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THE NEW charge accused  
Novel of conspiring with Da-  
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## ADMITS INTERVIEWS

# TV Newsman Denies Connection with Novel

By DUANE ST. CLAIR,  
Of The Dispatch Staff

TV newsman and outdoor columnist Richard L. Paugh said reports that the controversial Gordon Novel dealt with Paugh's part-time Gahanna news operation were "hokum."

Paugh confirmed Saturday that he had interviewed Novel nearly two weeks ago and that he had a telephone conversation with the former New Orleans night club operator "about a week ago."

Gahanna officials theorized Novel may have been living in the office which Paugh visits "two or three afternoons a week."

PAUGH SAID that if "any strangers" were around the building, he would know about it.

Paugh doubted anyone was living in the building which has two other businesses—the Rocky Fork Enterprise weekly newspaper and a PTA "trading post" — because there are no apparent living quarters and only one toilet in the building. He was uncertain of the building owner's name.

A WTVN-TV newsman,  
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Paugh

Paugh, who writes a col-  
umn for the weekly Spectator  
denied that through his bus-  
iness, Maverick News Serv-  
ice, 74 Mill St., Gahanna, he  
had dealings with Novel.

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