News coverage to be expanded in '92

It's hard to believe that summer is half over and we're working on fall issues and planning for 1992. Just the other day, registration forms for the GCSA showed up! In case you haven't received yours, date is Feb. 10-17, 1992, in New Orleans, La. I recently met with our editors to plan our editorial features for 1992. I can assure you Golf Course News will expand our editorial coverage into some exciting new areas. The editorial features appear monthly and I will share the upcoming schedule as soon as it is finalized. Since my last column appeared, I've had some interesting travel, meeting new business leaders along the way. A good part of the time was spent in the Northwest at two field day events. (Our editorial staff cover a few of those events on page 47.)

Charles von Brecht

This was my first full exposure to these educational and fun events. Both events I attended at Jacklin Seed and The American Turfgrass Association practice facility in Berryville, Ark., for people undergoing physical rehabilitation.

The two projects are the first in the country for the physically challenged individual. Ms. Hicks, who's been in the turfgrass world for two decades, saw the potential for a special course and this year started a golf program for the disabled in an effort to create an ongoing program for the handicapped around the country and finds a group of golfing hopefuls/physically challenged wherever he goes.

She and the therapists and officials at Edwin Shaw agree a handicapped person does have a proclivity for golf and the game has improved self-esteem. Indeed, the spirits of all involved in these two projects should measure higher on the Richter scale of satisfaction.

One person gratified by the two efforts is Bob Wilson, executive director of the National Amputee Golf Association. He called the two efforts "pioneering" and said he was anxious to see their playability and the response of the public.

Wilson conducts clinics for the handicapped around the country and finds a group of golfing hopefuls/physically challenged wherever he goes.

As the golf industry expands along the West Coast, I'm quite sure that I'm not the only one who is interested in the growth. The industry is growing and the potential is huge. But the question is, how do we get to it? How do we get to it? How do we get to it? How do we get to it? How do we get to it?

Tim Hiers

While the Trojan horse was wheeled inside the fortified walls of Troy, the inhabitants of Troy perceived it as a gift. It was a tragic misperception that cost them their freedom and their lives.

Today, perception plays a key role in society's decision-making. We are simply too busy (or think we are) making up our minds to bother to find out things for ourselves. This is one example of the way in which the perception of our society vulnerable to those who want to promote their own agenda by manipulating perceptions.

Many Americans perceive that pesticides are a great cause of cancer and death in this country. Yet science (without politics) is telling us not nearly as different. The average life span in the United States is approaching 76, while in the year 1900 it was 47.

Are we getting longer because we eat more organic food? No, we ate more organic food 91 years ago. Today it's Pizza Hut and MacDonald's.

Is it because we exercise more? No. Could you imagine a farmer after 10 hours plowing fields needing to go to a health club for exercise some nine decades ago? I believe technology, including medicine, and properly used pesticides are the primary reasons Americans are living longer. Our society, especially a good majority of those under the age of 50, takes many things for granted.

American realist, Harry Golden once commented: "The arrogance of the young is a direct result of not having known enough consequences. The turkey that even greedily approaches the farmer who tosses him grain is not wrong. It is just that no one ever told him about Thanksgiving." If we were students of severe history or economics, we would know that the next thing that is going to happen is a health care for the elderly without the government paying for it.

"Habits are first cobwebs and then cables." Samuel Johnson took it a step further, "The chains of habit are formed by repetition and thrown down only by effort." And in our times, we are repeating a cycle of habit failures.

"If we are ever to fail utterly as a nation, it will be in our failure to move on. If we do not move on, we will become stagnant and fail in our ability to meet the demands of the future." - R. W. McKee

I believe there are six key steps to take in order to move on. The first is to be aware of the habits that are going to work against us. The second is to recognize the changes that are happening in our lives. The third is to accept the challenges that come with change. The fourth is to find new ways to meet these challenges. The fifth is to take action based on these new ways. The sixth is to evaluate the effectiveness of these actions and make adjustments as necessary.

Peter Meadows, of Australia, has dubbed them "too-terrorists." They attempt (and have been successful at large) to appear to be environmentalists, but in reality they represent America's modern-day Trojan horse.

Their goals and agenda are fairly simple: Use the environmental movement as a hidden tool to promote socialism or Marxism and to bring capitalism down through the system.

Let me clarify, this does not refer to all environmentalists — only those with ulterior motives.

It has been said, "The more dangerous untruths are truths moderately distorted." This is where the p.e.'s excel.

By using fear, distorted reports and lies of public knowledge, they can fool our government and its agencies into making counter-productive decisions. These same p.e.'s are attacking the government and its intervention in our lives while supporting legislation to increase the size of government and its control of private industry.

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