

# New Golf Course To Open With Free Preview Play

Sun City's new Lakes East golf course will be opened to Sun Citians for free play during resident preview week, Sunday through Sept. 6.

Residents may play free on the new course during that week, but must phone 933-8254 for a tee time as required on all Sun City courses. Lakes East will be

officially open for resident and public play Sept. 7.

The course features 12 par-3 and six par-4 holes. Rolling terrain and greens were designed to give an

interesting challenge to the golfer's short game, said Owen Childress, vice president of the Del E. Webb Development Co.

Course lengths are: championship, 3,533 yards; regular, 3,172, and ladies, 2,954. Cart paths are paved, and Sun Citians with cart permits on other area courses may use their carts on Lakes East without extra cost.

The new golfing spot is a greens-fee-only course, so there will be no regular men's or ladies' days. Special tournaments may be arranged through the pro shop.

Greens fees for residents will be \$1.75 for nine holes on weekdays, \$2.20 on weekends and holidays; \$2.50 for 18 holes on weekdays and \$3 on weekends and holidays.

For non-residents fees will be \$2.75 for nine holes on weekdays and \$3.25 for weekends and holidays, and for 18 holes, \$3.50 on weekdays and \$4.25 on weekends and holidays.

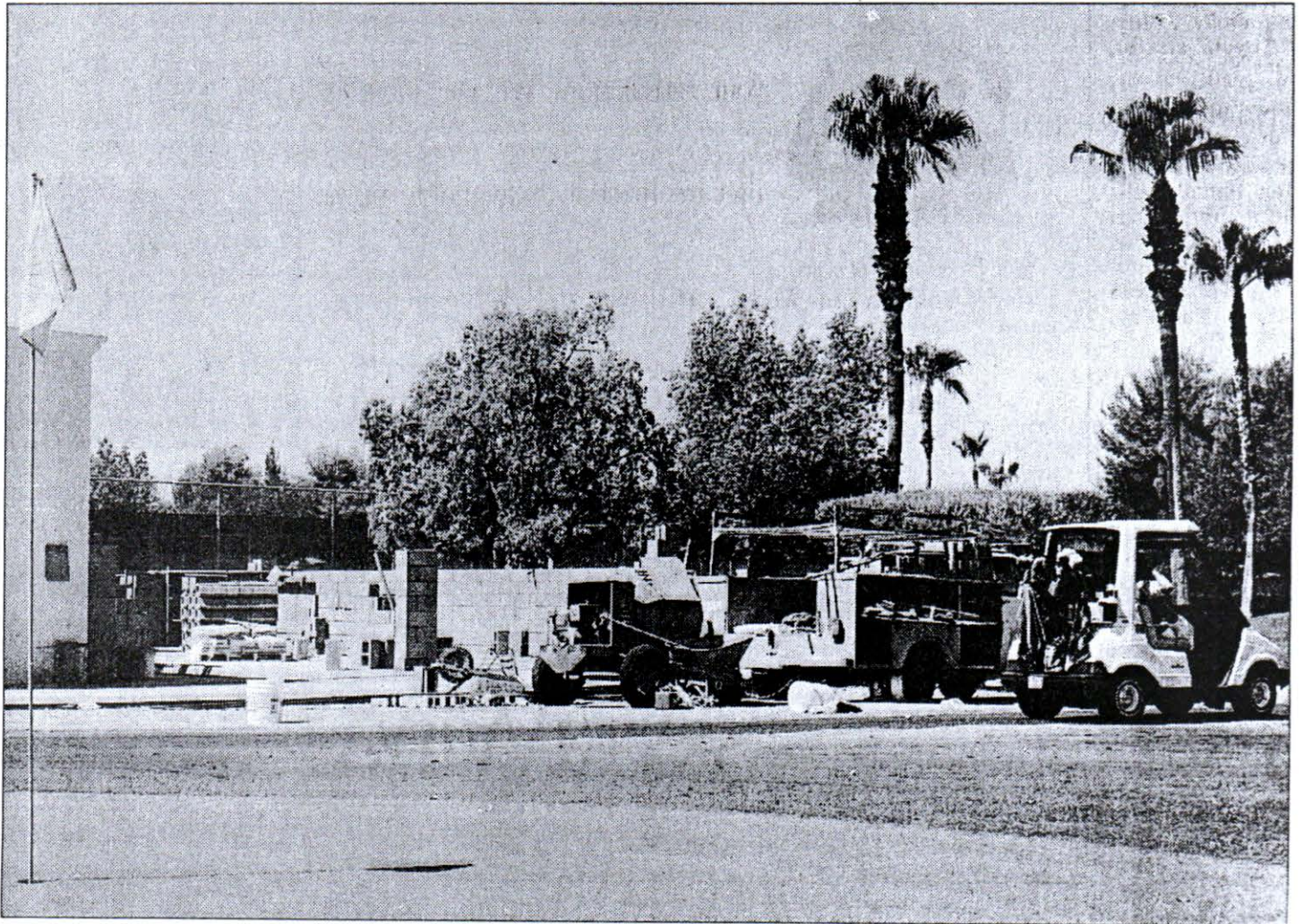


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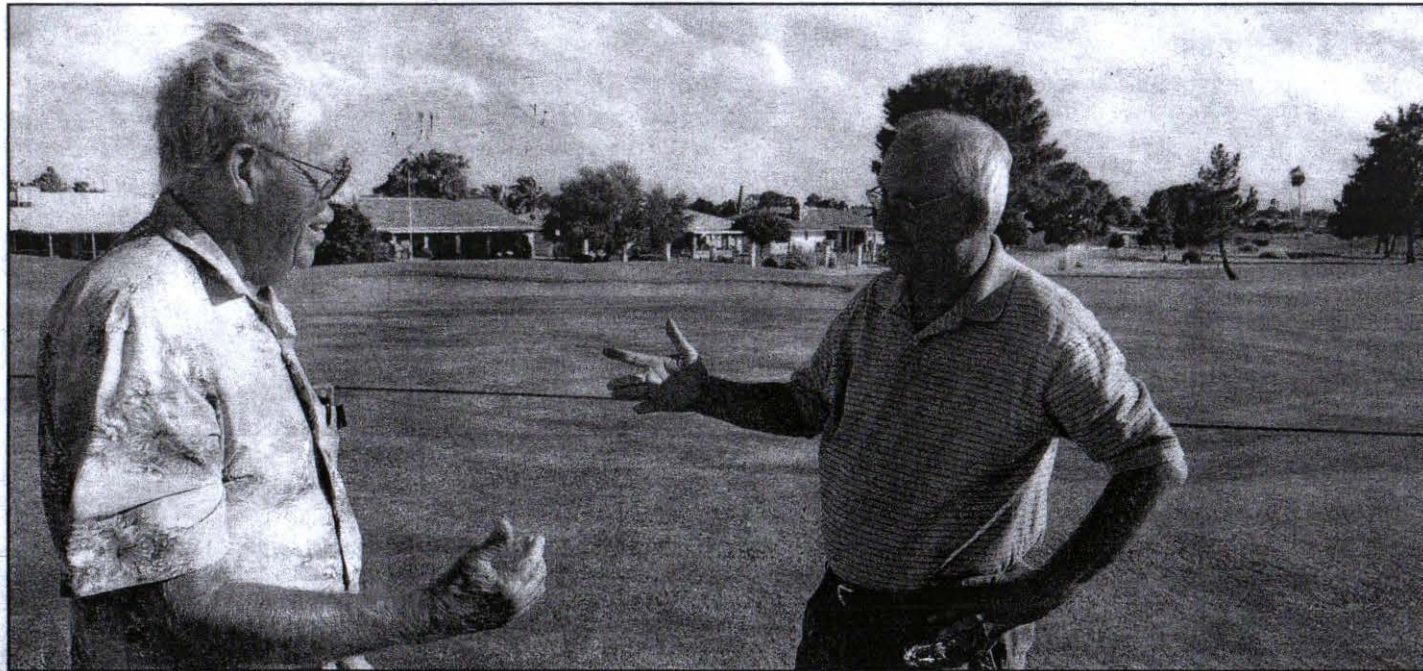
## Swing shift

Greg Tarango, photo right, mixes cement for an expansion project at the Union Hills Golf Course's golf-car barn. A golf car, photo below, putters by the construction site. The addition is expected to be completed by late September and will hold 18 cars.



