Rainstorms force reconstruction at Sand Hills

From STAFF REPORTS

MULLEN, Neb. — Heavy rains in July caused rebuilding of several holes at Sand Hills Golf Course, delaying the expected Labor Day opening to next spring, according to owner Dick Youngscap.

Even before it opens, the Ben Crenshaw and Bill Coore design is expected to be a chart-buster. "It is something you can brag about," Youngscap said, "because we didn’t have anything to do with making it. All the contours were there."

Sand dunes on the property reach 30 and 40 feet high. Crenshaw and Coore's toughest job was choosing 18 holes from the 131 they found on the 8,000-acre site. The 18 they settled on meander over 500 acres.

Superintendent Keith Nordick, former first assistant at Brook Hollow Golf Course in Dallas, is tending grow-in of a blend of finebladed fescues. They already have up to 40-inch roots, Youngscap said. He added that stabilizing the sand for cart paths has been a problem, and he is dead against using asphalt.

He added that six of the eight living quarters are finished and the clubhouse will be framed in by mid-October and ready to open next spring.

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