Bay area courses recovering

Irrigation systems, greens major victims of quake

BY MARK LESLIE

In the aftermath of an earthquake that turned some San Francisco area communities upside down, Northern California golf course superintendents braced for the predicted next trembler and worked to get their courses back in shape.

While the nation's eyes focused on the deadly tragedy at the Bay Bridge, nearer the epicenter 50 miles to the southeast, Santa Cruz's downtown was leveled and some people's lives permanently changed. Lost in the tumult of more important matters was the Oct. 17 earthquake's effect on the region's golf courses.

The major problems at the courses were damage to clubhouses and other structures, breaks in irrigation systems, cracks on greens,

A 95-day miracle

And he could have done it faster, says developer

BY MARK LESLIE

Construction of a "quality" golf course in 95 working days at a Cenvill Development Corp. real-estate project in Illinois has drawn astonishment in the golf industry.

"That's absolutely fantastic," said Golf Course Builders of America Executive Director Don Rossi. "It's a quality golf course that's a tremendous effort."

Rossi stressed that he's not impressed with speed unless the work is high-quality, and the principals involved insist the Carillon development's golf course in Plainfield, Ill., is top-notch.

Cenvill Director of Golf Dan Jones declared, "This is no risky-dink course. It's an excellent product."

Steve Balogh of Kenova Construction in West Palm Beach, Fla., who coordinated the project, said, "It's an excellent product."

"People would slip while working along a..." Continued on page 26

Flymo makes triumphant return to U.S.

BY PETER BLAIS

Largely banished from U.S. golf courses in the mid-1980s, the Flymo mower is making a triumphant return heading into the 1990s, thanks to a safety device developed by a Florida distributor.

The Flymo, a walk-behind mower that rides on a cushion of air, has long been one of the most popular means of grooming around bunkers. But injuries have often occurred because of severe conditions and operator carelessness, according to Precision Small Engine Co. owner Andy Masciarell, one of Flymo's major U.S. distributors.

"People would slip while working along a..." Continued on page 24
By now, we've all heard the good news of Loblolly Pines, but there are still more courses in the stadium course network that are being built. The TPC at Sawgrass, located just outside Jacksonville, Fla., was the first of the stadium courses. There are now 14 in the United States with another six in varying stages of planning and construction, according to PGA Tour Director of Public Relations Sid Wilson.

There is another in Bato, Japan, the site of a recent United States-Japan Seniors championship. Another 10 Japanese TPC courses are on the drawing board, Wilson added.

"We're obviously delighted that the TPC network is being honored by its peers," said the PGA Tour official. "The Tour has always taken great pride in its TPC courses. Our players become involved as consultants and work very closely with the architects. Yet while the pros play on the course one week a year, he is still very playable for the members the rest of the year."

GCCA President Perry Dye of Dye Designs will make the presentation, which has become one of the highlights of the association's annual meetings.

"We're very proud of how this award has grown since it was first presented in 1984," said Rossi. "There were just 40 people at the first awards dinner. Last year there were 225."

The National Golf Foundation was the inaugural award-winner. Following the NGF to the podium over the last seven years were the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, Golf Course Architects of America, Professional Golfers Association of America, Club Managers Association of America and last year's winner, the U.S. Golf Association Green Section.

### Builders
Continued from page 1

Standing job of building stadium courses throughout the country," said builders association Executive Director Donald Rossi.

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**Domino's founder opens The Rock**

Domino's Pizza Inc. founder and chairman Tom Monaghan has opened The Rock, a new golf course on Drummond Island in Michigan.

Designed by Harry Bowers, a former understudy of Robert Trent Jones Sr., the 257-acre course was built to encourage walking. It is a six-mile walk compared to the average 4.5-mile walk around an 18-hole layout.

Monaghan has named each hole after a Domino's executive or a celebrity he admires — like former President Gerald Ford, University of Michigan football coach Bo Schembechler and Detroit Tigers manager Sparky Anderson.

The $8-million course adds to a hotel and conference center development.

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