Jennifer Knipper/Daily News-Sun





Independent Newspapers/Rusty Bradshaw

Sun City residents Marv Worthen, left, and Steve Sadowski discuss the merits of keeping Quail Run operating as a golf course. Some residents living on the course voiced their opposition to changing the use of the land during last week's Recreation Centers of Sun City Board of Directors meeting.

## Quail Run: To golf or not to golf

Residents want action to initiate automatic extension

**By Rusty Bradshaw**  
Independent Newspapers

Sun City residents bordering Quail Run Golf Course are not happy with the discussion of changing the use of the course.

Recreation Centers of Sun City officials have been discussing the disposition of the course since last spring. It is the only golf course in Sun City that does not have a

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[www.sunaz.com](http://www.sunaz.com)

deed restriction mandating it remain a golf course. Quail Run had such a restriction that began Oct. 2, 1979, but it only had a 20-year life span. Other Sun City courses have either permanent restrictions or ones that automatically renew.

Residents became concerned after RCSC officials posted a survey on its Web site, [www.sunaz.com](http://www.sunaz.com), asking what cardholders wanted to see done with the course.

"We knew nothing about this," said resident Merrill Jones during the Sept. 23 RCSC board meeting.

Board members were quick to try and reassure cardholders that no decision about the fate of the golf course has been made.

"The Quail Run survey is just that, a survey," said Gene Westemeier, board president. "We want to hear from the membership."

However, residents are still unhappy because they believe even the discussion of the

See **Quail** — Page 6



# Quail

Continued From Page 1

issue affects their property values.

"This bad economy hit us with lower property values and this (Quail Run) will have an impact on property values," said resident Wayne Parker. "Just the discussion of it alone will bring us another hit."

Resident Nancy Dennis believes any other purpose for the course will bring additional liability to owners there.

"I do not have a fence and I will have dogs and kids in my back yard," she said. "I do not want that liability."

Mr. Jones was upset because owners knew little about RCSC officials' discussion of changing the land use for Quail Run. In addition to no disclosure in real estate dealings, there was no information provided by RCSC officials.

Resident Robert Kendrick agrees.

"There was no disclosure in the sale that said some day Quail Run might no longer be a golf course, because someone neglected to sign the proper extension in 1999, nor was there an reference whatsoever to the life expectancy of Quail Run Golf Course," he stated in a letter to Mr. Westemeier.

Mr. Kendrick said he and his wife bought their home specifically because they wanted to live on a golf course.

However, RCSC's long range planning committee has discussed the matter in previous meetings, according to Tom Loegering, board member and long range planning committee chairman during a Sept. 21 committee meeting. Several people had attended that meeting to speak on the issue but Mr. Loegering said while it has been discussed previously, it was not on the Sept. 21 meeting agenda.

"We're talking about all the facilities in Sun City and trying to create a long range plan for them," he said. "But Quail Run was not on the agenda and we needed to stick to our agenda for that day."

Board member Jim Bishop told resident during the board meeting there was no hidden agenda for Quail Run.

"This board prides itself on being open and transparent," he said. "We will take a look at the results and the majority will rule."

Mr. Westemeier said there had been more than 1,000 hits on the online survey and at drop boxes in the community by Sept. 23.

"We will not make a decision until the survey results are in," he said.

The survey asks if respondents wanted Quail Run to remain as is. If they do not, there is a list of alternative uses to choose from, including dog park, roller skating area, playground areas, basketball half-court, walking and running trails, picnic areas, volleyball, a stocked lake for fishing, bicycling trails, raised garden beds, badminton or three-hole pitch and putt. The survey also asks respondents about their interest in golf and whether they have played on Quail Run.

Resident Marv Worthen said it was a shame Quail Run did not have the same

permanence of the community's other golf courses, but believes the board has the ability to rectify that.

"The residents of Quail Run request that immediate action be taken by the RCSC Board of Directors to institute the same automatic extension of the covenant for the deed of the Quail Run Golf Course," he said.

Mr. Kendrick also believes only those living on Quail Run should have a say in the disposition of the course. Resident Norman Philking believes RCSC's survey should include "weighted" responses for residents living along Quail Run.

"They should have more than one vote compared to residents in other areas of the community," he said.

