

Un Wisconsin!

Badgers, cheeseheads gather in Sun Bowl

By JEFF OWENS
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Ah, it was like a little slice of Wisconsin right smack in the middle of Sun City.

Of course, it was a little warmer here. Probably a little sunnier, too.

Hundreds, maybe even a couple thousand Sun Cities area cheeseheads descended on the Sun Bowl Thursday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the 28th annual Wisconsin Day.

Event organizer Larry Wilson — a Milwaukee native — said this year's party drew at least 1,400 people. That's 1,000 more than last year, a statistic Wilson found most pleasing.

"I love it," he said, grinning. "All the brats, beer and cheese are from Wisconsin."

Smoke from the grills drifted lazily over the amphitheater as live polka and swing music blared from the speakers onstage.

And the smoke carried that smell — oh, that smell — of brats cooking on the grills. For the people gathered there, it could've only smelled like one state in particular.

Everywhere Sun Citians wore their badger state heritage proudly — Green Bay Packers jerseys and "Big Cheese" tee shirts. They had a ball at the party, but obviously take their home-state heritage seriously.

Well, as serious as someone wearing a cheese hat can be.

Sun City is home to about 6,000 transplanted or wintering Wisconsinites, one of the largest state populations in the area. Almost without exception, they all say the best thing about the party is the camaraderie.

"I like the friendly people," said Ruth Biver, a Sun Citian originally from Spooner, Wis.

"And the food is fine," she added, finishing off the last of a brat.

Wilson said he and fellow organizers put on the bash for "good fellowship. That's what it's for; it's not for the money."

Sun Citians sat beneath banners proclaiming their native Wisconsin cities and towns. If it's in Wisconsin and it's incorporated, you can bet there was a banner there: From Milwaukee to Madison, Greenwood to Green Bay, Ashland to Appleton, Oshkosh, Racine, Door County, Sheboygan and Fond du Lac — they were all there.

"It's one of the best state parties around," said Milwaukee native Andy Brauneis.

Don and Ruth Kappus of Altoona said: "We hate to miss 'em. They're just great."

They have to go back to the real thing in a few weeks though, and the weather is sure to be somewhat less pleasant there.

"That's the bad part," Don said.

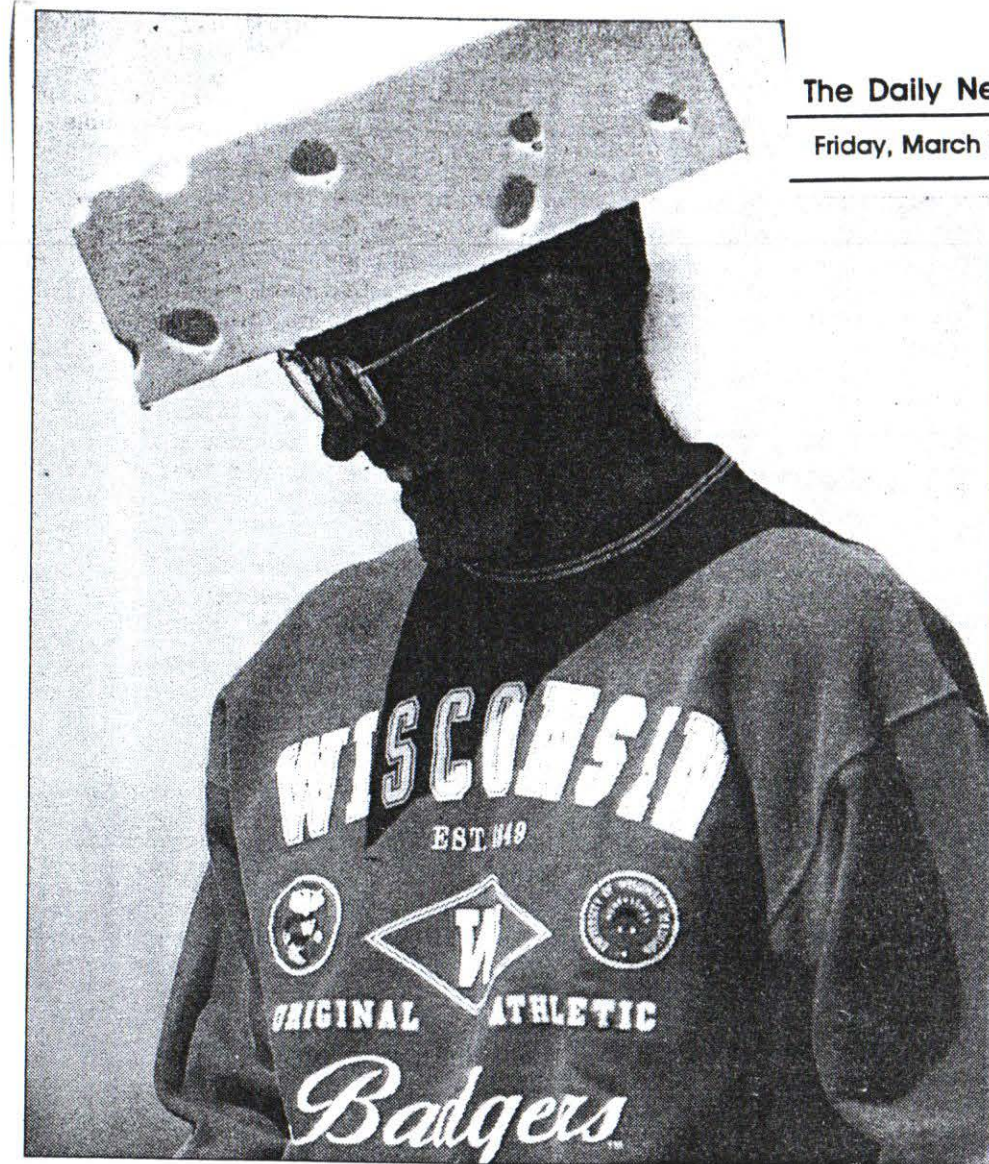
Ruth said her favorite part of the event was "meeting friends and listening to the music."

The beer flowed freely as keyboardist Michael Carollo played a bouncy and amusingly appropriate tune: "Cab Driver, You'd Better Take Me Home."

Other than the brats, Tom Everts, who works for Prudential Securities in Sun City, was there because "This is the first Wisconsin group I've seen, with the exception of the Packers bars. It's nice to see people from back home."

Everts' friend, Stephanie Hertzog, said she was having a great time, even though she's from Pennsylvania.

"I'm pretending to be from Wisconsin today," she said, laughing.



