

DESTIN, Fla. — Diamond Players Club (DPC) began construction in mid-August on a new championship golf course near this town.

According to Todd Stottlemire, Texas Rangers pitcher and CEO, the course is being designed by Mike Young and will be built by his company, Traditional Golf.

The facility is being built in conjunction with a Capital First Holdings housing development, Magnolia Bluffs, in Freeport. It is expected to open in mid-1999.

The project is the second new course

Diamond Players 'building' portfolio

announced by DPC in recent weeks. Stottlemire previously announced construction of Diamond Players Club at Orlando, which is scheduled for completion in the fall of 1999. DPC, a golf management company, will own the Orlando facility and will have a 30-year lease on the Destin course, with extension options.

DPC also manages the Belview Biltmore Golf Club in Belleair, and has several other projects under consider-

ation, Stottlemire said.

Diamond Players Club at Destin will feature five sets of tees and measure about 7,000 yards from professional markers, said Gregg Gagliardi, PGA professional and DPC's chief operating officer.

It will have a two-ended practice range, with one end devoted to the DPC Golf Academy, an instruction program that will be integral to all DPC courses.

Young, whose courses are principally

in the Southeast but who has designed layouts as far away as Sao Paulo, Brazil and Bangalore, India, said the 220-acre DPC-Destin site is "ideal golf course terrain."

It is rolling and situated on a 100-foot-deep base of fine sand that will provide outstanding drainage."

He said the course will feature four lakes, and will offer a fair test for golfers of all abilities from all tee markers, without a lot of "forced long carries."

The club will be semi-private with about 150 members.

Art Hills creation a cornerstone at Marsh Creek

NORTH PORT, Fla. — When it opens by the end of the year, The Preserve at Marsh Creek community will feature a private Arthur Hills Golf Course.

"Arthur Hills is one of the most prominent golf course architects in the country," said Development Manager Jim Beviard. "We are very excited about the golf course he has designed for this community."

Hills described his layout as "a very picturesque course that will blend into the nature of the site very well."

He said many water features enhance the course's beauty but do not hinder the average golfer.

Also, many of the holes have elevated tees, giving the golfer a better perspective.

"Elevated tees allow the golfer to really see the course and adjust his shots," Hills said.

"They also really let the player see the natural beauty of this course. The Preserve at Marsh Creek is a master-planned community on 850 acres that will consist of patio and single-family homes and attached villas in the initial phase.

The gated community will also have a clubhouse, tennis center, junior Olympic-sized swimming pool and fitness center.

The World

Continued from page 35

course world. These kids will be exposed to these opportunities, so that when they leave this facility, they will have the skills that allow them to become productive citizens.

"I don't want to just take away a problem. I want to be able to replace it with some productive life and coping skills so that whatever they face in life, they can rebound a little bit better and be more resilient, rather than collapsing in ways that imprison them in drug and alcohol abuse or disruptive behavior.

"And it's all built around golf. It's a way of luring the high-profile philanthropist/benefactor/donor. If I were to just build this drug and alcohol facility for adolescents, you [Golf Course News and other media] would have never called me. But since I aligned it with golf, you wouldn't believe the coverage we've been getting, all over the country."

WE GO WHERE OTHERS WON'T



NATIONS CREDIT

A NationsBank Company

Golf & Recreational Finance

★ Acquisition ★ Renovation ★ Refinancing ★ Construction ★ Leasing ★ Mezzanine Loans

Debbie Suppa
770-643-7788
Atlanta, GA

Rick Nekoroski
978-777-8560
Boston, MA

John Seeburger
949-442-4356
Irvine, CA

Steve Sparks
702-832-4447
Incline Village, NV