Mr. Worthen said there are 123 homes directly on Quail Run and another 279 in close proximity. He believes those homeowners and the golfer who use the course are the only ones who should have a say in the course's future.

"Why ask someone up on Union Hills what should be done here?" he asked.

However, resident Steve Sadowski, who wants Quail Run to remain a golf course, disagrees.

"All Sun City homeowners have a part ownership in and of the common grounds and facilities," he said.

Mr. Sadowski believes changing the course would cost more than keeping its current use.

"The tear down expense and new maintenance expenses will not be cost effective," he said.

In addition, any other use would not bring in the same amount of revenue, even though golf revenue is down right now, as any use suggested in the survey, he added.

Resident Lois Horsmeyer, who does not live adjacent to Quail Run but does golf there frequently, said keeping the course operating was important because it was more challenging than other executive courses in Sun City.

Mr. Jones also said changing the use of Quail Run will increase homeowners' vulnerability to crime because if it is used as a park it would be open to the public.

"Our house was broken into and Maricopa County Sheriff's deputies told us homes on golf courses are broken into more often because of the open areas behind them (homes)," he said.

He was also not excited about cyclone fencing being installed around the course as that would detract from the property value. He was also opposed to a dog park because his pets would react to dogs and people going by his back yard.

Mr. Westemeier told residents at the Sept. 23 board meeting survey responses to that point were overwhelmingly in favor of keeping Quail Run as a golf course. He said the survey, which was published in Sun Views and the newspaper as well as being available online, will continue through October and November.

"We'll wait until December to give the snowbirds a chance to participate," he said.

*News Editor Rusty Bradshaw can be reached at 623-445-2725 or rbradshaw@newszap.com.*



# Golfers play through pro shop demolition

By IAN MITCHELL  
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — The harsh sound of splintering wood didn't seem to bother a handful of golfers at North Golf Course, who kept practicing their putts Wednesday morning as a front-end loader turned the pro shop into a heap of rubble.

The demolition and cleanup at the site will continue until next week when work on the new building will begin, said Al Grothe, owner of Grothe Construction Co. that will build the pro shop.

The Recreation Centers of Sun City board voted to replace the old pro shop, one of the first buildings in the retirement community, for aesthetic reasons. Board President Gerald Unger has said the building looked like something from World War II.

Work crews employed by the

recreation centers removed salvageable lumber and other materials from the building's roof and interior last week, Grothe added.

The new 2,700-square-foot pro shop will be about the same size as the old building and erected in approximately the same location.

The contract for demolition of the old building and construction of the new shop calls for completion of the project within 120 days. Sun City Recreation Centers board members have said the work will be completed for less than the \$170,000 budgeted for the project.

The new pro shop is one of several construction projects under way at the recreation centers.

Adding automatic score-keeping machines to Bell and Lakeview lanes and replacing eight bowling lanes at Lake-