The Daily News-Sun

Friday, March 26, 1999

Steve Chermek/Daily News-Sun
Dick Ohnstad, right, of Sun City wears his cheese hat at the picnic. Ohnstad hails from Mazomanie, Wis.

Daily News-Sun Wednesday, Oct. 28, 1998

Celebration starts at Sunset Show

Staff report

Several popular local entertainers will take to the stage Saturday night for the Grand Old West Fest's ever-popular Sunset Show in the Sun Bowl, located just south of Peoria Avenue in Sun City.

Mary Ann Mitcham, a former Ms. Senior Arizona, and Johnny Harris, widely known keyboardist, will emcee the show that kicks off with Mary Atkinson singing the song she composed as the Fest's theme.

The show gets under way at 5:30 p.m., just in time for the sunset. Folks are encouraged to arrive early, with a lawn chair or blanket in tow,

as well as a donation for the West-side Food Bank.

First to take the stage will be the Rhythm Ramblers, a 17-piece dance band playing big band music for community, charity functions and dances, including regular performances at Sundial Recreation Center.

Next up will be the Nani Wahines Hawaiian Dancers, a local group which has been swaying since 1984, donating proceeds from their shows to West Valley service groups.

A favorite among Sun Citians returns to the Sun Bowl with barbershop music favorites. Members of the Desertaires, who have been singing locally for more than 20

years, form a chorus of as many as 60 voices for the traditional music and then drop into quartets for smaller-scale songs.

The Desertaires give a regular performance once a year, generally in March, and join the Phoenicians, another barbershop group, at the Sundome, also on an annual basis.

The Sun City Poms, an internationally known group of women, will be performing dance routines with pompons. Those in the group average 74 years of age — but that hardly diminishes their energy or ability to kick high and dance well.

Splits and pyramids are part of

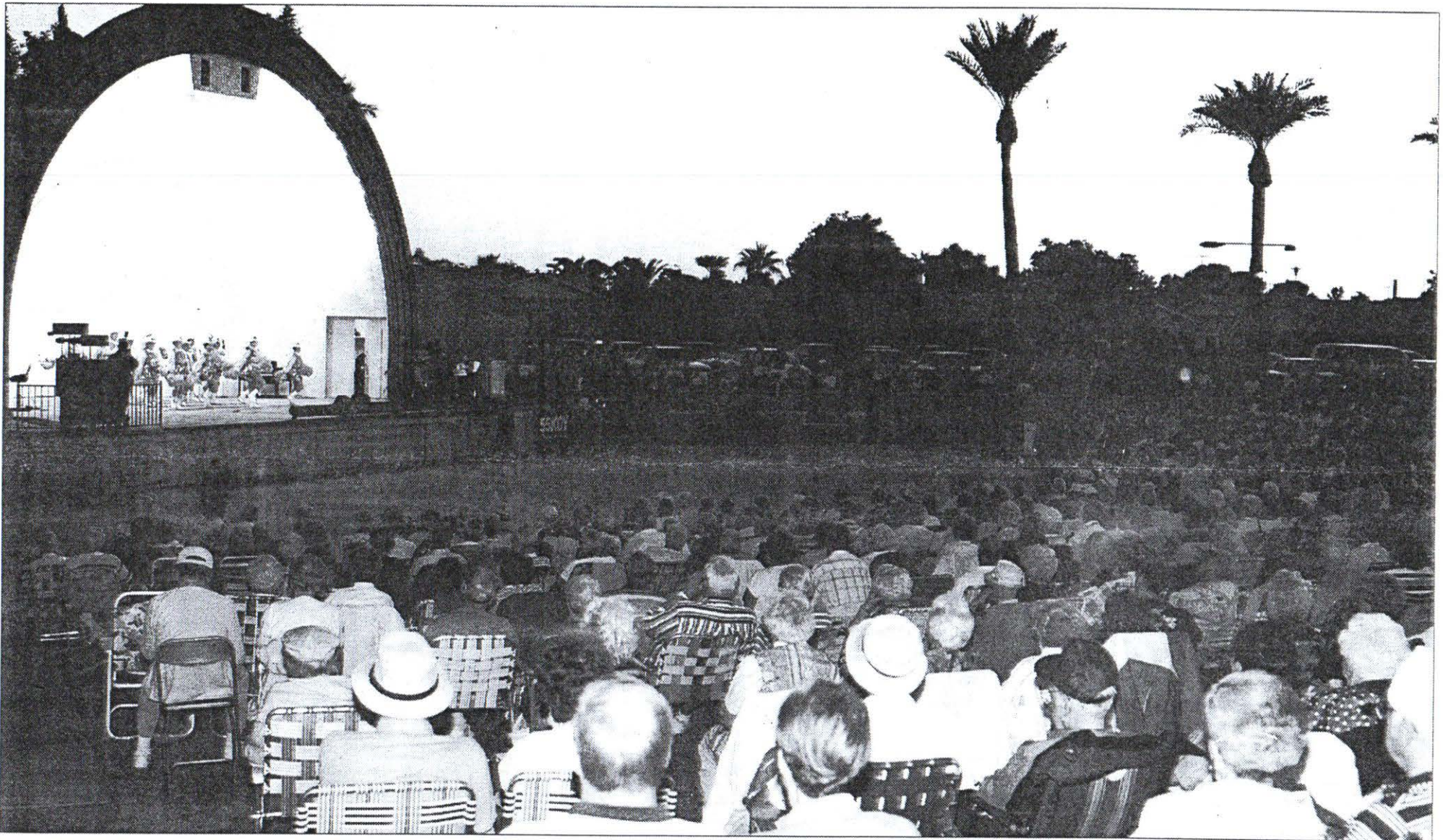
their routine.

And that routine has been seen from the Fiesta Bowl to network television, including commercials for Nissan vehicles and Bud Lite beer.

Closing this year's show will be the Cactus Country Sweet Adelines, a women's singing group that specializes in barbershop harmony.

The Sunset Show is sponsored by the Recreation Centers of Sun City, the Northwest Valley Chamber of Commerce, Daily News-Sun, Arizona Public Service, the city of Surprise, radio station 55KOY and Del Webb's Sun City Grand.

OVER



This Daily News-Sun file photo shows the crowd enjoying last year's Sunset Show at the Sun Bowl. On stage are the Sun City Poms, a

perennial favorite of the audience. This year's Sunset Show begins Saturday night at 5:30.

Gregory Harris/Daily News-Sun

July 5 and 6, 1997

Daily News-Sun

Verne Stout portrays Dr. James Wilson, a delegate from Carlisle, Pa., to the Continental Congress. Wilson signed the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. Stout was the colorful keynote speaker at the Ring the Bell ceremony at Bell Recreation Center Friday morning.



Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

Let Freedom Ring

Independence stance took tragic toll on many Declaration signers

By DAVID MILLER
Staff writer

If not many people remember the lives ruined by the Declaration of Independence, Verne Stout can surely remind them.

According to Stout, or rather his alter ego, Dr. James Wilson, signer of the Declaration, the founding fathers did more than give their approval to the birth of a nation.

They also marked themselves as traitors to the British Crown, forcing some into hiding, prison and abject poverty.

It's through Stout's speeches, posing as Dr. Wilson, that he brings to life the tales of lesser-known Independence Day authors.

"Some of them went to prison. Others saw their loved ones impris-

oned in their stead," Stout said during the "Ring That Bell" ceremony Friday morning at Bell Recreation Center in Sun City.

An estimated 400 people gathered to hear patriotic speeches and music. And as in 18 previous events, visitors got a chance to ring the Liberty Bell replica in the Del Webb Memorial Garden.

This year, for the first time, attendants also ascribed their names to Declaration copies.

Had they been signing in 1776, however, the decision wouldn't have come so easy.

For instance one young man, 26-year-old Thomas McKean, was forced to keep his family in hiding after signing the Declaration of Independence. He took up his score with the British by fighting with the

Continental Army, though he served without pay.

Another man, New Jersey's Richard Stockton, fled when his estate was overrun by the British. His wife escaped, but Stockton eventually was captured and dumped in prison. His home and health ruined, he died before the war's end.

The British methodically picked off the trading ships of Carter Braxton, a wealthy planter. Still, he managed to lend large sums of money to the cause, and was never repaid. He was forced to sell his plantations and property to pay his debts.

"Honest John" Hart was forced to leave his ill wife's bedside, and their 13 children. While eluding capture, he often found himself sleeping in forests and caves, until he managed to return home.

Sadly, he found his wife dead and children gone.

Francis Lewis also lost a wife to the war, after she was jailed by the British. Locked up for two months, her health was so affected that she would die just two years later.

And the list goes on. In presenting his speech, Stout recalls the stories compiled by the group Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge.

Freedoms Foundation, which participated in Friday's ceremony, gives classes and seminars on U.S. citizenship to young people across the country.

It also fills out Independence Day festivals, like the "Ring That Bell" fiesta.

"This is one of our better turn-outs," said Sun City's Betty Mills, president of the group's Phoenix chapter.

Master of ceremonies and organizer Richard Pullen agreed. "This is our biggest in recent history."

Also on hand were members of American Legion Post 101 of Sun City.

The highlight, however, was Stout's impersonation.

Dr. Wilson, a Scotsman who signed the Declaration six lines below Benjamin Franklin, was one of eight signers not born in the colonies. And his rousing speech brought to life the tales of those who literally signed their lives away.

Not all did, however. One Congress member actually voted for independence, but didn't sign the Declaration.

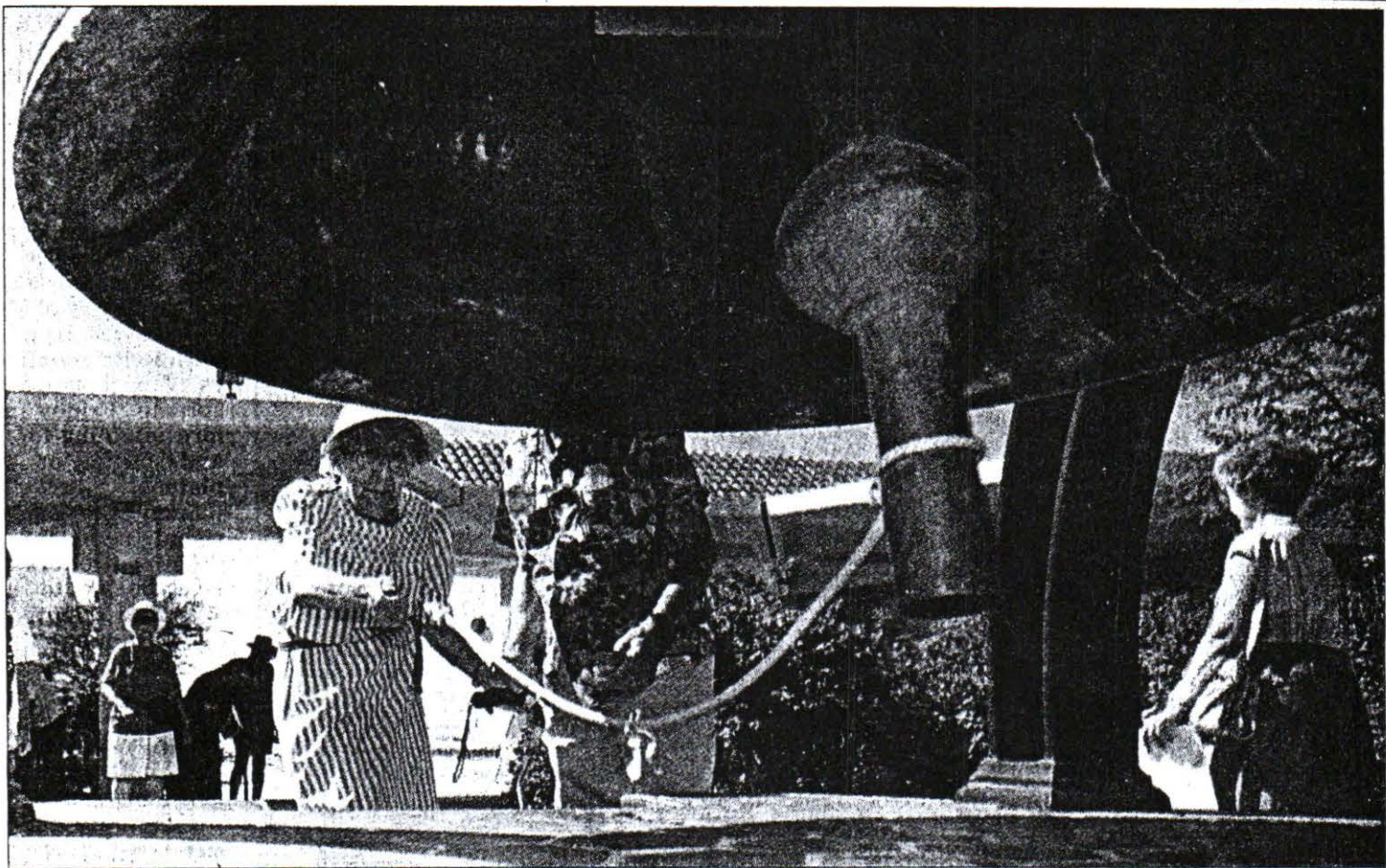
Another who voted against independence signed anyway.

