All points bulletin on (place your name here...)

Superin-

are

Did you finally stumble upon those greener pastures?

(Drop us a line.)

Have you secured that plum job at the ritzy club with deep pockets?

(Let us know.)

Or have you stowed away on a steamer bound for Fiji, in search of tropical tranquility and decidedly less snow mold?

(Tell us about it.)

Golf Course News wants to know where you've been all this time. When you move, it can take weeks even months - for the world to catch up.

I know how it is. I've uprooted myself quite a few times over the years — so many, in fact, my



known to be a restless sort. Assistants want to run the show and head supers are always looking for a better situation, a more forgiving climate.

The average superintendent generally spends three to five years at a particular course. This means approximately two percent

of the nation's courses - or about 250 - break in new superintendents every month. Furthermore, upwards of 250 new courses crop up each year — 351 in 1991.

Therefore, each month about 500 of you need to inform us as to your whereabouts.

In theory, one job change can set off a chain reaction affecting large groups of maintenance professionals. On a smaller scale, if someone takes a new job, that someone must be replaced.

In any case, when you've landed that new position, don't keep it a secret. People want to know ... Like that guy you met at the trade show... Or that industry rep with whom you've developed a real rapport... And that guy who may want the job you left behind!

The point is, it's a lot of work to tell every single acquaintance where you've gone to seek your fortune. So, let Golf Course News do it for you.

Every month, we plan to run the definitive list of "who's gone where." We'll come up with a snappy title, like "Who's Gone Where," or something like that.

When you've moved on, send your name, title, new club address and phone number to:

Golf Course News, 38 Lafayette St., Yarmouth, Maine 04096. Throw in your picture, if you like.

We'll do the rest.

ucation, the only protection against

have been

impossible

for us to de-

velop our

plan for the

world if we

had been

subject to the

bright lights

of publicity

during those

years. But,

Vice President Dan Quayle was teeing up at a golfing event recently and a foursome member, NFL football coach Hank Stram, asked, "What's your handicap?"

"Jay Leno," the VP replied with a smile.

The media — the dispensers of information from late-night talk shows to The Wall Street Journal - is powerful. And it can be more than a joke, or a harassment. It can be outrageous. It is often unjust. It can be terribly one-sided. It too often gives in to perversions, because some in it are perverted themselves.

Sorry, but you just can't trust what you see, hear and read in all of the press. And I'm not just talking about the Leno Show and supermarket tabloids.

David Rockefeller, recently addressing the Bildenbergers (global government group) in Germany, began with these ominous words: "We are grateful to The Washington Post, The New York Times, Time Magazine and other great publications whose directors have attended our meeting and respected their promises of discretion for almost 40 years. It would



the world is now more sophisticated and prepared to march towards a world government."

Sounds like major players in the media helped keep the "New World Order" under wraps for four decades!

Misinformation can be found in golf industry circles as well, especially with media coverage of all the public hearings on zoning, environmental and other issues involved with building and maintaining golf courses.

It is easy to grumble at newspapers and television news, and others who affect public opinion. But to do something about abuse, realize there are two major reasons for misinformation in the media: 1) Some report-

PESTICIDE

APPLICATOR

"WE BELIEVE IN A VERY CONSERVATIVE

APPROACH TO THE USE OF CHEMICALS."

ers and editors have "a mission"; 2) others know no better than to believe a lie told by an "expert" who does or ought to know better.

Time science editor Charles Alexander said, "I would freely admit that on this issue we have crossed the boundary from news to advocacy."

Cable News Network environmental editor Barbara Pule said, "I do have an ax to grind. I want to be the little subversive person on TV."

Then, we hear stories of self-proclaimed "experts" who tell all sorts of half-truths and no-truths to planning boards and city councils. Neither the board members nor reporters know the statements are false, and they are reported.

The reporters in those cases are pawns. They need to be educated.

Edith Efron said: "I was particularly interested in understanding the role of the press in disseminating a group of major myths in which environmental cancer is now embedded. The manipulation of the press by scientists, above all by some government scientists, has been so severe that the issue that should concern us is the manipulation, not the press."

