

O'Meara's first signature course opens in Ontario

KING CITY, Ontario — ClubLink Corp. has opened the Mark O'Meara Course at Grandview Golf Club in Huntsville, Muskoka, signifying the worldwide debut of the 1998 PGA Tour player of the year as a signature designer.

The Mark O'Meara Course opened for play in May, 18

months after construction began adjacent to Delta Grandview Resort. Grandview is a ClubLink "premium member club," with access for resort guests of Delta Grandview and ClubLink's three other Delta Muskoka Resorts. ClubLink also operates Rocky Crest Golf Club and the Lake Joseph Club in Muskoka.

O'Meara received a number of design offers after winning The Masters and the British Open in 1998, but chose ClubLink and Muskoka for his first signature course.

"I was attracted by the high quality of ClubLink and its golf clubs," he said. "We also felt it was important that the first

O'Meara design be on a beautiful piece of property. The great beauty of Muskoka — the trees, the lakes, rock and golf — make it a true golf destination."

O'Meara worked with a Cleveland-based golf architect Brit Stenson, his design partner.

"Mark has exceeded our expectations," said ClubLink



O'Meara teeing off at his new course president and CEO Bruce Simmonds. "The challenge was

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Vandal to be extradited

TULSA, Okla. — Richard William Jones, charged with vandalizing Southern Hills Country Club two years ago, has been arrested and is being held in Arkansas as Oklahoma authorities plan for his extradition.

According to the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Jones was arrested June 9 in Holiday Island, Ark., where he was working at a golf course. He was a member of the grounds crew at Southern Hills, which recently held the U.S. Open, at the time of the 1999 vandalism that ruined eight greens on the championship course.

Jones, who reportedly did not get along with club general manager Nick Sidorakis and course superintendent John Szklinski, went on the lam soon after the vandalism occurred. Before landing in Arkansas, Jones also had lived in California and had traveled to Europe.

Oklahoma has 90 days to obtain extradition.

CottonFields GC eliminates holes

LAVEEN, Ariz. — The daily-fee CottonFields Golf Club here is cutting itself in half. The 36-hole complex is trimming down to 18 holes. On the recovered real estate, builders plan to put up 450 houses.

The development team, headed by David Beckham and Lyon Golf's Mike Conner, worked in conjunction with CMX Design Group to select the 18 holes that will comprise a reconstituted course. No new holes will be built at CottonFields, currently closed to carry out the extensive renovations the changeover requires.

The renovation plan includes the construction of new cart paths, the planting of trees and desert plants throughout the property, and reconstruction of the course's irrigation system. The clubhouse also will be refurbished.

The original CottonFields club, designed by former PGA Tour player Dan Pohl, opened in 1993 as Pohl Cat Mountain View. It was purchased in 1998 by the current ownership team and renamed CottonFields. It's located just southwest of downtown Phoenix.

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Defibrillator

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CPR on Rugg, Stearns administered two electric shocks that allowed Rugg to regain a pulse. When paramedics arrived on the scene, Rugg was talking and asking what had happened. The 63-year-old golfer underwent triple bypass surgery five days later.

"It was kind of an interesting feeling of accomplishment," said Stearns, in his eighth year as Manchester's head pro. "I was very pleased with the way the machine worked. It basically told us what to do, and everything we had



Survivalink FirstSave AED

trained on actually happened."

Stearns and seven others on his staff were schooled on the FirstSave unit by Leon Andersen, M.D., a cardiologist who belongs to the club. Manchester Country Club purchased the unit in May 2000 from Softspikes Inc., the exclusive golf distributor for Minneapolis-based Survivalink.

"Everyone on the board of directors who decided to get a defibrillator is happy," Stearns said. "It's such an easy machine to use, and the investment is insignificant when you consider that we were able to save a person's life."

EASY TO OPERATE

Kelly Elbin, a Softspikes spokesman, said the Survivalink FirstSave AED carries a "suggested retail price" of about \$3,000, with discounts for purchases of multiple units.

Larger facilities often buy more than one, Elbin said. "Some managers feel that they'll have one for the tennis courts, one for the pool, maybe a couple for the golf course," he said. "It can range from one for an 18-hole club to four or five being purchased for a resort facility. Age of membership sometimes also comes into play."

Similar devices are manufactured by Medtronics and Agilent Technologies. "They're all good units," Elbin said. "The only difference is that, through us, Survivalink is the only one with a dedicated group selling specifically into the golf industry."

He described the units as having two small pads with electrodes that are attached to the person receiving attention. ■

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O'Meara

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to make the course different from the Lake Joseph Club or Rocky Crest Golf Club, and the Mark O'Meara Course is distinctive and spectacular. The golf experience at Grandview is unique and of the highest caliber, and I believe it is destined to achieve prominence in future golf course rankings."

The O'Meara layout sprawls across spectacularly rugged terrain and exudes a wilderness feel with its diverse stands of trees, elevation changes, wetlands and the granite outcroppings unique to the Canadian Shield region of Ontario. O'Meara took strides to make the course challenging but playable for all abilities with wide fairways, shallow fairway bunkers and gently

sloping greens.

A second 18-hole course, designed by Nancy Lopez and Curtis Strange, is planned for the 36-hole Grandview facility, located two hours north of Toronto.

The opening of the Mark O'Meara Course accelerates Muskoka's emergence as a golf destination. Deerhurst Highlands, a collaborative design between Tom McBroom and Bob

Cupp, has been highly regarded since it opened in Huntsville in 1990. The McBroom-designed Lake Joseph Club was named Best New Canadian Course by *Golf Digest* in 1997. Rocky Crest, another McBroom design, opened last season to rave reviews.

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