



## The Real “Real Superintendent”

By Rod Johnson

On three occasions our most talented and most respected editor has written very enjoyable pieces on his description of “Real Superintendents.” I know for a fact that a large part of the enjoyment that Monroe derives from his duties is the response generated by his editorial writings.

His views at time are somewhat left of Rush Limbaugh and his descriptive writings of a real superintendent would have an outsider thinking that “Joe Average” is a cross between a Lutheran Minister and “Delbert Nerd class of 72.”

While I have been accused of being a little off center I didn’t think I was a lot different than most. The results of last November’s presidential election and of the GCSAA elections in January have left me questioning a lot more than my habits and traits.

I have always considered myself a real superintendent despite the fact that I switched to decaf four years ago and I’ve liked Lite beer with it’s great taste and less filling nature from it’s introduction in the early seventies. I’m trying to cut back on Wisconsin cheeses and snack on low fat pretzels. My beef intake is moderated with chicken becoming a favorite. I start the day early in tennis shoes and blue jeans but try to change dress by 10 a.m. and consider it a compliment to be confused with the golf pro. I’ve never gone deer hunting and enjoy “doing lunch.” The only time that I open a *TIME* magazine is when an anti-pesticide article is brought to my attention.

While a staunch Republican, I wouldn’t blast the other side of the aisle as leftist. Dick the Barber is a good friend. Both he and I agree that no haircut at no airport is worth 200 beans. I don’t fly Old Glory outside my shop; never even thought about it. Country music is #1 in my shop, Billy Ray excluded of course. I don’t wear a pony tail nor an earring. I always stand and remove my hat when the national an-

them is played despite a developing bald spot and numerous bad hair days.

Thinking I’m closer to center than led to believe, I offered to conduct this issue’s survey perhaps shedding some light on this real superintendent. While there are many more questions to be answered as to the habits and preferences of superintendents, the answers in six important categories can now be revealed. Forty-four superintendents shared their interesting answers to the following.

1) What are your 2 favorite T.V. shows? Not surprisingly *Home Improvement* with it’s male macho grunts was a clear first choice (17 votes) followed by the provocative *Sienfeld* (15 votes). Showing the same imagination as last month’s responses to the favorite bluegrass variety question, the Weather Channel (12 votes) and the Six o’clock News (11 votes) were next. One superintendent, coincidentally from the “Snow Queen” region, has admitted to having an intense fixation towards Marly Sanyer, the well-endowed early morning star of the Weather Channel.

Other shows receiving mention were *Married With Children*, *Murphy Brown*, *Cheers*, and *60 Minutes*. Two votes—self included—were cast for the Saturday afternoon westerns on the Family Channel. They’re best watched from the comfort of the Rec Room couch with your eyes closed.

2) Is your favorite soda (pop for those of you outside the metro-Milwaukee area) Diet or Regular? I was surprised by this one with so many superintendents watching their waist lines. The results were 28 regular and 16 diet. There was clearly no interest shown in the new clear colas.

3) This question was probably more near and dear to our group anyway. What is your favorite beer? Wisconsin superintendents like beer and they prefer Miller products. Miller Lite finished first with 14 votes followed by regular Miller and Genuine Draft with 8

votes each. The people in St. Louis will be disappointed to learn that only six superintendents questioned prefer “rice beer.” One of Wisconsin’s finest even said that he would rather go without than drink Bud. Now that’s going a little too far!

4) Question four had to do with “doing lunch”. Ten superintendents regularly go home for lunch, six brown bag it, two do lunch at the clubhouse, and 18 have lunch at a restaurant other than the clubhouse. The food and atmosphere is usually better at Micky D’s.

5) As a group, superintendents have never been known to throw away their hard-earned bucks. Did you notice that when the GCSAA Conference was in Las Vegas they turned down the lights and sent the extra help home around 9:00 P.M.

When asked of their lottery ticket purchasing habits 3/4 questioned admitted to only occasional purchases and then only when the pot exceeded \$30 million. All of those who do purchase admitted they thought they had a real chance to win and would of course keep working after they won.

6) While very personal, this question needed asking. The answer shows the deep moral convictions of our group. What type of underwear do you wear, briefs or boxers? The numbers speak for themselves. Ninety-one percent (40) wear briefs. Only three wear boxers. One individual, who by the way happens to be the same smart \_\_\_ who’s favorite ryegrass is dead, claims not to wear underwear. Oh, those wild and crazy “flatlanders”.

By the way, Wayne Otto still wears briefs which we knew anyway from pictures previously published.

So there you have it, a scientific revelation of the habits and preferences of the Badgerland’s best. A group of my professional peers that I am proud to call “REAL SUPERINTENDENTS”. 🍷