**GOVERNMENT UPDATE**

**Florida officials hold off on Green Point**

**BY PETER BLAIS**

Florida Gov. Bob Martinez and the Cabinet will likely wait until after November elections to decide the fate of the Panhandle's proposed Green Point Golf Resort Community, according to a developer.

At an Aug. 14 meeting, the govern- ment officials told Franklin County planners they cannot make a decision on the controversial de- velopment along the shores of en- viromentally sensitive Apalachee Bay until the county revises its comprehensive plan to include the resort, said developer Jack Dodds.

"They basically delayed the vote until after the election," said Dodds. "It hasn't been shot down. It isn't dead."

Critics fear the 540-acre project — which includes an 18-hole course, homes, bed-and-breakfast rooms and business space — could pollute the state's largest oyster fishery.

Dodd said his group has moved quickly to develop state-approved and de- stort water-runoff systems, re- duced residential density and hired specialists to ensure the project won't pollute the bay adjacent to economically depressed Franklin County.

The Franklin County Commis- sion, state Department of Environ- mental Regulation and both the House speaker pro tempore and speaker designate support the project. The state Department of Com- munity Affairs, which oversees land- use planning in environmentally sensitive areas, and about 600 fish- ermen oppose it.

"We're continuing to negotiate," said Dodd. "The project is simply hold until we can resolve these is- sues."

**Minus $311M, Honolulu opens municipal course**

**BY PETER BLAIS**

The West Loch Golf Course will open this month as a municipal fa- cility now that the Honolulu City Council officially rejected a $311 million Japanese bid for the course and permits to build two more.

"We've just put the finishing touches on it now," said Ron Duran, executive assistant to the city's managing director. "It should open in early September."

"This summer's unanimous City Council vote against Jurgji Co.'s offer of $111 million for the Robin Nelson and Rodney Wright-de- signed course, plus $200 million for the two permits, ended a bitter struggle between Mayor Frank Fasi and the council."

Fasi wanted to use the proceeds from the sale to build three mu- nicipal courses and a number of recreation projects.

The council countered that the West Loch property was originally condemned to be used as a mu- nicipal course and must not be sold to a company that would eventually turn it into a private facility.

The battle waged through the spring and summer in both the council chambers and the press.

"The community supported the idea (of the sale). But the council held fast," Duran said.

"West Loch cost the city $20 million to build. Considering Jurgji's willing- ness to pay more than five times that price for the facility and the difficulty of obtaining a golf course building per- mit for a private developer in Honolulu, Duran believes Fasi may put further city-held courses up for sale.

"When the current mayor, if such an opportunity came along again I think he might follow the same procedure," the city official said.

**Fertilizer dealers meet legislators**

Approximately 250 dealers who supply fertilizer and crop protection chemicals converged on Capitol Hill in late July for the fourth annual Agri-Dealer Legislative Conference, jointly sponsored by the National Agricultural Chemicals Association and The Fertilizer Institute.

The joint communications effort is a key part of the strategy to let lawmakers know first-hand their concerns over the 1990 farm bill, the threat of environmental or energy taxes, the need for relief from commercial drivers' license requirements, and chemical-export restrictions.

"It is significant that member companies from both our associations strongly supported this effort and focused on critical issues com- mon to both industries," TF1 President Gary Myers and NACA Presi- dent Jay Vroom said in a joint statement.

NACA and TF1 are planning to co-sponsor the Agri-Dealer Legisla- tive Conference in 1991.

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