And a third voted, rode off to fight the British, and returned to sign the document a year later.

"There are so many good stories," said Stout, of Sun City West.

The ceremony featured Sun City's Liberty Bell, made from 7,000 pounds of metal donated in 1976 by more than 1,500 residents, in the form of jewelry and family memorabilia.

The metal was processed by a Philadelphia foundry and the bell cast in Arsten, Holland.



Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun



Virginia Stein of Sun City, above, lets loose of rope hanging from the heavy clapper at the bell-ringing ceremony Friday morning at Bell Recreation Center. Five-year-old Daniel Dippolito of Peoria, left, holds his ears while he watches others ring the bell.

Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

Festival captures western heritage

Staff report

This year's Grand Old West Fest — the fourth — brings plenty of western cowboy action to the normally quiet Northwest Valley this weekend.

From a grand re-opening of Cowtown AZ, a former Hollywood western stunt town about 20 miles north, to horses and steers in the parade — and cowboy singers, poets and storytellers — you'll be able to relive much of the area's western heritage this weekend.

Most events are free. Things get under way at Cowtown Friday with a real country hoedown, shoot-outs, saloons, cowboys, clowns, a steakhouse and other performances starting at 3 p.m., and going on until 10 p.m. (See separate story on E3).

Cowtown is about 20 miles north of the Sun Cities, to the left at the place where SR 74 (the Carefree Highway) intersects 99th Avenue. Admission here is \$3, kids free.

Then, on Saturday, gather along Del Webb Boulevard in Sun City for the Grand Old West Fest parade, 60-units strong, and watch horses, clowns, bands, floats, jesters, antique cars, decorated golf cars and hear lots of music as the assembled units travel up Del Webb Boulevard.

The parade starts at 10 a.m., and may take 90 minutes to pass. This year, the parade starts from near the Lakeview Recreation Center, and will head north toward the St. Clement of Rome Catholic Church parking lots, so the best viewing will be on the east side of the street.

KOY's Roger Wayne will emcee at the reviewing stand at Talisman Road in the La Ronde Shopping Centre, and entertainer Johnny Harris will be on the keyboard there.

There are more details — and a complete listing of parade units on E2. And be sure to note that it's going to be impossible to get across Del Webb Boulevard for about two hours, so if you won't be parade-watching, find another way around the line of march.

Saturday afternoon, there's a cowboy festival at the new Rio Salado College in Surprise, on Smokey Drive, just off Bell Road next to the Windmill Inn.

Cowboys — real ones — will be on hand to tell stories, sing songs, read original poetry and describe life on the range in the heyday of Arizona's cattle

► See Events expected, E2

Events expected to attract record-setting crowd

■ From E1

days about a century ago.

All events are free.

Saturday night, at 6:30 p.m., head over to the Sun Bowl in Sun City (107th Avenue just south of Peoria Avenue) for the Sunset Show, an annual tradition that brings several familiar and well-loved Sun Cities groups to the stage for 90 minutes or more of thrilling old-time entertainment. The Choraliers, the Mellow Tones, the Sun City Poms and the Desert Aires will be on stage, along with Mary Atkinson, singing the Grand Old West Fest theme song.

Ms. Senior Arizona, Jan Rittmaster, will also be on hand for the show em-

ceed by Mary Ann Mitcham, a former Ms. Senior Arizona and Johnny Harris.

All you need to be admitted is a contribution for the Westside Food Bank; but you will want to bring along a folding chair or blanket to sit on.

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, the Country Market will be open, offering the chance to examine the wares of about 50 vendors selling crafts, sewn items, foodstuffs and decorative work. You'll find a complete list of vendors on E7.

You'll also be able to hear Dutch Schultz and his guitar from 10 a.m. on, and to see and listen to the Boot Scooters from Westbrook Village in Peoria from noon on.

Grand Old West Theme Song

Chorus

*Put your hands together, come on
and clap
Put your foot down on that floor
and tap, tap, tap
The Grand Old West Fest is coming
to our town
So clap your hands and stomp your
feet and bring the house down.*

*Take off your high heels, your suits
and your ties
Put on your western boots, ban-
danas and bola ties
Bring out the fiddle, join in with
the band
We're gonna have fun while our
business expands.*

Repeat Chorus

*Memories of the Old West is what
it's all about
That which was a frontier is now a
happy town
We're gonna celebrate and have a
grand old time
Bring back the days with a Grand
Old West Fest Time.*

Repeat Chorus

Thousands have enjoyed the three earlier West Fest weekends, and planners expect more area residents to join

in this year's festivities.

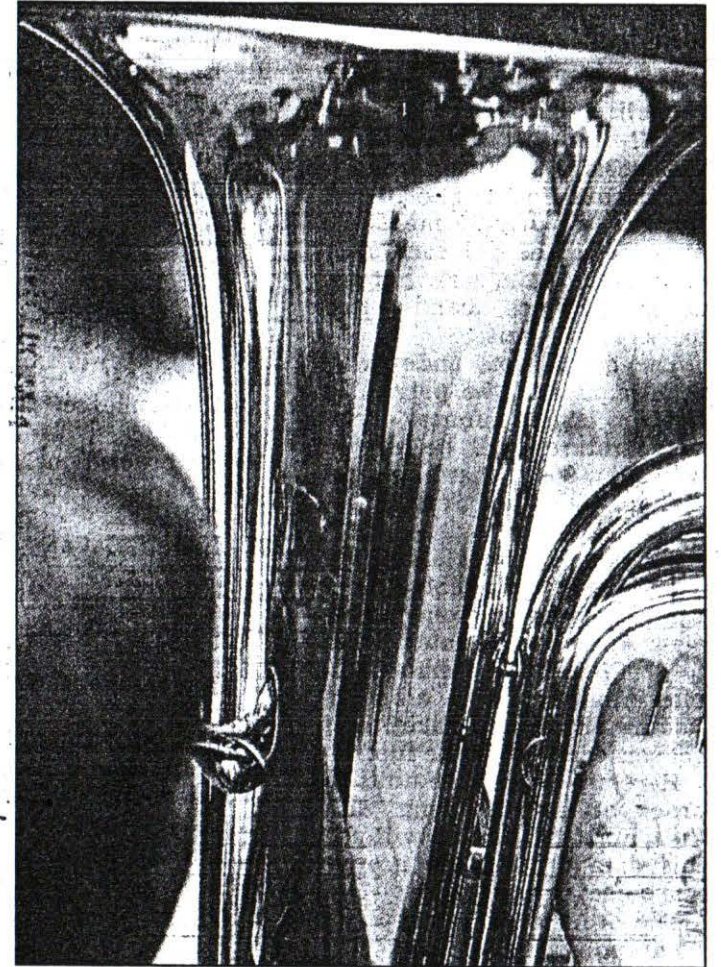
Hedi Headley, a member of the Northwest Valley Chamber of Com-

merce, is heading this year's fest committee, while Lois Richardson is parade "boss."