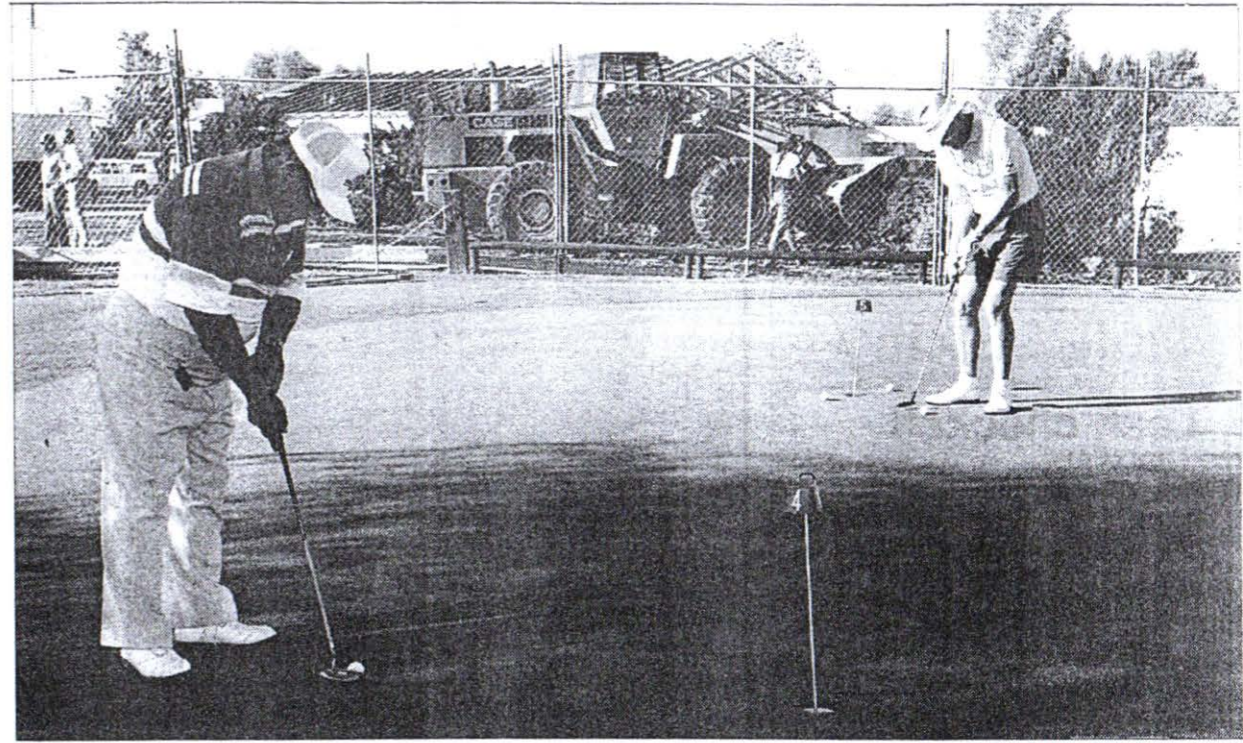
view are budgeted to cost \$206,000. Work on those projects is under way and is to be completed this summer.

An outdoor tennis court at Mountain View Recreation Center and renovation and expansion of changing rooms at Fairway Recreation Centers are in the bidding process, said Unger.

Plans for an expansion to the wood and metal shops at Bell Recreation Center have been simplified to reduce the project's cost, Unger said. The revised plans will be put out to bid soon, he said.

The initial plans put out for bid were too complicated and required crossing underground wire and gas lines as well as expensive roof work, Unger said. All bids came in over the \$49,000 budgeted for the project, he added.

Unger said expansion of the



Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

Ramon Alvarado, left, of Peoria and Sun Citian Jim Nolan concentrate on their putts as a front-end loader demolishes the pro shop at North Golf Course.

Bell Fitness Room is still under consideration. Bell Fitness Club members presented a petition with 650 names asking for more space earlier this year.

The fitness area could be enlarged by expanding into the adjoining spa area, Unger said. Fitness club president Louis Kuhn has criticized that plan and proposed an exten-

sion of the building.

"We haven't heard any objections from the spa people," Unger said. "It's the fitness people that want more space."



## Pro shop, built in '60, to be razed

By IAN MITCHELL  
Daily News-Sun staff

North Golf Course is a few months away from a new pro shop.

The construction contract to replace the current pro shop was signed Thursday after months of planning.

Art Williams, vice president of the Recreation Centers of Sun City, declined to disclose the cost of the project, but said it will be completed for less than the budgeted cost.

The budget provides \$170,000 for the demolition and construction.

Demolition of the current pro shop will begin June 28, and the new building, to be about the same size, will be built on the same site.

