

Protesters picket Hawaiian conference

HONOLULU — About 20 students and senior citizens protesting golf course development in Hawaii picketed the recent International Conference on Resorts and Golf here.

Protester concerns focused on issues of water use and quality, fertilizer and pesticide applications, soaring property values, foreign investments and cultural dilution.

Dr. Michael Hurdzan, a conference speaker and golf course architect from Columbus, Ohio, met with the protesters to discuss their viewpoints and present alternative opinions.

He said he suggested their arguments were founded in emotion, not fact or logic.

"I think the older protesters sincerely listened to my counterpoints and may have softened. The younger ones, on the other hand, simply redirected their frustration at me personally," said Hurdzan.

The protesters recognize that golf is just one small factor changing the social and economic face of Hawaii, but one that can be easily isolated and attacked, he pointed out.

Poll: Hawaiians oppose building more courses

KAILUA, Hawaii — Residents here don't want to see any more golf courses built in their community. That's the conclusion of a recent poll of more than 12,800 households, by the Kailua Neighborhood Board.

Nearly 80 percent of those who responded to the informal survey oppose additional golf course development in the area. Almost 90 percent do not feel drinking water should be used to irrigate golf courses in Windward Oahu, but 85 percent favor using treated waste water for that purpose.

Results of the survey will be sent to each of Kailua's state and country elected officials. Other citizen opinions gleaned in the poll include a thumbs-down on major growth, downtown high rises and guns, and thumbs-up for recycling, and a park-and-ride lot.

Slow Pa. market delays project

WHITPAIN TOWNSHIP, Pa. — A proposed deluxe housing complex and golf course here has been stalled by a tough real-estate market.

The developer of the proposed Ballenrose property, Horsham-based Hansen Properties, Inc., is offering other developers a chance to buy and develop parts of the 500 acre site. While initial plans called for 851 housing units, so far only four model homes have been built.

Even though other developers can buy into the housing plans, Hansen Properties intends to build the 18-hole golf course, which is designed by Arnold Palmer's Palmer Course Design Corp.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

"Their goal is to try to stop all further golf course development. The protest was orderly and was carefully observed by uniformed city police officers from across the street," Hurdzan said, adding there was no disruption to the conference, which was attended by about 400 persons from 20 countries.

"After the conference, I toured one golf course under construction that the protesters specifically felt was a rape of the land," said Hurdzan. "To the uninitiated, golf course construction may seem destructive. But what I saw was a very

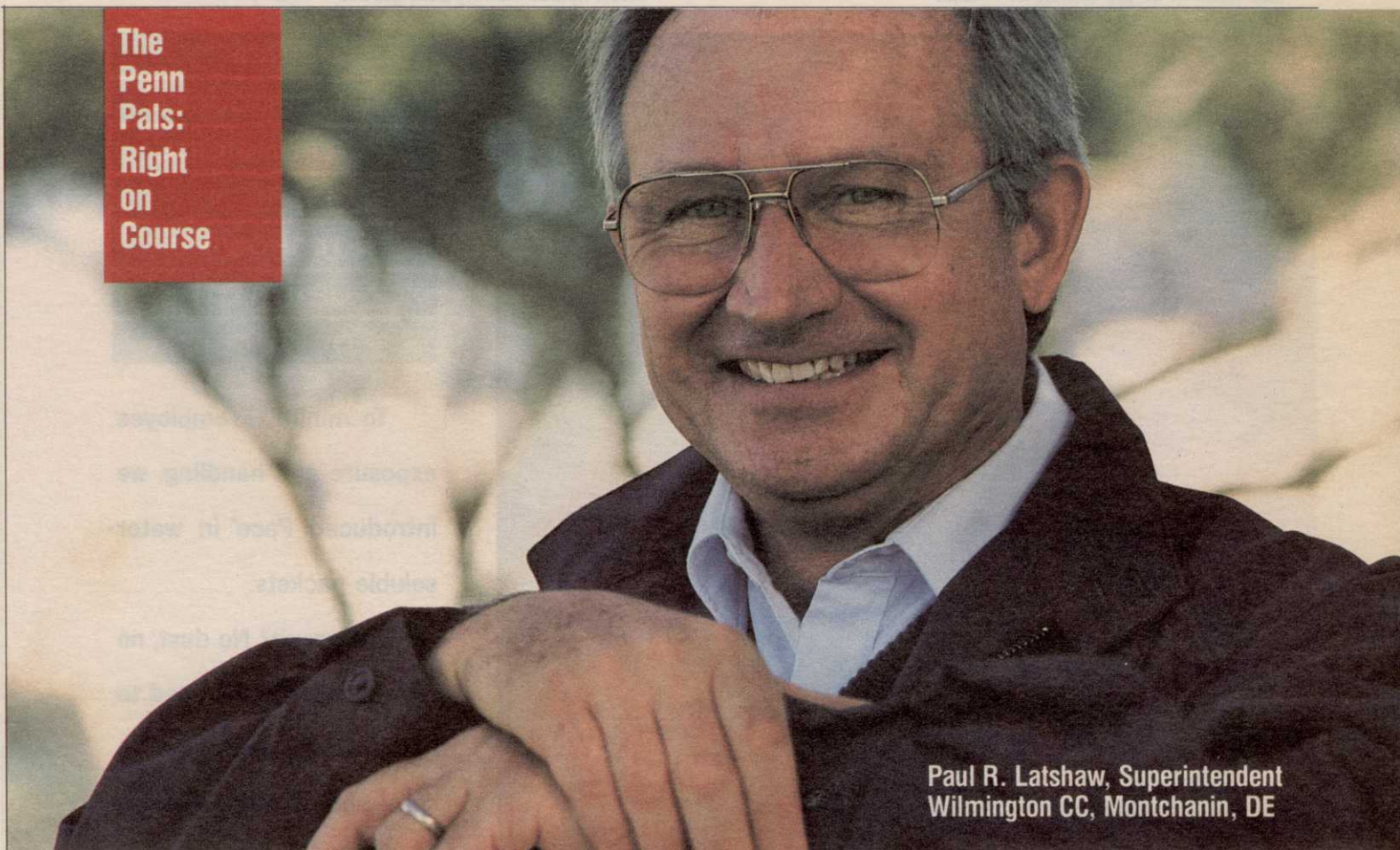
well-orchestrated process that followed all rules and guidelines set forth by the permitting agencies. It was textbook environmental protection despite working around designated natural areas, steep slopes and three squatters' homesteads."

Newspaper and television coverage of the protesters was widespread, but most media sources balanced their reporting with interviews with Gary Player Design Co. President Jim Applegate of , Dean Chuck Gee of the University of Hawaii and himself, Hurdzan said.



Dr. Michael Hurdzan, at right behind picketers, speaks on the issues of development protest.

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