PESTICIDE

REMOVER

Even in advertisements - or should that be "especially" in adsfalse impressions and even outright lies run amuck.

Kip Tyler, superintendent at Salem Country Club in Peabody, Mass., and editor of of the newsletter of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England, reported an ad he heard on WBZ radio. Promoting a new public golf course in the area, it professed immaculate playing conditions that, according to the ad, "our other public courses do not."

"I was not aware that the area public courses offer (according to the ad) poor quality playing conditions, parched fairways, and scruffy groundskeeping," Tyler said.

Superintendent Pat Finlen said in an editorial in the Cactus & Pine GCSA's "Cactus Clippings" that a lawn care company's ad asked "Is your lawn poisonous?" and said pesticides could be hazardous to your children and pets if they were applied to your lawn.

Reading the company's claim to use alternatives to "all-chemical lawn care," Finlen said: "What I found offensive was not that they had alternatives, but that they chose to label all others as being poisonous, toxic chemicals."

Finlen called the firm and discovered its program consisted of using organic fertilizer. But when it came to getting rid of broadleaf weeds, the company would use potassium salt to selectively burn out weeds if he had little or no infestation; but if it was substantial, they would use more conventional means.

New, all-natural lawn care companies using scare tactics may draw new clients. But it also harms the image of golf courses, which can be perceived as overdosing the ecology with chemicals.

What can people in the golf industry do to solve this problem? Educate those boards, city councils - and reporters by speaking at their public meetings.

Take the lead from Bob Itamato and Buster Bustamente, superintendents at Mauna Kea Beach Ho-Continued on next page

Publisher

Charles E. von Brecht

Editorial Director Brook Taliaferro

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Production Manager Joline V. Gilman

Circulation Manager Brenda Boothby

Editorial Office

Golf Course News PO Box 997 **38 Lafayette Street** Yarmouth, ME 04096 (207) 846-0600

Advertising Office National Sales: Charles E. von Brecht

Marketplace Sales: Simone M. Marstiller

Golf Course News 7901 Fourth St. North Suite 311 St. Petersburg, FL 33702

West Coast Sales

(813) 576-7077

Wayne Roche James G. Elliott Co. 714 W. Olympic Blvd. Suite 1120 Los Angeles, CA 90015 (213) 746-8800

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GOFF

Bridging cultural gaps with understanding and course design

By DESMOND MUIRHEAD

I am sad and melancholy at the growing rift between America and Japan. I hope that golf can help bridge it.

In the early 1980s I renewed my acquaintance with Japan, after a break with golf course architecture from 1974-1984. At this time I visited Tokyo to secure financing for some new towns we designed in Australia. It was then that I met Sabu Sawamura and Nitto Kogyo Co. They remembered New St. Andrews north of Tokyo, which we had designed with Jack Nicklaus in 1972, and which has since become one of Japan's better known golf courses. (Shinyo Golf Club near Nagoya, recently the venue for the Japanese matchplay PGA Tournament, was the result of this visit to Tokyo. It took five years from conception to opening.)

We presently have five new courses under construction in Japan, each of which is unique in its own way. It may not be possible to build a great course each time as is frequently announced. Usually a great course needs time to become great.

After returning to golf course architec-

Desmond Muirhead was educated at Cambridge University in England. He has designed more than 100 golf courses, including Muirfield Village and Mission Hills. He pioneered in the relationship of golf courses and residential developments. He has homes in Jupiter, Fla.; Newport Beach, Calif.; and Honolulu, Hawaii.

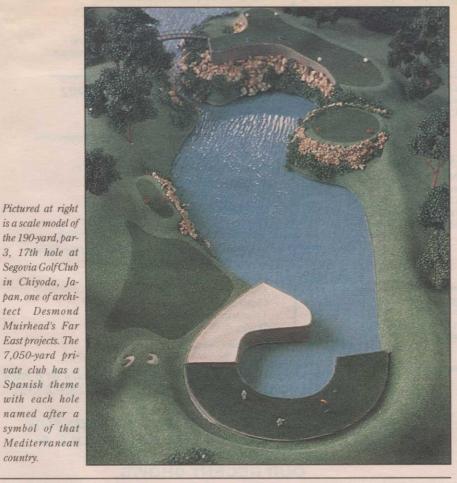


ture, I made an extensive study of St. Andrews, which is the mother of golf course strategy, and concluded that there are a few definite underlying tactical principles, most of which were contained in St. Andrews.

