



Arnie

Jessie

Arnie and Jesse Officially Open Deacon's Lodge

The King and The Gov Provide Entertaining Exhibition

They were quite a pair to draw to...and from....and about, they being the legendary Arnold Palmer, designer of Deacon's Lodge in Breezy Point, and Jesse Ventura, the governor of Minnesota who showed he very much loves playing the game as well as its positive impact on the state.

On Memorial Day, celebrated May 31 this year, The King and The Gov played nine entertaining holes after warming up for about 20 minutes on Deacon Lodge's immense practice tee, all the while treating some 300-plus Grand Opening guests to a huge variety of quick-witted quips as well as some excellent golf shots -- by BOTH.

Arnie, of course, is a much better player. He shot around an even par 36 and Jesse a tad under 50 if you accept a few mulligans here and there on the nine holes they played. Eighteen holes had been planned, but the cold, damp weather sliced that in half.

Both golfers were pleasant and gracious, teasing each other a bit during the warm-up, on the course and at a news conference during lunch for all attending.

A left-handed golfer, Jesse not only showed that he has played a fair amount of golf before but also that he truly loves the game. This was his first time out this year, and he drove with his 3-wood because it was "too early in the season" for him to use a driver but periodically his shots

off the tee were right in the neighborhood of his playing partner.

Surprisingly for a man his size (6-5, 270 pounds), he had a surprisingly soft touch around the greens and brought some cheers from the crowd with his putting. In fact Arnie, aside from some gentle ribbing here and there, described Jesse as a golfer "with great potential."

While marching his size 13s around the course, he said he wasn't in as good physical condition as he would like, said his new job as governor just doesn't allow him the time he would like to play more, but expressed the desire to do so.

"My wife has her horses, and when she's busy with them, she says 'why don't you go play golf," Jesse said. "In the past I have, and I hope to in the future."

If he could play more, it was apparent he could live up to his 14 handicap.

After lunch, catered in a huge parking lot tent, both players fielded a variety of questions — some golf, some political, some just plain fun. At the close of the conference, Jesse told Arnie, "I know you have to fly back East now, but you know what I'm going to do? I'm going to play the other nine."

He did.