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Golf course opening on par for December



Heavy equipment vehicles from R.E. Monk Construction Co. of Fountain Hills, Ariz. – being operated 21 hours per day, 7 days per week – have moved nearly 4,000,000 cubic yards of earth for state-of-the-art Laughlin Ranch Golf Club toward north end of the Bullhead Parkway. Par-72 championship golf is expected to be completed and in operation in late December. (Photo by Ron Morrison)

BULLHEAD CITY – Major construction on the Laughlin Ranch Golf Club and championship course on the east side of the Bullhead Parkway in Bullhead City continues on schedule with the goal of officially opening to the public by the final day of this year.

Since two-dozen pieces of heavy equipment went into action in early January toward the north end of the parkway, construction men and women have been working from 6:30 a.m. until 3:30 a.m. seven days each week moving 3.5-4 million cubic yards of earth and grading land that will accommodate a state-of-the-art clubhouse featuring a variety of amenities.

Both Lyle Jones, president of the Planning Group that is serving as project manager of the massive 10,000-acre residential/commercial development, and Doug

Fredrikson of the Phoenix-based DF Architectural firm specializing in golf clubhouse design, hope to submit preliminary plans to the city administration this month for the golf course's outbuildings that will include a snack bar, cocktail bar, restrooms, banquet facilities, exercise facility, spa, sauna, even a grassy area overlooking the mountains and desertscape – ideal for weddings and complete with a waterfall.

According to Jones, the par-72, championship golf course will extend a distance of 7,192 yards from the back tee boxes (4-5 on every fairway) and, for linksters wishing to play on all grass, the front tee boxes measure 5,007 yards.

The Laughlin Ranch Golf Course was designed by David Druzisky who, after earning his degree in landscape architecture

from the University of Arizona, gained valuable expertise during his initial internship under Robert Trent Jones, Jr. Druzisky's experience over the years was broadened through his work in field golf-course construction for highly-regarded clubs including Semi-ah-moo in Washington State and Pelican Hill in California where he developed his hands-on style that distinguishes him from other architects.

Prior to establishing his own architectural firm in 1996, Druzisky joined the Keith Foster Golf Course Design team and managed that firm's western offices where he was responsible for a dozen projects ranging from the SunRidge Canyon Golf Club in Fountain Hills, Ariz., and the Druids Glen Golf Club in Seattle, Wash.

See Golf, Page 10

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