

POINTS

By Doug Funke

Golf mirrors life's successes, failures

Golf is a popular game to players and spectators alike.

If you don't think that's so, you haven't tried to get on a public course in the area without belonging to a league in recent weeks.

Just look around at Oakland Hills if you are fortunate to have a ticket to the PGA Championship. All those people won't be swarming around for a simple walk in the country.

Perhaps golf is so popular because it involves one person's struggle against the elements. The elements are many and formidable — the terrain of the course, an internal struggle with one's temperament and emotions and an awareness of the competition.

At the risk of perpetuating a cliché, golf parallels life.

Not everyone in life is born with the same talents and motivation, but all follow the same basic

course. Golfers, too, are of every physical size, disposition and skill level. They all play the same 18 holes.

PEOPLE ARE held accountable for their own actions in life in spite of differences in their background. So is the golfer. If he hooks or slices a shot off the straight-and-narrow and into the woods, it's up to him alone to hit out or take a penalty.

The individual is entirely responsible for his own fate on the golf course. He selects his own club, tees up his own ball, lines up his own putt and makes his own swing.

There is no one to blame for failure. Then, too, it is not necessary to share glory in moments of triumph.

EVEN MANY terms of the sport reflect life. Consider "fairway,"

the well-manicured, safe portion of the course. The "rough" is trouble and not the place to be.

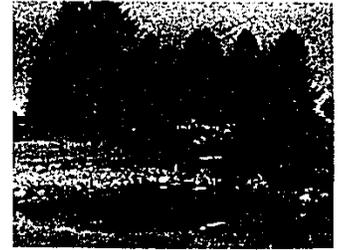
"That's par for the course" is frequently used in conversation both on and off the links. A "bogey" is bad. "Aces" and "birdies" are good.

Golf is a teasing mistress.

It is humbling to the accomplished player because, no matter how well he shoots, it is always possible to look back on a round and find a shot or two he could have played better. Always.

It is soothing to the beginner or hack because, no matter how lousy they shoot, they can always look back on a round and find a well-played, satisfying shot or two. Always.

And as long as the beautiful scenery of a golf course can be enjoyed while pursuing a personal challenge, what possible cause can there be for complaint?



Golf is a struggle between man and nature. Sometimes nature is beautiful, as in the case of this fountain and waterfall at Oakland Hills. (Staff photo)

WOOD;

The Ultimate Performer

Design

Scandinavian designers are noted for their unique application of fine wood. Whether it's teak or rosewood, great care is taken, within each piece, to ensure a continuity of color and grain. It is the purity and simplicity of line which enhances the beauty of wood and gives Scandinavian furniture the ability to adapt and blend into any style.

Quality

Natural wood is beautiful in itself, but like any raw material, it is most beautiful when its characteristics are revealed by someone who understands it. Scandinavian designers do. Their knowledge and workmanship have developed successfully over the years and is shown by using the right wood the right way, for the purpose.

Function

Function and beauty go hand in hand. The durability of a piece of furniture is increased when only the finest quality of materials and workmanship are utilized. On every piece made, the last coat of lacquer is hand applied and then hand buffed to achieve maximum beauty and efficiency. The fact exists, that each piece of furniture will look as beautiful twenty years from now as it does today, a quality unique to Scandinavian furniture.



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