The Sun City Poms will be featured in both the Grand Old West Fest parade and Sunset Show.



Bob Leppanen's face is reflected in his tuba as he rehearses for the Sunset Show. In photo at left, a member of the Estellas de Peoria Ballet Folklorico performs in last year's Grand Old West Fest parade.



Scoot over to the market

Staff report

The Country Market in Surprise is back by popular demand for this year's Grand Old West Fest.

Vendors will be set up at 10 a.m. Sunday in and around the Surprise City Hall and the Northwest Valley Chamber of Commerce office just off of Bell Road, west of the El Mirage intersection.

Country Market Chairman Jeannette Ryder, assisted by Michelle O'Hair, have arranged for 50 booths featuring everything from arts and crafts to food and clothing and demonstrations.

Entertainment will be provided throughout with Dutch Schultz performing country-western tunes and other favorites from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. And the much-in-demand Westbrook Village Boot Scooters will demonstrate a step or two during their performance at noon.

Here's a list of vendors:

- Marge Chiodo-Hussong, ceramics, Booth 1.
- Evelyn Sheehan Crafts, handmade rabbits; wall decor; shirts, Booth 2.
- Pat Thomas, tents, Barbie beds, Booth 3.
- Sher's Clothing, T-shirts, Booths 4 & 5.
- Integrated Pain, Booth 6.
- Surprise Teen Center, Booth 7.
- Betsy Fields, sunglasses and associated products, Booth 8.
- Angie Grudzien/AnRi Crafts, recycled maps, stamps, catalogs, acrylic, Booth 9.
- Peggy Smith, fabric dolls,

miscellaneous crafts, Booth 10.

- Camelot Retirement Center, Booth 11.
- Hooked on Olives, gourmet olives and olive products, Booth 12.
- Audio Tech Labs, hearing aids, Booth 13.
- Gertrude Wacker, porcelain Indian dolls, handcrafted collector dolls, etc., Booth 14.
- Secret Sense, Sue Woolbridge, scented hot pads, Booth 15.
- Rosie Howard, plywood reindeer, Booth 16.
- Susan Baker, fabric crafts, children's quilts, fabric wreaths, eggs, painted tins, Booth 17.
- Laura Burnett, ear wraps, Booth 18.
- Bob Chrostowski, wood crafts, Booth 19.
- Stacey McLaughlin, Christmas Around the World, Booth 20.
- Hometown Buffet, handouts, cookies, Booth 21.
- Sheila Levijoki, teddy bears, birdhouses, angels and snowmen, Booth 22.
- FHP, Booth 23.
- Jacquelyn Gerke, Indian jewelry/Kachinas, Booth 24.
- Kathy Clevenger, Elegant Mystique, Christmas balls, hats and sun visors, Booth 25.
- Barb Lanous, tents for dolls, action figures, beanie babies, Booth 26.
- Yecjle Sales, Richard Yeakle, African violet pots, T-shirts, western blouses, concho belts, Booth 27.
- Ruth Chamack, Western Indian statues, Booth 28.

■ Janet Henningsen/Environ Int'l, biozone bars, programmed nutrition system, Booth 29.

■ William Rogers, R & R Enterprises, salsas, jam, jelly, pickled products, Booth 30.

■ Dot Giza, framed Western art/pressed flowers, framed/cards/candles, Booth 31.

■ Surprise-Bell-Grand Rotary Club, Booth 32.

■ Margaret's Vest, vests, Booth 33.

■ Puttin' on the Ritz, T-shirts, Booth 34.

■ Al Kitchen, Booth 35.

■ Gloria Freeman, Booth 36.

■ Kathy Taylor, hand lotions, soap, potpourri, pottery candles, Booth 37.

■ Bob Kosal, golf equipment, Booth 38.

■ Karole's Unique Gifts, handmade Native American art and crocheted items, Booth 39.

■ William Bennett, beaded earrings, Booth 40.

■ Unique Design Salon, salon products, Booth 41.

■ Nancy's, clothing, Booth 42.

■ KOY Radio, Booth 43.

■ Sunland Memorial Park, community service, Booth 44.

■ Windjammer Barefoot Cruises, Booth 45.

■ Discovery Toys, Booth 46.

■ Creative Memories, Booth 47.

■ Puttin' on the Ritz, T-shirts, Booth 48.

■ Karen Dickert/Casey's Corners, silk florals, Booth 49.

■ Jewelry Sensations, jewelry and watches, Booth 50.

Grand past unites communities

Staff report

This weekend, Sun City, Sun City West, El Mirage, Youngtown and Surprise which celebrate their joint heritage during the fourth annual Grand Old West Fest.

And everyone concerned can thank Henry Wickenburg, a grizzled prospector who discovered Arizona's largest cache of gold more than 100 years ago, for opening Vulture Road, the trail that became Grand Avenue.

In 1912, the year the Arizona Territory achieved statehood, the United States Post Office opened a station in Marinette — on the site of what is now a Kentucky Fried Chicken outlet near 103rd and Grand avenues.

Marinette was founded by a native of Marinette, Wis., R.P. Davie, who eventually sold his holdings in the area to Southwest Cotton Co., a subsidiary of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., for \$1 million.

In 1936, the Marinette Ranch was sold to the J.G. Boswell Co., also of Litchfield Park.

Just down the road, meanwhile, about five miles southwest of Marinette, a construction camp was established in 1941 by a young builder named Delbert Eugene Webb, a carpenter with business skills who won the contract to construct Luke Air Field for the U.S. Army Air Corps.

