

Recognizing 2004's MAGCS Scholarship Winners: Patrick Maguire, Brianne Smith, Kelley Murray and Anthony Doruff

In July, the MAGCS awarded \$1,000 scholarships to four deserving students. Patrick Maguire, (John Maguire, J.W. Turf) was honored with the George Minnis Memorial Scholarship; Brianne Smith (Peggy and Jeff Smith, Springbrook G.C.) won the first-ever Paul Burdett Scholarship; Kelley Murray (Jill and Dan Murray, CGCS, Settler's Hill G.C.) won the at-large scholarship; Tony Doruff (Sharon and Ron Doruff, Steeple Chase G.C.) earned the John Buck Memorial Scholarship. These bright young people earned the scholarships based on academic achievement, financial need and essays responding to the following topic: What would you say to the men and women of the United States military who are fighting the war in Iraq?

Patrick Maguire

The men and women in the United States military are some of the bravest people in the world. To be a member of the U.S. military is to be a member of the most elite fighting force in the world. Many people are not cut out for war. Some people do not even have the stomach to fire a weapon. I have the deepest respect for those people that are occupying the Middle East. Many of these men and women have not seen their families in almost a year. I sympathize with them and respect their determination to keep fighting.

Soldiers in Iraq face many adversities. The very weather of Iraq is fighting the soldiers. With temperatures of over a hundred during the day and near freezing at night, it can be hard to have the strength to fight. What I see as the hardest part of being a soldier in Iraq is that the people they are fighting for show their gratitude by attacking and killing the U.S. soldiers. The people of Iraq have been so brainwashed that they do not realize the U.S. soldiers are there to help them. To be able to carry on when no one appreciates you is what I respect most about the soldiers in Iraq. There is one main message that I would like to give the soldiers in Iraq: I respect what you are doing and hope you know that your work does not go unappreciated.

Brianne Smith

The one thing I have to say to the men and women in the U.S. military is spoken in the classic *Wayne's World* way: "We're not worthy! We're not worthy!" Okay, I know this seems a little weird, but I've put a lot of thought into this quote. My first reaction, of course, was to thank the troops for saving us and tell them that I support them and all, but I realize that the troops hear this constantly, and one eighteen-year-old girl from the Midwest reiterating it for the millionth time isn't going to mean much to them. I would imagine that the troops need some way to take their minds off things, and escape their situation for awhile, and what better way to do that than to have some goofy girl repeating a *Wayne's World* quote? Not only would it hopefully make them laugh and forget the bad things in the world for awhile, but it would also remind them of home and one of the many things that they are fighting for. I chose this specific quote because while doing the above things, it also shows respect for the troops and sends the constant message of support that I would hope to get across. So for all these reasons, to show the troops support while reminding them of a weird part of American culture and mostly just to make them laugh for awhile, I would say to the troops, "We're not worthy!"

Kelley Murray

My older brother chose to join the military in 2001, which was before September 11th had happened. At that time I honestly did not have any feelings one way or the other about him or anyone else being in the military. When September 11th happened I really started to worry about him being in the military and getting shipped out to Iraq. Many men and women were sent over there to protect their friends and family from the people who terrorized our country from the moment that first plane hit the Trade Center. My older brother did get sent to Kuwait for several months just before last Christmas. It was hard not knowing if a bomb would hit his tent, or a shooting would send him home in a box. I struggled with the thought of him dying for the country we all live in. I realized that it was his choice to join, his choice to protect and serve his country; just as it is for all the other people who have joined before and after him. I now have many emotions and feelings towards those who chose to join the military . . . God bless you all. It takes a strong decent human being to be able to say, "Yes, I will die protecting my country." I do not know if I am that person, so I commend those who are able to say that and go on protecting our country from all the bad things that could happen.

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exciting things that are happening on the golf course.

I can't tell you how many times I have had peers tell me the Rodney Dangerfield line, "I don't get no respect." Perhaps it is because we don't do a great job of developing our own public relations campaigns. It has been said that the three key steps to promoting your success are:

- Do the right thing.
- Do the right thing.
- Tell people that you are doing the right thing!

To be successful and receive the respect you are due, you must recognize opportunities and take advantage of them. When you get a chance to attend board meetings, committee meetings, golf advisory meetings, etc., welcome the opportunity. Prepare well for these meetings and be certain to present your message professionally, either verbally or in print. Too many people shy away from these opportunities. When you are invited to the guest day banquet, don't turn the chance down. Sure, you got up at 4 a.m., but you owe it to yourself and your crew to rub elbows with the

players and receive the accolades for the great golf course.

When problems arise on the golf course, don't allow someone else to tell your story. I never want to depend on a waiter, bartender, golf shop employee, etc. to explain why we have some thin areas on the golf course. The message is sure to get mixed up and perhaps put you in a bad light. Be accessible when problems exist. People typically want to know three things when trouble happens on the golf course.

- What happened?
- What are you going to do about it?
- When will it be back to normal?

Nobody can carry the message better than you. Communicate it every way you can until the problem is resolved.

A picture is worth a thousand words. Use pictures as a vehicle to communicate your successes or to demonstrate areas that need improvement. In this era, we should all learn to utilize digital photography and PowerPoint to make powerful presentations to promote programs and projects. It is a tool that can make us all look

pretty good in front of our employers.

While space does not allow me to expand on the subject, suffice it to say that the largest area for communication improvement is the skill of listening. If you go to the library, you will find hundreds of books on public speaking. However, I doubt if you can find any that deal with listening. Listen to what your golfers want. This can be done through customer evaluations or personal feedback. Don't hear what you want to hear, but try to understand what people are really saying. Don't be defensive. Learn to accept constructive criticism. Employers want people that bring them solutions rather than someone who gives excuses.

Think about the top five superintendents you know. What puts them in this special category of high esteem? Is it their ability to grow grass or is it their ability to communicate? I feel strongly that today the grass-growing is the fundamental part of the job but the ability to communicate is paramount to career success.



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Anthony Doruff

Dear Armed Services Man or Woman,

I would like to personally thank you from the bottom of my heart for everything you have done and will do to maintain our freedoms. Your tireless efforts to protect the United States, along with many other countries, are greatly appreciated by everyone.

I understand some of the risks that you are taking and I don't know

if I would be able to handle such an overwhelming task. You have received possibly the best training in the world, been given many hi-tech pieces of equipment, but you also have to rely on your instincts, which cannot be taught.

I also understand some of the sacrifices you, your family, and friends back home have made for you to be able to defend our way of life. I know they are thinking about you and praying for you every available minute, as

I am sure you are of them.

We are all proud of you and your accomplishments. There aren't the words to tell you how much your work is appreciated. I wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors and a safe trip home to you and all your fellow soldiers. Thank you and God bless.

Sincerely,
Proud American



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