



Despite drenchings, Doral finishes Gold Course facelift

By PETER BLAIS

MIAMI—The Gold Course at Doral Golf Resort and Spa is scheduled to reopen in late December/early January, following a massive renovation project that was slowed by this summer's unusually wet weather.

"We're looking at sodding the whole course [instead of sprigging] because of all the rain," said then-superintendent Pat McHugh in late September. "We've gotten 65 inches since June 1. That's what we usually get in a whole year. It set us back a few weeks. We're looking at reopening around Jan. 1 instead of early to mid-December as originally planned."

Raymond Floyd and course architect Ted McAnlis have overseen the \$2.5 million renovation. The original Robert von Hagge/Bruce Devlin routing has remained basically the same, although a few holes have been lengthened by moving back greens and tees, McHugh said.

The renovated layout will feature water on every hole, including the island 18th green. Several greens have been rebuilt, new cart paths installed, drainage added, irrigation systems upgraded and the entire course plated with an additional 6 inches of topsoil, McHugh said.

McHugh used Roundup on all grassed areas prior to beginning construction last spring and used methyl bromide on the greens mix prior to sodding the putting surfaces this fall.

Future plans call for modern-

ization of Doral's Blue Monster, home of the Doral-Ryder Open. The program will include regrassing the fairways and greens and bringing outdated bunkers back into play on all 81 of the resort's holes. Doral will also install new irrigation systems.

Work will take place on one course at a time so as not to overly disrupt play. Plans are to begin work on the Blue Monster in April.

Pebble Beach may move Fazio site

MONTEREY, Calif. — A Tom Fazio-designed layout planned for the forest near Pescadero Canyon may be moved to an area between Spyglass Hill Golf Course and the Equestrian Center.

When the first draft environmental impact report for Pebble Beach Co.'s plans was released in May 1994, there was a widespread uproar over estimates that, to make way for the development, up to 57,000 trees would have to be removed — in particular, the Monterey pine trees. The Monterey Peninsula is one of only three areas left in the world that have indigenous stands of

Monterey pines.

The proposal to put the golf course near the Highway 1 gate of Pebble Beach near Pescadero Canyon — along with 350 units of housing — is still included in a draft supplemental environmental report (EIR).

But a second site option, with another layout by Fazio, has been penciled in, according to Mark Stilwell, Pebble Beach Co.'s vice president of real estate.

The EIR was expected to be delivered to Monterey County officials for review in mid- to late-October.

T E X T R O N

Financial Corporation

Looking to renovate or refinance your golf course? Or perhaps purchase one? Then call the golf loan experts at Textron Financial Corporation, the nation's largest golf course lender. With over \$250 million in commitments to date, TFC has the money to lend, and the know-how to tailor a financing plan that's perfect for your needs. We can refinance your golf course, provide acquisition loans or takeout commitments, all at competitive terms... we can even finance golf course equipment for you - quality brand names, such as E-Z-GO or Jacobsen.

Find out why the golfing industry has made TFC number one in golf course lending. Give us a call. We'll explain in no-nonsense terms exactly what we can do to help you.

IF YOU'VE GOT THE DRIVE, WE'VE GOT THE GREEN

TFC **TEXTRON**

Textron Financial Corporation
Subsidiary of Textron Inc.

*The First Choice in
Golf Course Financing*

Western Division

M.J. Mastalir
Real Estate Capital Corporation
6950 East Bellview Ave.
Suite 202
Englewood, CO 80111
303 290 9710
FAX: 303 290 9741

Eastern Division

Russ Maloney
Maloney Golf Finance, Inc.
8310 Kill Creek Rd.
DeSoto, KS 66018
913 585 1001
FAX: 913 585 3555

Division Headquarters

Ray Muñoz, Vice President
5901-A Peachtree Dunwoody Rd.
Suite 300
Atlanta, GA 30328
800 342 1687
404 395 9533

CIRCLE #107

Finances stall Rocky Gap construction

CUMBERLAND, Md. — Leaders of the \$34.4 million Jack Nicklaus-designed golf course and conference center project at Rocky Gap State Park say the real ground breaking will start next spring at the earliest.

Construction bids are in for the proposed course and survey work and mapping is ongoing, according to Hans Mayer, executive director of the Maryland Economic Development Corp., which is working out the financial package for the \$34.4 million project. Mayer said the state was satisfied with the final bids, but there are some unresolved financial issues that are preventing a construction start this fall.

The project includes a 220-room resort with 14,000 square feet of meeting space, a ballroom, restaurant and lounge, swimming pool, tennis courts and fitness room. The 18-hole course would have a pro shop, driving range and putting and chipping green. The complex will also feature a fly-fishing school and an outdoor sporting clay range.