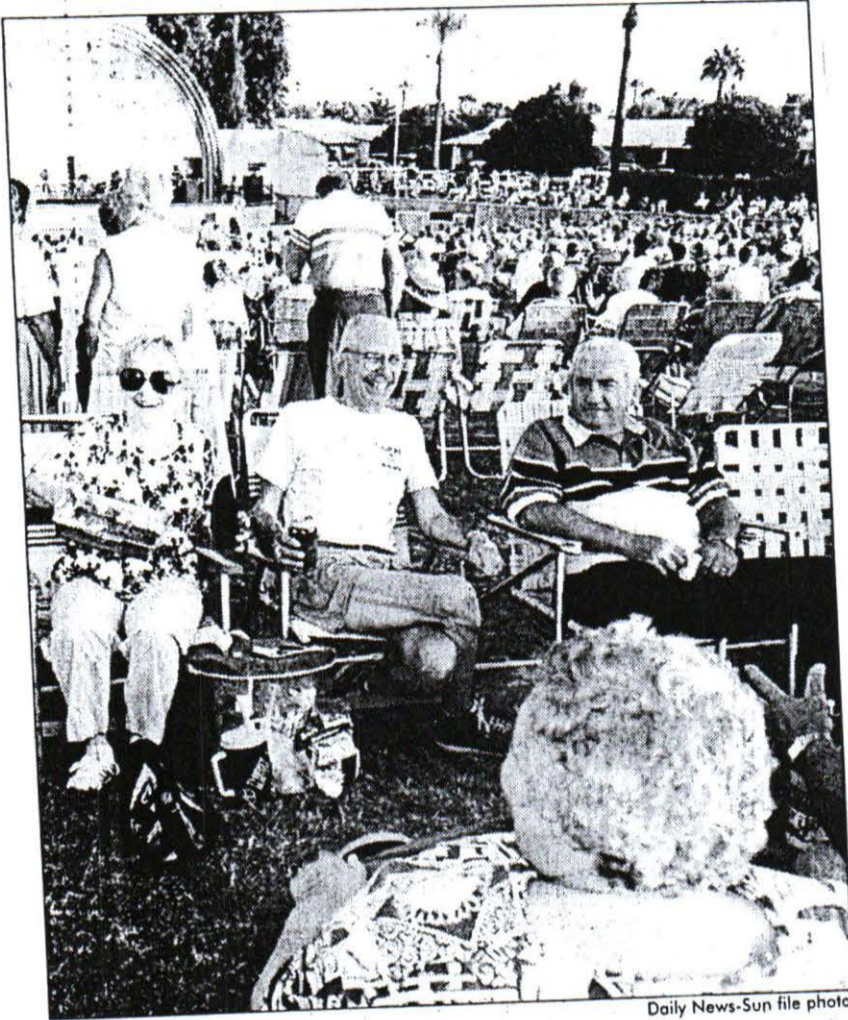
In 1959, Webb acquired 20,000 acres of cotton land.

It became Sun City, neighbor to the world's first retirement community, Youngtown.

Sun City lies just moments from Surprise and El Mirage, both founded in the 1930s, and is sister city to Sun City West, which sprang to life in 1978, and Sun City Grand in Surprise, which opened this week.

This weekend, the five communities will toast their past, present and future. The Northwest Valley, once the sleepy edge of Phoenix, has been transformed, by Webb, by the expansion of other towns, and by the desire of people from all across the United States to live in the Valley of the Sun.

Entertainers set for Sunset Show



Daily News-Sun file photo

More than 5,000 people jammed the Sun Bowl last year for the Sunset Show sponsored by the Recreation Centers of Sun City.

Staff report

Several popular local entertainers will take to the stage Saturday night for the Grand Old West Fest's ever-popular Sunset Show in the Sun Bowl, located just south of Peoria Avenue in Sun City.

Mary Ann Mitcham, a former Ms. Senior Arizona, and Johnny Harris, widely known keyboardist, will emcee the show that kicks off with Mary Atkinson singing the song she composed as the Fest's theme.

The show gets under way at 6:30 p.m., just in time for the sunset. Folks are encouraged to arrive early, with a lawn chair or blanket in tote, as well as a donation for the Westside Food Bank.

First to take the stage will be the Sun City Choraliers. The 24-voice mixed ensemble is accompanied by piano and synthesizer. Its first performance was in 1981, under the direction of Clyde Parnell, who is now deceased.

The current director is Shirlie Schulte, who has an

extensive background in musical theater and church music.

Next up will be the Sun City Poms, an internationally known group of women performing dancing with pom-poms. Those in the group average 74 years of age — but that hardly diminishes their energy or ability to kick high and dance well.

The group also performs modern jazz, tap dances and western numbers.

The Poms date back to 1979, and perform about 50 shows a year.

A favorite among Sun Citians returns to the Sun Bowl with barbershop music favorites. Members of the Desert Aires, who have been singing locally for more than 20 years, form a chorus of as many as 60 voices for the traditional music and then drop into quartets for smaller-scale songs.

Joining the Fest lineup this year will be Jan Rittmaster of Sun City West, who won the

Ms. Senior Arizona crown earlier this year was selected first runnerup recently in the national senior pageant.

Closing this year's show will be the Mellow Tones, who may bring residents to their feet Saturday night with brassy

renditions of such old time favorites as "Little Brown Jug" and "Chattanooga Choo-Choo."

The Tones is a dance band of 11 players, all of whom also are performers in the decade-old Polka Pops Band.

The Desert Aires
rehearse for Sat-
urday night's
Sunset Show at
the Sun Bowl.



10-25-95



Prides strut their stuff for parade

Members of the Sun City Prides take a moment to pose for a photo prior to the start of the Old West Fest Parade held earlier this month in Sun City. The Prides were one of nearly 90 entrants participating in the parade.



Fest begins Friday

Sun Bowl show opens celebration

Staff report

The third annual Grand Old West Fest promises three days of fun, frolic, fantasy and flavorful food as it kicks off Friday night with a star-studded sold-out program at 6:30 p.m. in the Sun Bowl.

Saturday's parade, with more than 60 units, starts at 9 a.m. on Del Webb Boulevard, and will travel from St. Clement of Rome Catholic Church south to Lakeview Recreation Center.

A Chili Cookoff is slated for 11:30 a.m. Saturday in the Promenade at Bell Road and 99th Avenue; and a street dance at the Sundome in Sun City West will keep dancers swinging from 7 to 10 p.m.

On Saturday and Sunday afternoons, Del Webb's Sun City West model home center will feature special entertainment and free refreshments.

