O’Meara makes design debut in Canada

ORLANDO, Fla. — ClubLink Corp. announced that 1998 Masters and British Open Champion Mark O’Meara will make his debut as a golf course designer at ClubLink’s Grandview Inn property in the Muskoka region just north of Toronto.

This will be the first course at the 850-acre Grandview property in Hunstville, Ontario. The site features numerous rock formations and scenic vistas of Ontario’s Muskoka wilderness. The routing plan will integrate beaver ponds, waterfalls and marshes into the golf course design.

O’Meara will be teaming up with Brit-Stenson of International Management Group’s golf course design team, IMD, to complete the course design. Construction is expected to begin this fall.

GolfVisions opens S’West office

CHICAGO — GolfVisions, a golf course construction and management firm based in Northbrook, Ill., has launched GolfVisions Southwest and named industry veterans Monty Montgomery and Don Bingham to leadership roles.

Montgomery joins GolfVisions as executive vice president and is spearheading the company’s construction and business development activities in the west and southwest portions of the United States. His 28-year career in the golf industry includes six years of project management experience with Robert Trent Jones International and 15 years with Greenscape, Ltd., serving first as a project manager and then as director of field operations. Since 1995, Montgomery’s resume includes a stint with course builder Paul Clute and Associates and Crown Golf Construction.

Bingham, meanwhile, joins GolfVisions as a business development associate. He entered the golf industry in 1989 on the operations side, working as an assistant general manager for American Golf facilities. In 1991, Bingham moved into project management with Dye Design, a role that required him to oversee all facets of design, shaping and overall construction of a number of prestigious courses. Since 1994, he has pursued golf course development.

In addition to Montgomery and Bingham, GolfVisions recently added a top shaping duo to the team. Dan Pepin and Jim King, who have played a key role in the construction of courses for many premier architects.

For more information, call GolfVisions at 847-412-9990.

Smyers at work in central Fla.

ORLANDO, Fla. — Steve Smyers has designed an 18-hole, par 72 course at Golf Communities of America’s newest property, Hillcrest Country Club, in Lake County. Construction is expected to be completed by the fourth quarter of 1999 and ready for play by January 1, 2000.

The Hillcrest development consists of 430 acres of mixed density, single-family home sites with 120 acres dedicated to a championship course. It will be an unusual layout for Central Florida with rolling terrain and dramatic elevation changes.

Golf Communities of America acquires, develops and operates public, private and resort golf properties and associated residential communities throughout the United States.

CORRECTION

An article in the March issue of Golf Course News incorrectly identified the builder of a course in Freeport, Fla. The actual builder is AKW Golf of Hattiesburg, Miss. A 600-lot residential community named Magnolia Bluff will be part of the golf course community.

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