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GOLF COURSE NEWS

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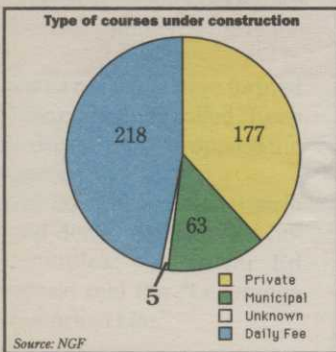
VOLUME 2 NUMBER 4
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INSIDE

- 24 FAMILY TIES**
make architecture interesting
- 28 FAIRWAYS** getting
greens-type care
- 34 BENGEEFIELD**
looks back on his career

34 BENGEEFIELD

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Departments

Comment

Don Rossi irreplaceable in golf industry... 8

Super Focus

Trumbull CC's Bruce Denning still making a difference..... 11

New Courses

Construction busting out on the Big Island 14-15

Government Update

EPA officials say cooperation possible 16

Association News

GCSAA installs new officers for 1990 17-18

On the Move

USGA makes operational changes 20-23

On the Green

Mike Wilson keeps golf cars on course 54

For coverage of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's 61st International Golf Conference and Show, see pages 36-47.

Toro aerator a breakthrough

BY MARK LESLIE

The Toro Company has unveiled a revolutionary machine that aerates greens without disturbing the surface and interrupting play.

The HydroJect 3000, which uses high-velocity spurts of water to aerate greens while leaving no telltale cores behind, was introduced in a dramatic exhibition at the 61st International Golf Course Conference

and Show in Orlando, Fla., in February.

Dana Lann, Toro's head of research, projected late-fall production of the HydroJect 3000 and full availability to golf course superintendents by the summer of 1991.

Dr. Paul Rieke of Michigan State University, who with a graduate student worked on the project with Lann's researchers for three years, said: "The beauty of this (equipment) is that we're able to use it frequently on the

putting surface and thus keep soil in good physical condition.

"We think this is a versatile tool that the golf course superintendent will be able to use in his program to provide better quality turf and to improve the stress tolerance of that turf."

Toro officials hailed the work of the researchers and the impact the machine is

Continued on page 47



When Golfplan Design Group and PGA Tour pro Mark O'Meara got together to collaborate on Redhawk Golf Course at Temecula, Calif., three years ago they were confronted by a 150-acre site with perhaps a half-dozen trees. One of their first steps was to start a 25-acre nursery, above, to grow trees enough to beautify the overgrazed pastureland. The result, Ron Fream says, is "our best course in the United States," boasting hundreds of trees that are now 12 to 30 feet high. For more on new golf courses, see pages 14-15.)



Hawaii lengthens wait

The Honolulu City Council passed an ordinance in late February requiring courses proposed on farmland to go through the lengthy annual review process.

That means it could take up to two years to get the required zoning change to develop a new course, according to Bob McGraw, an aide to Councilwoman Donna Mercado Kim.

"It would be reasonable to characterize that as lengthy," said McGraw.

Proposed sites designated for resort, preservation or park use don't have to go through the yearly review.

Development has been a major issue on the island of Oahu where residents were concerned about the loss of agricultural land and possible ground water contamination from new courses.

A 10-month moratorium on new construction ended Jan. 1. The council considered a bill that was stricter than the old law, but was vehemently opposed as not stringent enough and allowing development in too many zoning districts by citizen groups, like Hands Around Oahu.

The proposal was sent back to the Zoning Committee, which passed the new bill that the council approved in February.

Ordinance No. 90-15 restricts stand-alone courses to a single zone. Approval requires such measures as the use of non-potable water for irrigation, increasing opportunities for public participation and compatibility with the surrounding area.

The council is also encouraging programs for displaced residents and for monitoring golf course chemicals.

UST coverage said crucial

BY PETER BLAIS

It wasn't so long ago at a course called, well let's make it East Overshoe CC, that an underground storage tank (UST) leaked.

The tank's contents contaminated an underground water supply and required the installation of two purifying wells. It's estimated it will take two to five years to clean the water. The course's cost to rectify the situation — \$200,000.

Richard Shanks, president of Financial Guardian Insurance of Kansas City, Inc., related that sorry tale during February's Golf Course Superinten-

Continued on page 39

International superintendents share views

BY PETER BLAIS

Growing memberships and the need for more educational opportunities are among the common threads binding national superintendents associations, reported representatives of a dozen such organizations during February's Golf Course Superintendents Association of America conference in

Orlando, Fla.

Canada, Australia, Argentina, Italy, England, Sweden, France, Germany, South Africa, Japan and the United States were all represented at an international roundtable moderated by GCSAA Immediate Past President Dennis Lyon and President Gerald Faubel.

All described increasing interest in their organizations as a result of the growth of golf in their home countries.

But in many instances, educational opportunities to increase the professionalism of superintendents are still lagging behind the United States. Many of the foreign rep-

Continued on page 46