

GCSANC

THRU THE GREEN

Crow Canyon Country Club Golf Course Superintendent Ernie Martin was given the WATER CONSERVATION AWARD by the East Bay Municipal Utility District at an Oakland A's game in August.



Ernie was the Superintendent at Crow Canyon during the 1977 drought so he is no stranger to conservative water management. In 1977, they tried in several locations to dig a well at Crow Canyon but even at 1700 feet down they found only 40-50 GPM and the water had to high a boron content. Ernie had to resort to other methods of conservation like drying out areas not "normally" in play, watering by hand the tees and greens using a hose end wetting agent, building wells around trees and watering them from his spray-rig mounted in a utility vehicle, and putting a pump on the pond near the club house to operate several traveling sprinklers.

Ernie stated "with the help of Sergio Pacheco, his assistant, and some very patient and understanding membership, he expects to make it through this year okay but is concerned about next year if we don't get more water."

Mr. Martin did not know but Golf Courses, Parks and local Industry were being monitored by the EBMUD to see how well they were using the allotment of water that was given to them. Crow Canyon CC is entirely dependent on EBMUD water and is required to cut back to 50% of their 1986 water usage which was 24,000 cubic feet a day. Ernie is anticipating quite a challenge for the up-coming months with only 12,000 cubic feet a day, if the weather remains as hot as it has been. In 1986, the weather was not as dry as it is this year which complicates matters further.



Sergio Pacheco