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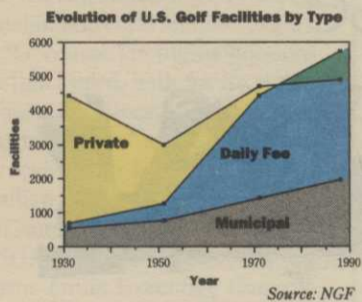
GOLF COURSE NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

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Bay area courses recovering



The Oct. 17 earthquake dropped DeLaveaga Golf Course's 18th green and collar eight inches along a 50-foot, four-inch crack.
Photo by Campbell Turner

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

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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 Di-

rector Don Rossi. "If 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 rinky-dink course. It's an excellent product."

Steve Balogh of Kenova Construction in West Palm Beach, Fla., who coordinated

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Builders mark PGA for honors

BY PETER BLAIS

The Golf Course Builders of America will honor the Professional Golfers Association Tour at the builders' association annual meeting Feb. 24 in Orlando, Fla., for the PGA's work in building Tournament Players Club courses.

"The PGA Tour has done an out-

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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 Masciarella, one of Flymo's major U.S. distributors.

"People would slip while working along a

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The view north from the tee of the par-3 8th hole at Washington Green Spring Golf Course in Washington, Utah, shows the contrast between red desert sandstone and golf turf that enhances a breathtaking view.

Builders

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

Opened 10 years ago, the TPC at Sawgrass, located just outside Jacksonville,

Fertilizers

Continued from page 22

and clay," Gray said. "The rest is sand. Our CEC is one or less, which is extremely low. Basically, what that means is that anything the plant gets, we have to give it. Consequently, the fertility requirements of this course are much greater than a course with a higher CEC."

The fairways at Loblolly Pines are 419 bermudagrass, while the tees, aprons and collars are 328. Gray applies approximately 10 pounds of nitrogen and 10 to 12 pounds of potash per 1,000 square feet per year to these areas. He puts down phosphorus at a four- to five-pound rate.

On greens, the amount of nitrogen Gray applies in a year's time is less because the dwarf bermuda is overseeded to Penncross in November.

"We use close to eight pounds of nitrogen per year on our greens," Gray said. "The bentgrass requires less and since we are only growing bermuda six months out of the year we don't fertilize the two months prior to overseeding because we don't want the competition."

To meet the nutrient demands at Loblolly Pines, Gray depends on a fertilizer with a urea formaldehyde nitrogen source and supplements with a natural organic sludge material. Although his applications are primarily granular, Gray fertigates with a custom-formulated 8-2-8 liquid.

Gray also is a strong proponent of soil testing and agrees with the idea of keeping a fertility program as lean as the soil and the turf will allow.

Perhaps he spoke for the others and summed it up best when he said, "The beauty of a low fertility program is that adding is easy ... taking away is tough."

Sally M. Lee is a freelance writer based in North Ridgeville, Ohio.

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."

GCBA 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.

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 \$5-million course adds to a hotel and conference center development.

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