How to Tell Republicans from Democrats

The post-convention bumps have disappeared, the debates are over and Al Gore and George W. Bush have spent the next month trying to paint each other as a cross between Richard Nixon and Bill Clinton. The election can't come soon enough.

But some of you might want to know to which party your golfers belong, so here are some clues to help you figure it out:
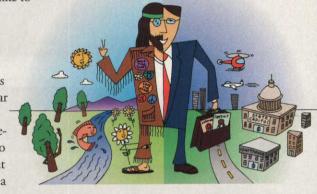
■ Democrats protect endangered species. Republicans prefer to hunt them.

■ Republicans hire exterminators. Democrats just step on the bugs.

■ Democrats name their children after currently popular sports figures, politicians and entertainers (look out for a future President Tiger from this group). Republican children are named after their parents or grandparents, according to where the money is.

■ Republicans want to ban the FQPA. Democrats would like to expand it.

■ Republicans play golf on grass. Democrats smoke it.

■ Democrats give their worn-out clothes to the less fortunate. Republicans wear theirs.

■ Republican boys date Democratic girls. They plan to marry Republican girls, but feel that they're entitled to a little fun first.

■ Democrats buy most of the books that have been banned somewhere. Republicans form censorship committees and read them as a group.

■ Democrats make plans and then do something else. Republicans follow the plans their grandfathers made.

■ Republicans raise dahlias, Dalmatians and eyebrows. Democrats raise kids, Airedales and taxes.

■ Republicans sleep in twin beds — some even in separate bedrooms. That's why there are more Democrats.

■ Republicans smoke cigars. Democrats use them for — oh, never mind!

Sources: Congressional Record and Frank H. Andorka Jr.

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Scanning the Web

Frank Andorka reviews architect's sites

My wounds have finally healed from the beating I took LAST time I examined architecture-related sites (for those of you who've forgotten the fun and frolic of my previous foray, see March and April's "Scanning" columns), so I decided to chance another peek. This time, I decided to look at architecture firms. If you're planning on building or renovating your course, here are some sites you might consider (all sites start with http:// unless otherwise noted):

***** – Bookmark it and return frequently; * – Look at only if absolutely necessary

***www.devriesdesign.com— As someone who enjoys a minimalist approach in all things, I loved the opening page to Mike Devries' site — a stark white background with what looks like a pen-and-ink drawing of a flagstick. The site consists mainly of lists of Devries' accomplishments, which are considerable. But for an architect's site, I was surprised by the lack of photographs and the text-intensiveness of the site. I would have liked to have seen some pictures to illustrate his philosophy rather than just reading about it.

▼ *****www.csgolf.com — A refreshing site that is the cyberspace home of Craig Schreiner Golf Course Architects. Its clean, uncluttered appearance makes it easy to navigate. It will take you step by step through the process of golf course design. It discusses Schreiner's philosophy, introduces you to the staff (including extensive biographies) and allows you to view a project library with photographs. The only question I have is: If Schreiner is showing off his best work, why are the photos so small?

*** www.hansegolfdesign.com — Gil Hanse's site is also minimalist and primarily text-based, but it does contain pictures of both staff members and projects. Some of the photos are blurry, and the links page actually contains no direct links but it does list one of my favorite Web sites — *www.golfclubatlas.com*.

Scanning the Web is compiled by Frank H. Andorka Jr., Golfdom's associate editor, who still winces at the words "golf course architecture." You can reach him at fandorka@advanstar.com with future column suggestions or sites you think he should visit.