

Dave Williams  
**GOLF ACADEMY**



**For Immediate Release**

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**Officials Break Ground for Dave Williams Golf Academy  
at Redstone Golf Club**

**HOUSTON, June 21, 2011** – Representatives from the University of Houston, the UH Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, Redstone Golf Club and the Dave Williams family officially broke ground Tuesday morning for the Dave Williams Golf Academy at Redstone Golf Club. Tuesday's groundbreaking ceremony was only part of an ongoing relationship with Redstone Golf Club. The program recently reached an agreement with the club to serve as the official home course of Houston Cougar golf.

**QUICK FACTS & LATEST TECHNOLOGY**

The Dave Williams Golf Academy will cover 4,400 square feet and be built on the Redstone Tournament Course driving range. The facility is expected to cost around \$500,000, which will be raised by the Athletics Department through private donations. Construction will begin immediately and is expected to be completed by late fall.

The Golf Academy will house four indoor/outdoor hitting bays with the latest technology, including a Launch Monitor for players to practice length, dispersion and trajectories of any shot. In addition, a SAM PuttLab will take ultrasound measurements of the putting stroke and displays the information in simple graphic reports. A three-dimensional biomechanical measuring system will help refine the way a player's body should properly move during a golf swing.

The Golf Academy will be open the public throughout the year for golfers of all ages and skill levels. From individual and group lessons to putting, short-game and ball-striking clinics, Redstone Golf Club will provide top instructors using the latest technology to improve all areas of the game. In addition, custom club fittings with all the major manufacturers will be offered at the Golf Academy to maximize players' abilities with the best equipment. Charlie Epps, Redstone's Director of Golf, will office in the Academy with other Redstone instructors.

**WHAT THEY ARE SAYING**

"We are proud to open the Dave Williams Golf Academy at Redstone Golf Club. Redstone Golf Club is a first-class facility with an exceptional staff," Houston Director of Athletics Mack Rhoades said. "Playing on a home course like this with an addition like the Dave Williams Golf Academy gives our student-athletes an advantage against all other competition. It is altogether fitting that this new facility is named in honor of one of the most respected men in college athletics. No coach in history can boast of more team and individual success or had a greater impact on the lives of the student-athletes with whom he worked than Dave Williams."

"As we continue to move our program back into the national spotlight, we are thrilled to begin construction on the Dave Williams Golf Academy at Redstone Golf Club," said Dismuke, who recently finished his second year with the program. "One of my goals was to find our program a home and to build a state-of-the-art teaching facility that would help recruit players to the city and University of Houston. Building the Dave

Williams Golf Academy at the home of the PGA TOUR's Shell Houston Open will showcase our outstanding facility to a national audience every year."

"Redstone is proud to partner with the University of Houston golf program, which has a tremendous history and tradition of excellence," said Derek Clouse, Club Manager at Redstone Golf Club. "With the addition of the Dave Williams Golf Academy to Redstone's two championship-caliber courses, TaylorMade Performance Lab, Titleist Performance Institute Golf Fitness Instructors and world-class practice facilities, Redstone Golf Club's vision of becoming the premier golf facility in the region is being fulfilled. We will now have all the latest technology and resources, along with first-class instruction, to benefit the Cougars and players of all ages and skill levels."

### **ABOUT COACH DAVE WILLIAMS**

Dave Williams served as the golf head coach at the University of Houston from 1952-87 and built the Cougars into one of the greatest programs in NCAA Division I history. During his tenure, he led the Cougars to 16 NCAA team national championships covering four decades with eight of his student-athletes winning NCAA individual national titles. His teams won 341 tournaments covering four decades in 24 states and countries.

Known as the "Father of Collegiate Golf", Williams created the scoring system that is predominantly used in collegiate tournaments today. He also introduced the idea of dressing his teams in similar attire featuring school colors. "I have tried as much as I can to educate the public and fans about what Dave Williams meant to the University of Houston. Having this facility named after Coach Williams is the least that we could do," Dismuke said. "He is one of the most successful coaches of all time in any sport. Fans should think of Coach Williams as highly as UCLA's John Wooden and Penn State's Joe Paterno. He should be held in the same regard."

Born in 1918 in Randolph, Texas, Williams graduated from East Texas State College and eventually served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, reaching the rank of full lieutenant. Less than a week after receiving his discharge from the Navy, he joined the University of Houston... but as a member of the Engineering Department faculty. At the urging of his friend and then-athletics director Harry Fouke, Williams began coaching the Cougar golf program on a part-time basis in 1952 and became the team's full-time coach in 1955. The rest is history.

For his impressive efforts as a leader of young men and his kind-hearted ways as a person, he was inducted into the Golf Coaches Association of America Hall of Fame in 1980. Williams would eventually come to be enshrined in the Texas Sports Hall of Fame, the Texas Golf Hall of Fame and the Houston Athletics Hall of Honor. In 1988, the GCAA renamed its national men's collegiate golf Coach of the Year Award as the Dave Williams Award. Williams passed away on Dec. 17, 1998, at the age of 80.

### **REDSTONE GOLF CLUB**

Redstone Golf Club offers two championship courses (18 private, 18 public) located in Humble, Texas. The public Tournament Course, a Rees Jones/David Toms creation, is the city's only PGA TOUR course and home of the Shell Houston Open. The private Member Course, home of the 2003-05 Shell Houston Open, is a Jacobsen/Hardy masterpiece offering its own unique challenges. Together, with Redstone's TaylorMade Performance Lab – Golf's Ultimate Club Fitting, Titleist Performance Institute Golf Fitness instructors, world-class practice facilities and the Dave Williams Golf Academy, Redstone treats players to a pure golf experience. Redstone also has a spectacular clubhouse, locker rooms, restaurant and meeting facilities, all in a pure golf setting. Redstone was developed and is owned by The Redstone Companies.

Private Member Course – 525 members; 7,508 yards; opened in 2003

Public Tournament Course – 7,422 yards; opened in 2006

# DAVE WILLIAMS GOLF ACADEMY

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## Quick Facts

- Located on the Redstone Golf Club Tournament Course driving range
- 4,400 square feet
- Cost of \$500,000 to be raised by Houston Athletics Department through private donations
- Construction to begin immediately and expected to be completed by late fall
- Makes Houston the only school in the state of Texas to enjoy a golf facility/home course that annually hosts a PGA TOUR event
- Named after legendary head coach Dave Williams (1952-87) who led the Cougars to 16 NCAA team national championships and guided eight NCAA individual national champions

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## Latest Technology

- Launch Monitors to practice length, dispersion and trajectories of any shot
- SAM PuttLab to take ultrasound measurements of putting strokes
- Three-dimensional biomechanical measuring system to help refine how a players' body should move during a swing

## Amenities

- Four indoor/outdoor hitting bays
- Student-athletes' lounge and reception area will showcase rich history of Cougar Golf
- Office space for coaching staff and Redstone staff and administrators



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Houston, June 21, 2011



Photo includes: Jonathan Dismuke, Joel Williams, Charlie Epps & Mack Rhoades