**War stories**

**Reaction to Gulf mixed...**

BY MARK LESLIE

As the Persian Gulf crisis turned 1 month old, investors, builders and archi-
tects in the U.S. golf industry reacted with varying degrees of caution and
optimism.

The length of the crisis is crucial to
deciding its impact, everyone agrees.

Michael Hurdzan, an architect based in
Columbus, Ohio, predicted an "in-
credible impact" from the crisis and
hardened back to the Arab oil embargo
of 1974 when the golf construction
"virtually dried up."

"I think this situation is so unsettling
that developers in the U.S. who have
not already committed (to a project) are
going to wait and see. I think that some
of those who are committed and who
are on the fine edge are going to say,
'Hey, I'm going to cut my losses and
stop right now,'" Jerry Dye, president of Dye Designs
in Denver, Colo., and of the Golf Course
Builders of America, said: "We're in the
recreational, extra-dollar industry.
We're the first to go and the last to come
back. But until it happens we won't feel
it."

Dye said developers whose projects
have been in the permitting process
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**Fla. summit will draw all parties**

BY PETER BLAIS

Item: A Florida water district
considers instituting a $1 per 1,000-
gallon surcharge on golf courses for
water pumped out of courses' own
wells. The move could add $10 to
the average round and $800 to the
typical private club membership fee. The move could add $10 to
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**Club directors face tests**

BY PETER BLAIS

The biggest threat facing the private
club industry is that its members are per-
ceived as elitists, according to a National
Club Association lawyer.

The typical private club member appreci-
ates traditions, is trying to conserve
something of worth, likes to relax and
enjoys some financial success, said Tho-
mas Ondeck at the recent NCA Annual
Club Director Conference in Pinehurst,
N.C.

But private club opponents often view
that same person as "reactionary, Repub-
lican, elitist and rich," said Ondeck, who
has represented the club industry in more
than 20 lawsuits, including three selective
admissions cases before the U.S. Supreme
Court.

Because of this inaccurate perception,
private clubs are sometimes portrayed as
bastions of racial and sexual discrimination,
said Ondeck. That has led to local and
national legislation — like Congressman
Charles Rangel's proposed national tax
code amendment denying tax-exempt
status, deductibility of dues and charitable
contributions — that threaten the private
club industry, he added.

Legislative volleys and media assaults
have mounted over the past 25 years,
coming to a head this summer at Shoal
Creek in Birmingham, Ala., said Ondeck.

Things looked pretty good for private
clubs in 1984 when Congress exempted
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**War stories**

**... as Supers, others fear domino effect**

BY MARK LESLIE

The domino effect of an oil shortage
would be felt in construction and a range
of operations on a golf course, superin-
tendents and others agree, but how much
is up for debate.

"I'm dead budget-wise," lamented Dan
Jones, superintendent at Banyan Golf
Club in West Palm Beach, Fla.

He said his first delivery of oil after
Iraq invaded Kuwait cost 16 cents a
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