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NEWSPAPER ARTICLE "GOLF CLUB DEALS DIRT TO NAVY FOR WATER RIGHTS" NAS
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THE FIRST COAST BUSINESS AUTHORITY

Santa to bring pink slips

American National Can plant closing to put 65 out of job at Christmas

by **MATT CRISTY**

The remaining 65 employees of Jacksonville's American National Can are getting an unpleasant early Christmas present — a pink slip.

The company announced last month to its employees that the local plant will shut down Dec. 23.

The company, Chicago-based American National Can, blamed declining demand in a region glutted with supply

for the shut down. The plant manufactures beer and soft drink beverage cans.

Carol Constantine, a company spokeswoman, said the industry suffers from an oversupply nationwide, but the problem is particularly acute in Florida.

Polly Moles, manager of communications, said the plant has already conducted two layoffs this year and curtailed production since last year. The company laid off 19 employees Aug. 13 and 25 more

employees Sept. 3.

At the end of 1995, the plant employed 100 people and manufactured more than 1 billion cans annually.

Employees will receive one nice Christmas present: holiday pay for Christmas, Christmas Eve and New Year's Day.

"It is always an unfortunate thing to close a plant," Constantine said of the closing during the holidays.

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Hospitals scrub up green in '95

Area hospitals experienced tremendous bottom line growth in fiscal 1995, doubling the previous year's overall surplus to more than \$66 million. This despite decreasing payment rates from insurance companies and generally lower hospital occupancy rates.

For the complete report on how First Coast hospitals fared in fiscal 1995, please see the Hospital Report Card section starting on page 17.

Golf club deals dirt to Navy for water rights

by **SUSANNA P. BARTON**

Timuquana Country Club and Naval Air Station Jacksonville will come out way under par in a deal that will save nearly 140 million gallons of water a year.

Timuquana and Navy Public Works Center Jacksonville have signed an agreement to funnel water from the base treatment facility to the golf course, which neighbors the Naval Air Station Jacksonville fence line to the north. Timuquana will then irrigate its greens with the effluent (treated water) and in return, will present NASJax with a mountain of fertile soil it will dig up in building a half-acre retention pond that will hold the irrigation water.



Local golfer Vince Hable follows through while sprinklers water the Timuquana golf course. The club will use treated water from NASJax to water its course next year.

Timuquana is spending about \$500,000 to develop the new water system.

Navy officials said the deal is one of

those rare situations where everyone involved gets the long end of the stick.

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