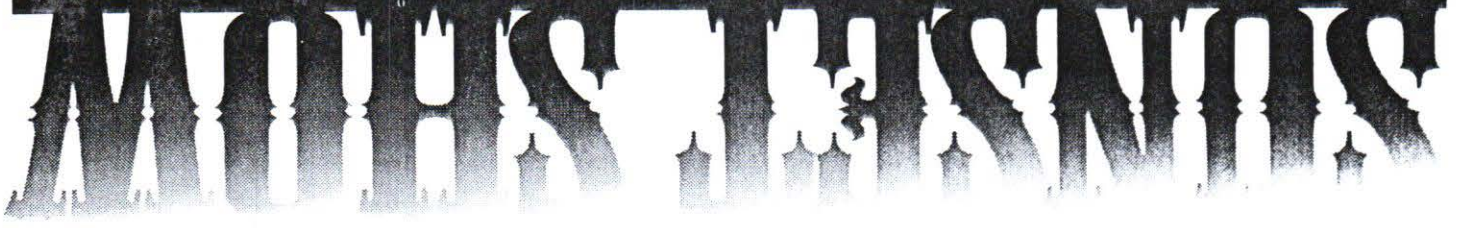
And on Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., dozens of crafters will show and sell their wares at a Country Market behind the shops at Sun Ridge in Surprise, on Bell Road just east of El Mirage Road.

Complete details on the Grand Old West Fest can be found in a special eight-page section in today's paper.

(OVER -143)

10-5-95

Sunbowl • Friday, October 6, 1995 • 6:30 p.m.



3rd ANNUAL

GRAND OLD WEST FEST SONG *by Mary Atkinson*

CHORUS –

Put your hands together, come on and clap
Put your foot down on that floor and tap, tap, tap
The Grand Old West Fest is comin' to our town
So clap your hands & stomp your feet & bring the house down.

Take off your high heel shoes, your suits & your ties
Put on your western boots, bandannas & boa ties
Bring out the fiddle, join in with the band
We're gonna' have fun, while our business expands.

REPEAT CHORUS

Memories of the Old West, is what it's all about
That which was a frontier, is now a happy town
We're gonna' celebrate and have a grand old time
Bring back the days of yesteryear with a Grand Old West Fest Time

(2 of 3)

ORDER OF ENTERTAINMENT

Emcees:



Mary Ann Mitcham & Johnny Harris



Mary Atkinson, **GRAND OLD WEST FEST** theme song
(words on back of program)

Polka Pops Band
Sun City Poms
Sun City Steppers
Sun Liners
Desert Aires
Rhythm Tappers
Banjo Band
Dutch Schultz

This event sponsored by the Recreation Centers of Sun City

OTHER GRAND OLD WEST FEST EVENTS

★ **SATURDAY, OCT. 7 - 9:00 a.m.**

GRAND OLD WEST FEST **PARADE**

Down Del Webb Blvd. (beginning at Citizen's Utilities, past the reviewing stand at LaRonde Center and finishing at the Lakeview Rec. Center) *Come out and see Classic Cars, Ms. Senior Arizona, Floats, Clowns, Miss Arizona, Music, Fire Trucks, Dahcers, Horses, Luke AFB Color Guard, and lots of surprises!!!!*

YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS ONE!

★ **SATURDAY, OCT. 7**

7:00-10:00 p.m.

STREET DANCE

at the SUNDOME, Sun City West.
A cool evening, cool soft drinks and HOT MUSIC make this a stompin' good Saturday night!

★ **SUNDAY, OCT. 8 - 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

COUNTRY MARKET in Surprise

Held in the **Courtyard of Sunridge Retail Shops**, 12211 W. Bell Road -(1 block east of El Mirage on Bell) *Produce, Baked Goods, Arts & Crafts, Jewelry, Clothing - You Name It! Entertainment and Food Concessions. Come and browse and enjoy this popular event.*

GRAND OLD WEST FEST

Sponsored by:

Daily News-Sun

DEL WEBB CORPORATION



BAPTIST VILLAGE

NORTHWEST VALLEY *Arizona*

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

(3 of 3)

West fest plans marching along

Staff report

The third annual Grand Old West Fest parade is shaping up, with more than 30 units now signed to participate in the Oct. 7 event, said coordinator Jim Bailey.

There will be floats from such retirement centers such as Royal Oaks, Sierra Winds and the Madison, Bailey said, and Peoria's Centennial High School band will be in the parade along with a float from the school.

The parade is just one of several events scheduled over the three-day Grand Old West Fest, an event that notes the area's old west heritage and includes Sun City, Sun City West, Youngtown, El Mirage and Surprise.

Tickets are available for the Friday, Oct. 6, Sunset Show at the Sun Bowl, where a variety of local talent will be on stage with old favorites and maybe a new routine or two.

Performing are the Polka Pops Band, Sun City Poms, Dutch Schultz, the Sun Liners, the Desert Aires, the Sun City West Rhythm Tappers and the Banjo Band.

Tickets are available on a first-



Steve Cherek/Daily News-Sun

Dee and Dutch Schultz sing a cowboy song at the Olive Branch Senior Center in Sun City. Dutch Schultz will perform in the Grand Old West Fest's Sunset Show Oct. 6.

come, first-served basis at the club office of the Lakeview Recreation

Center in Sun City (10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd.) and at Daily News-Sun offices in Sun City (10102 Santa Fe Drive) and Sun City West (Suite 12, 13576 Camino del Sol).

There is no charge for tickets, but those attending the Sunset Show are requested to bring canned goods to the show to be given to the Westside Food Bank.

The Sun Bowl show gets under way at 6:30 p.m. and should be over by 8:30 p.m.

The parade starts at 9 a.m. on Oct. 7, and will work its way south along Del Webb Boulevard from St. Clement of Rome Catholic Church to Lakeview Recreation Center.

That night there will be an outdoor "street dance" from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Sundome Center for the Performing Arts in Sun City West. Sunday will feature an arts and crafts country marketplace in the courtyard of the Shops at Sun Ridge in Surprise. The courtyard is a block east of El Mirage Road on Bell Road.

Vendors will have baked goods, arts and crafts, produce, clothing, accessories and jewelry, said Mich-

elle O'Hair of the Northwest Valley Chamber of Commerce, one of the Grand Old West Fest sponsors.

The Daily News-Sun and the Del Webb Corp. are the other sponsors.

Bailey, west fest parade organizer, said that a group of alumni from a major Midwestern university has entered Bucky Badger in the parade, in costume, leading him to believe that representatives of other universities may have other animal mascots, such as wolverines, that might also want to participate. If so, they should call him at 933-3130 to sign up.

A Luke Air Force Base color guard will lead the parade.

Bailey said clowns and a unit from the El Zaribah Shrine have signed up to march or ride. Some mounted individuals now are signed up and a couple of classic cars will transport four former Ms. Arizonas, he said.

Several golf car dealerships also plan to enter their cars, appropriately decorated in a western theme, he said.

