast  
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Cincinnati voters will elect at least one new person to City Council, and that choice could shift the balance of power enough to change decisions on spending, safety and taxes.

The council has split 5-4 on key money-related issues that affect the lives of the city's more than 332,000 residents. In fact, it's the most divided council since at least

### More inside

■ Where candidates stand on issues including police layoffs and city revenues. **A10**

■ Our endorsements for Cincinnati mayor and City Council. **F2**

1992, an Enquirer analysis of votes shows.

Grappling with a dramatic drop in the city's biggest single pot of revenue – the 2.1 percent earnings tax paid by businesses, residents

and suburbanites who work in the city – the current factions sharply disagree on how best to spend that dwindling money.

The balance of City Council may never have been more important, given that the city faces its worst deficit projection ever: \$51.5 million.

Challengers like Democrat Tony Fischer figure they need about 26,000 votes to get elected.

One of the majority seats is definitely open: that of Vice Mayor Da-

vid Crowley, who cannot run again because of term limits.

Greg Harris, appointed in January to former Councilman John Cranley's seat, has just nine months of incumbency, possibly making him vulnerable. The majority five are all Democrats, though Roxanne Qualls was last elected to council as a Charterite.

If both those seats go to candidates who side with the current

### ELECTION 2009

This week, the Enquirer is spotlighting local races on the Nov. 3 ballot. To read more, go to Cincinnati.Com and click on the Elections page.

**Coming Monday:** Some of the more unusual issues and campaigns around Greater Cincinnati.

See **COUNCIL**, Page **A10**

■ **DAN GILBERT**

## Iconoclast betting on downtown

Mortgage magnate sees hope in casinos

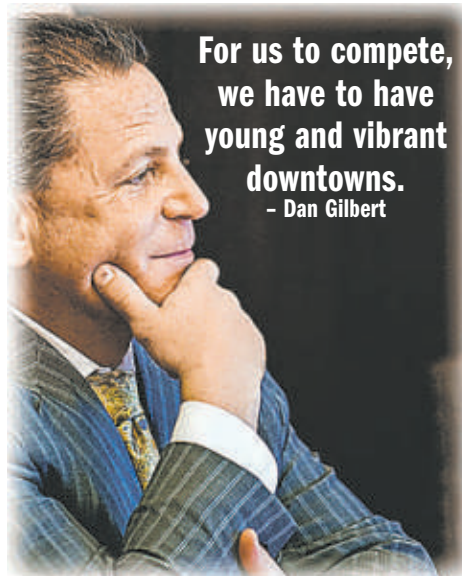
By Alexander Coolidge  
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Part motivational speaker, part maverick, Detroit entrepreneur Dan Gilbert motivates his employees with an anti-corporate workplace, a go-get-'em sales culture and a roguish sense of fun.

Gilbert – the man who could own downtown casinos in Cincinnati and Cleveland, if Ohio voters legalize them next month – routinely whisks top-performing employees by the busload to home games of his basketball team, the Cleveland Cavaliers, and other events. He lets hundreds of employees work half days once a week or from home. He's even been known to spray workers with a squirt gun at formal company events.

A serial entrepreneur from a young age, Gilbert ran a pizza-delivery business when he was 12 out of his mother's kitchen – before local pizza shops had the health department shut him down. He got his real estate broker's license when he was 19. He started his Internet mortgage business, Quicken Loans – now the nation's No. 6 retail mortgage lender – with just \$5,000 while he was still a first-year law student in 1985.

See **GILBERT**, Page **A4**



For us to compete, we have to have young and vibrant downtowns.  
- Dan Gilbert

'Having someone support you no matter what, it's a beautiful thing.'

## CHRIS HENRY: FAMILY GUY



Photos by Jeff Swinger/The Enquirer

The Bengals' Chris Henry relaxes at his Wyoming home with fiancée Loleini Tonga and their kids (from left) DeMarcus, 10 months, Seini, 3, and Chris Jr., 2. Off the field, Henry says, his focus on his family has helped him turn his life around.

## What a difference a year makes

By Joe Reedy  
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A year ago, the name "Chris Henry" was usually heard in this context: Why did the Bengals ever bring him back?

But in the last 12 months, Henry has gone a long way toward shedding his image as a poster child for bad behavior. Today, his name is more likely to raise the question: When's he going to start getting the ball?

Henry scored a touchdown in each of this season's four preseason games, the first time any Bengal has done that. A quad strain has slowed him through the first five games of the regular season, but Henry's off-the-field comeback is still going strong.

It's fitting that on a team full of cast-

offs, the fifth-year receiver was himself jettisoned by the Bengals before getting a second chance.

And, after a recent sports talk radio show interview, during which callers asked why he wasn't on the field more, Henry mused about the change in perception.

"Crazy isn't it?" he said.

But it all makes sense to his agent, Andy Simms.

"He's having fun and enjoying a fresh start," Simms said.

"He knows he would love to be out there every play, but he knows his role on the team. I see a guy happy with himself as well. It's all a continuation in the maturation process."

See **HENRY**, Page **A6**



The tattoo is permanent, but a year ago, Chris Henry's NFL status was anything but.

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### SPORTS

#### Bengals-Texans on local TV, barely

Fans waited hours Saturday for the last tickets to today's 1 p.m. game at Paul Brown Stadium – and columnist Paul Daugherty wonders why they bothered. **C1**

■ Rosters, stats and full pre-game coverage. **C7-9**

### IN A&E



Emily Gotschall

#### A ballet tour de force

Cincinnati Ballet and BalletMet Columbus have joined forces for a production of "Swan Lake." They're in Columbus this weekend, with as many as 24 swans onstage at one time, then will open here on Friday. **D1**

### SUNDAY FORUM

#### Ballot initiatives: Freedom or chaos?

Rhetoric over ballot issues such as casino gambling or streetcars fuels a debate over whether initiatives and referendums are democracy at its best, or a move that hampers government and tramples minority rights. **F1**

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