



## Too far or funny?

I always look forward to Pat Jones' column, but with "Cut and paste" (September, page 85), he missed badly. When finished with each issue, I usually will share it with influential members at the club or leave it in the men's locker room. Good thing I caught this one before any members got a chance to see it, and I hope others did, too. Superintendents have been working for years to make gains in how our profession is viewed by others, especially our members, and to put into print a piece like this (even if in jest) sets us back. Name calling, near vulgarity (piehole), and questioning intelligence and skills are all usual talk at the maintenance facility or backrooms of the pro shop, but they have no place in print where members can get their hands on it.

Half my job is building communication with members about why we do things. Making fun of them severely hurts these efforts and isn't worth the potential laugh by some. I hope Jones keeps these thoughts in mind for future work. I will continue to review the content of his writings and hope to be able to share upcoming issues with my members.

**Russell Vandehey, CGCS**  
Oregon Golf Club  
West Linn, Ore.

Occasionally, I glimpse at Pat Jones' column to see how low he can go. His columns don't represent our industry favorably. Schoolboy humor has its place but not in industry trade magazines. Referring to our clients as idiots, dimwits, schmucks, dog breath and fat shiftless turds is pitiful. Our standards have sunk so low. This was considered disgraceful once, but now it's described as humor and worthy of publishing. Sorry, but I can't subscribe to this trend.

**Patrick O'Fee**  
Golf course superintendent,  
Pasadera Country Club  
Monterey, Calif.

After reading the November issue, I doubt I will open the magazine ever again. It was pumped full of good information, then I came to the end of the issue. I was dumbfounded Pat Jones' column "Cut and paste" was written by someone who's a green-industry consultant and insulted it was published in your magazine. The column tells us nothing we don't know

already – average golfers/club members don't appreciate the value they receive for their green-fee dollar, they don't know how to take care of bunkers, they know little about growing grass, and they don't understand the hours and finances required to maintain a golf course.

In the process of trying to convince us golfers don't respect what we do for them, he suggests they're idiots, boneheads, fools, morons, clowns, knuckleheads, whiners, schmucks, dog breaths, fat shiftless turds, dopes, dimwits and doofuses. Jones even suggests we post this article in the men's club locker room if we dare. Well, I like my job. I like my members. I like the public golfers who play at my course. What I don't like is someone who thinks they know how I feel calling my members, guests and friends fat shiftless turds. I wouldn't even consider calling my members any of these names in private, let alone post this disgusting article on a public board for everyone to see.

**Al Kueker**  
Golf Course Superintendent  
Desert Willow Golf Course  
Henderson, Nev.

I had to let Pat Jones know I loved his article "Cut and paste." It was tough to read because I had tears in my eyes, but I finished it. I've thought what he wrote many times. I liked reading my thoughts.

**Thomas F. Dale, CGCS**  
The Links at Brigantine Beach  
Brigantine, N.J.

I thoroughly enjoyed Pat Jones' "Cut and paste" column. He captured so much of what we hear every day. He must have a hidden tape recorder around somewhere. I received a customer comment card recently suggesting we conserve water and stop watering so much during the winter, yet we haven't watered in weeks. I heard one regular tell another player my job was to drive around and yell at them when they drove their golf cars too close to the greens. That sure makes those years in turf school look like a waste of money. It's too bad that in the politically correct world of municipal golf I can't post the column for our customers. It would go right over their heads anyway.

**Gary K. Carls, CGCS**  
Golf Operations Supervisor  
City of Sunnyvale, Calif.

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