Y2K Crisis: Two little numbers, one big problem

By Mark Leslie

"On New Years Day I wouldn't want to be on a golf course because the sprinkler systems will probably be going nuts," said Pebble Beach Co.'s Dominic Van Ness.

Van Ness, director of the Information Services Department at the world-famous resort, foresees major problems beginning — and then perhaps snowballing — when the world's clocks tick over from midnight Dec. 31, 1999, to 12:01 a.m. Jan. 1.

The situation has been dubbed "Y2K Crisis: Two little numbers, one big problem." Continued on page 24

Pebble’s ‘missing link’ in place

By Doug Saunders

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Eighty years and $9.5 million after Pebble Beach Golf Links was built, the parcel of land that should have formed the 5th hole now does.

The missing link, a private estate that Pebble Beach owners have craved ever since they sold it, was finally wrested from the heirs last year and has been transformed by Jack Nicklaus.

The new 187-yard hole will play along the bluff overlooking the ocean. This hole was designed by Jack Nicklaus, who is making all efforts to create a hole that reflects that character of the rest of the course. The intention is to add a hole that should have been constructed in 1919 and have it look and play as though it were.

The hole that it will replace is the awkward par-3 5th that inexplicably played away from the ocean in the original design. Why this hole was laid out as it was years ago is an interesting story of how, when golf courses and real-estate projects meet, the best intentions can cause conflict.

Pebble Beach Golf Links was created to stimulate land sales of the Pebble Beach’s new 187-yard 5th: Now overlooking, not moving away from, the ocean.

Huijzena's FPH to ‘add value’ to resorts, golf

By Peter Blais

Plantation, Fla. — Wayne Huizenga’s Florida Panthers Holdings (FPH) Inc. recently purchased Rolling Hills Golf Course, the site where the movie “Caddyshack” was filmed, and recently completed a major renovation to the facility located in nearby Davie. Rolling Hills will also service FPH’s Fort Lauderdale resorts.

“Concept is to add value to our resorts and hotels,” said FPH Vice President of Golf Development Jim Applegate. “We know what an important component golf is when people decide where to spend their vacations and leisure time.”

Continued on page 48