Sun City spectacular will feature 10 horse acts

By Julia Jones
Staff writer

SUN CITY — So many folks from the Sun Cities drove all that way to see Gary Clay's Arabian Knights Stage in Scottsdale, he decided to take the horse extravaganza to Sun City.

It's happening Saturday at Sun City Stadium, Grand Avenue at 111th Avenue.

It'll be a Las Vegas-style horse extravaganza, with entertainment, lavishly costumed riders, a company of "generals" in history who rode horses, trick riders, the "del Camino Drill," special showings of Morgan horses, miniatures, Shetland ponies, baseball on horseback and a segment especially planned to please children. More than 40 horses will perform in 10 acts, Clay says.

And before the horses come on

at 7 p.m., there'll be a Celebrity Softball Challenge at 5 p.m., pitting some northwest Valley personalities against the Amazing 60s, the all-star tournament softball team made up of Sun City men who are 60 or older.

"I hope people aren't expecting Bob Hope because we're calling it Celebrity Softball," says Bob Atkinson, owner of Sun City Stadium. "They'll be officials and businessmen well known in the West Valley, and I understand some of them are pretty good players."

The horses will come from a Scottsdale Arabian ranch, Clay's del Camino Arabians, established in 1946, which makes it among the valley's oldest. At one point, the ranch was one of the largest in the Southwest, with more than 1,000 horses, Clay says.

Clay has trained and ridden his

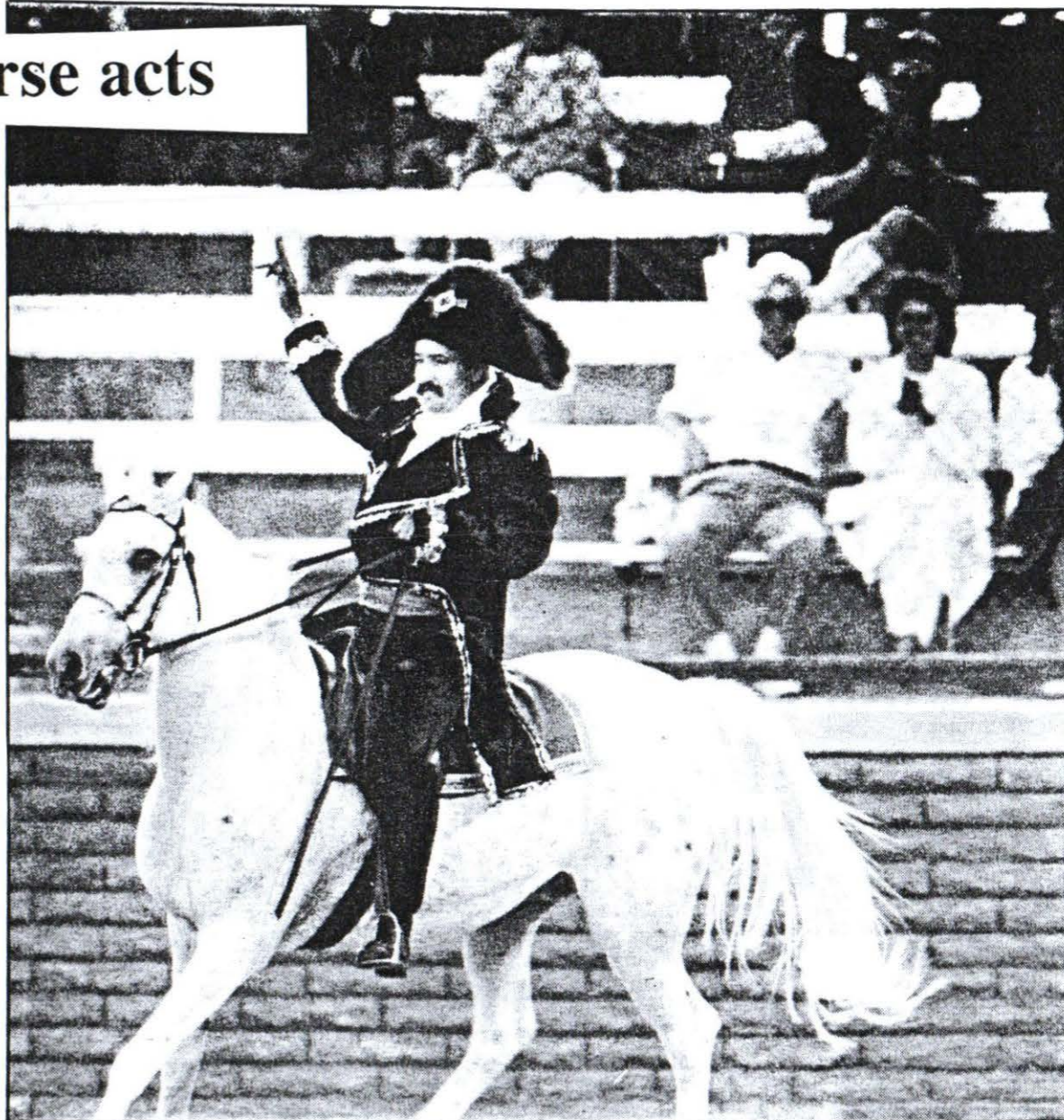
share of national champion Arabians, he says, and although the ranch is still a breeding operation, the market in horse flesh is about as depressed as other property. In the meantime, Clay has switched a lot of attention to entertainment, such as the Sun City Spectacular.

"It's good, clean fun," he says. "People absolutely love it."

"And it gives us the chance to help raise funds for many different causes."

Some proceeds of this show, for instance, will help buy uniforms for The Sun City Saints, a women's fast-pitch softball team, and the Sun City Sons, a boys' baseball team.

Tickets, at \$7.50 for adults, \$5 for seniors and \$2.50 for children 12 and under, are available at Dillard's, at the stadium or by phone at 972-2247 or 867-8275.



Daily News-Sun photo by Frances Guarino

CROSSING THE INFIELD — A member of the Arabian Knights Stage Show, portraying Gen. George Washington, rides in front of the crowd Saturday night at Sun City Stadium during the general's parade portion of the show.

Sun City celebrates 30 years!



An anniversary parade held Jan. 20 capped off a week-long series of birthday celebrations for Sun City residents. The parade began at the Grand Shopping Center and made its way along 107th Avenue to the Sun Bowl. More than 40 different clubs and businesses participated in the parade, which featured clowns, bike clubs, floats and antiques cars. For a full recap of the week's anniversary events, see Pages 8-9.



Photos by Tyson Kuhrt/Independent

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