They were like musical notes. They could be made into an infinite number of combinations to produce anything from musical comedy to grand opera. I was frankly after grand opera.

St. Andrews was also filled with symbols. Bunkers called Lion's Mouth, Coffin, Principal's Nose, depressions called The Valley of Sin, and so on. I determined to adapt these symbols to a new type of course to fix another important element of design memorability. Since then, I find it easy to recall all 18 holes of my courses and others can remember them by walking them once. Yet I cannot recall accurately all the holes at Mission Hills, Calif., which was designed in 1968.

The other attribute that St. Andrews has in great measure is atmosphere. It is holy ground like Charters Cathedral or the Meiji Shrine. We wanted a similar atmosphere on our new courses but we could not wait hundreds of years for it. So we had to infuse the designs with energy. In this way they could emerge full-blown with atmosphere.



Fighting press manipulation with education

Continued from previous page

country.

tel and Mauna Lani Resort, respectively.

Speaking to the Hawaii County Council's Planning Committee, they detailed how their courses are watered and fertilized. They said they use little pesticides and herbicides, and they denied poisoning coastal areas or using water needed for domestic consumers.

Bustamente said much of what has been said about environmental hazards involving golf courses has been based on false as-GOLF COURSE NEWS

sumptions or misunderstandings. The committee got a taste of the truth, not

a dousing of error. Henry Adams said, "Practical politics con-

sists of ignoring facts.' By acting on your feelings and knowledge, perhaps you can make old Henry out to be wrong. If we sit idly by, watch out! The next action by an ill-informed public -driven on by a "mission-driven" reporter - could be in your own backyard.

We also felt the best courses had a powerful intellectual component. The best brains at the great University of St. Andrews reworked nature at St. Andrews. It is a myth that it was built by nature alone.

Other famous courses like Cypress Point, Augusta National and Pine Valley, besides having great natural sites, all have a strong intellectual component. We like to feel Muirfield Village and Mission Hills have this component. I believe Mission Hills' intellectual quality is the reason for its success.

Golfwise they are traditional courses. Yet, artistically they are often a break with tradition.

Greatness in a course comes from many ingredients. A great site - of which there are many potentially great in Japan, plus a great conception - is a wonderful start. The way you arrange the elements, the symphony of the hazards, the breadth and sweep of the sequence, the stimulation of the mass, void, distance and contrast which any great landscape must present.

The vast amount of cut and fill needed to build a golf course in Japan allows for sculpture on a large scale, and I like to think of myself as an earth-form artist.

This is exciting whether the course is filled with symbols as at Segovia, an orthodox course such as Muirfield Village, or the new golf course we are doing for Alpha Cubic in Japan. About one-half of our new courses are traditional.

I like working in Japan because I feel I have a more literate audience there than elsewhere. One of our clients, Seiji Tsutsumi, head of one of Japan's largest corporations, is a poet. That has to be very stimulating.

We like to think the wild, incalculable poetry of Japanese porcelain, which I collect, comes out in our work in Japan.

We want to make courses that compress the past, present, and future into one with myth and mystery, emotion and vision. As one designs, there is a surge of clustering

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and fragmenting effects that are constantly adapting to the rhythms and sequences of both golf and the evolving landscapes.

In Japan, art is woven into the way of life. In the Anglo-Saxon countries, it is peripheral to it. So I would like each of my courses in Japan to be a masterpiece. I would like to become a national treasure of Japan like my admired acquaintance Kakiemon XIV.

Finally, never forget that everywhere golf is only a game, not a religion, a marathon or an endurance test. It should be entertaining, enjoyable, amusing and memorable.