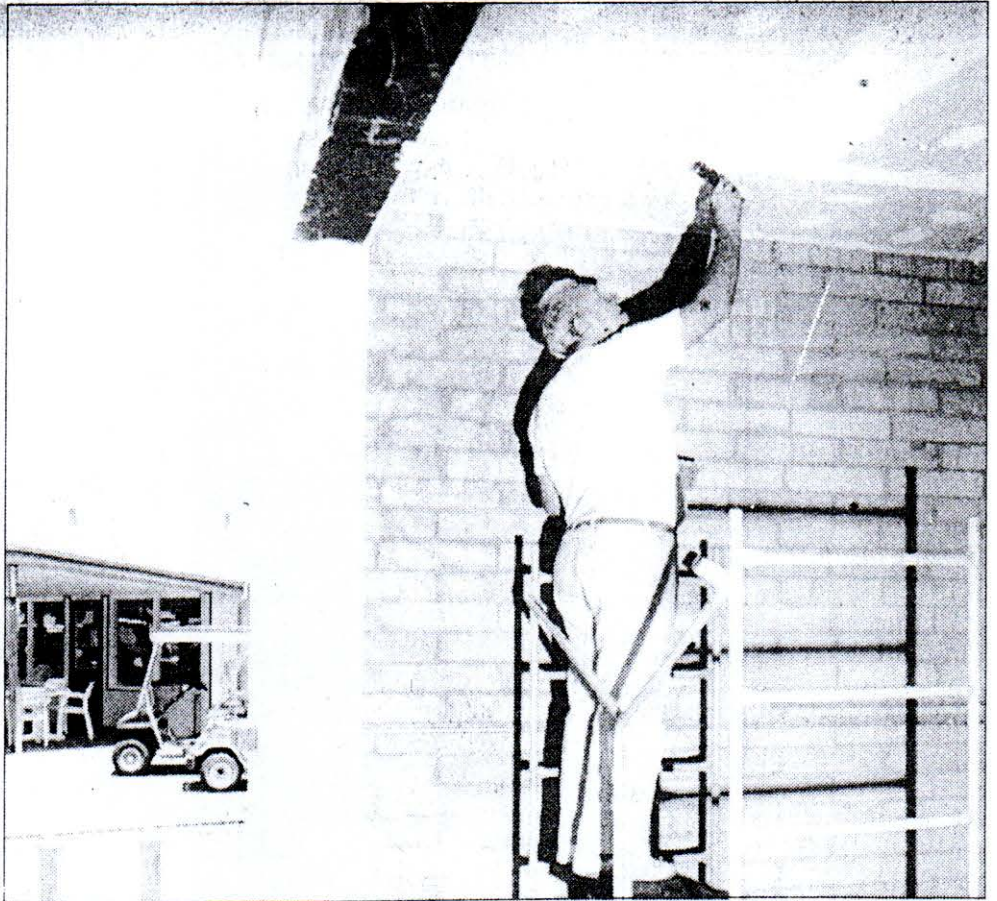
The contract signed Thursday states that work at the pro shop site, 12650 N. 107th Ave., will be completed within 120 days. That deadline means construction should be completed in October.

Grothe Construction Co. will build the pro shop, and WRF Management Consulting will act as construction manager for the project.

The golf car barn at North Golf Course is being converted into a temporary starter's office for use while the pro shop is under construction.

A hot dog cart may also be stationed at the course to provide refreshments, said Treasurer Max Domino.

North Pro Shop is one of the oldest buildings in Sun City. The wood structure was built when the retirement community opened in 1960.



Rick D'Elia/Daily News-Sun

Thomas Raia spackles the ceiling of a golf car barn which will be used as a temporary pro shop at the North Golf Course on 107th Avenue in Sun City. Demolition of the current pro shop will begin June 28.

Williams said the new building should last longer than the existing structure because it will be built of brick with a tile roof.

Other construction and renovation projects are also being planned for Sun City recreation centers.

An architect is completing final revisions on plans to enlarge the Bell Recreation Center wood and metal shops, said Bob Rabineus, project manager with the recreation centers.

The expansion, budgeted at

\$49,000, has been under discussion for the last two years, said Gerald Unger, president of the recreation centers.

A proposal to enlarge the fitness room at Bell center is under review, he added.

Planning is also continuing on projects at Fairway Recreation Center, where the dressing rooms will be enlarged and a spa installed, and Mountain View Recreation Center, where a tennis court will be built.



## Golf Has Big Day As South Course Opens

All in one day—the South golf course was opened, the South golf association went tentatively into business, it rained in Arizona, and North Ass'n Pres. Andy Grant summed up what seemed to be the consensus of Sun City golfers.

"Let's have peace and tranquillity," he said, "and all have a good time."

He gave this benediction last Friday at a meeting which completely filled Town Hall, and which must have included every golfer in Sun City, plus a few passers-by who stepped in to see what kind of a crap game was in progress.

Not much was accomplished actually, but from the statements of several speakers it seemed obvious that most golfers tend to favor an overall golf association for all of Sun City, with North and South divisions that will be completely autonomous so far as arranging their own tournaments, assigning handicaps, etc., is concerned.

Herb Merman, recently named temporary chairman of a South course association, said that his committee felt it best to continue for the time being as a temporary organization rather than try to set up anything permanent right away.

He said they should take December to get better acquainted, try out the course, find out whom the members might like to have as permanent officers, and look into the question of what type of organization they might like to form.

He himself said it looked as though they should point toward an overall association, possibly with South and North branches.

Meanwhile, so far as the South course is concerned, he explained that a women's division would be formed, and an attempt would be made to have some kind of competitions for the men on Fridays and the ladies on Tuesdays.

These days for tournaments had not been firmed up, he added.

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### GOLF

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ed, but the committee would go ahead assuming they would be approved, although they may have to be changed.

Opening the meeting, Merman introduced the staff of the pro shop, saying that they had to hurry away to their work, doubtless to get the bilge pumps working so it would be possible to find the greens.

Introduced were Tom Lambie, pro; Ken Jones, shop manager, a Sun City resident; Boyce Abbott, teaching and assistant pro, who has worked out a rather neat system of summering in Maine and wintering in Arizona; and Fred Wilson, shop assistant, recently of West Texas State College.

It was announced that some committee assignments had been made, with Andy Wagner named secretary, Frank Guckian, Trey White, tournament chairman, and Jenks Brady, handicap chairman.

Kay Mantor announced that if the ladies would come out next Tuesday at 9 a.m., an attempt would be made to get some kind of a tournament or competition started.

Grant spoke at some length saying that he believed the golfers should have one strong organization that could represent everyone in dealing, for example, with the Webb Co., with two divisions having their won tournament and handicap chairmen.

He said his idea was to try to enlarge the board of the present



Daily News-Sun

# Riverview undergoes makeover

By JEANNIE JOHNSON  
Staff writer

7-22-96

SUN CITY — If Riverview is your favorite golf course, you better get your golfing in this week.

Beginning April 29, the front nine of the course will be closed for the installation of the Network 8000 Toro irrigation system. This is the same system installed at Lakes East and West last year, said Tom Lintgen, golf manager.

Lintgen said the front nine will take about two months to complete, including the concrete paving of the golf car paths. The back nine will close about the first part of July to complete the project.

"There could be an overlap where both courses are closed for a few days," he said. "It depends on how well it goes with the front nine."

The irrigation system will cost \$643,245. Originally, the golf staff and board of directors of the Recreation Centers of Sun City had budgeted \$500,000 for the project, but this fell \$143,245 short of the lowest bid.

Raindance, the company that installed the irrigation system at Lakes East and West, came in as the low bidder. The highest bid, from another firm, was \$866,370.

According to Don Pritchett, co-chairman of the

golf committee and board member, the overage is the result of a budgeting time constraint. The golf staff had to complete its budget before the final plans for the project had been submitted.

The \$500,000 bid was based on a rough estimate of what it cost to install the system at Lakes East and West. This number didn't take into account inflation and the rising cost of valves. The contractor also knew he underbid the Lakes East and West project and increased the bid for Riverview, Pritchett said.

Installation of the system at Riverview is part of the recreation centers quest to meet state water-use regulations by the year 2000. The Department of Water Resources has set requirements for all golf courses in the state.

To meet these regulations, the recreation centers completed several projects in the past 10 years. The lake at North was sealed and the irrigation system was upgraded in 1985. The South lake was sealed and the sprinklers were replaced in 1986 at a cost of \$1,465,350.

A total replacement of the irrigation system at North was completed in 1987 at a cost of \$843,202. The lakes and creeks on Lakes West cost \$350,000 to seal, with sealing at Willowbrook and Willowcreek costing \$480,000.

Last year's replacement of the irrigation system

at Lakes East and West cost the recreation centers \$759,000. After the completion of Riverview, the centers will have to replace the systems at Willowbrook, Willowcreek and Quail Run.

Despite the cost of installation, the systems are meeting the goals of the recreation centers and the state, Lintgen said.

"It's taken a little bit of extra water to help Lakes East and West recover," he said. "But as of the end of February, we were averaging under our allotment with all the courses. We get to combine all the courses and average them. Lakes East and West is up quite a bit in usage, but with our other courses not watering that heavily, it helps even things out."

With the popularity of the overseeded courses, Lintgen said he anticipates Riverview will be overseeded in the second or third week of October. According to reports from the recreation centers, play on the overseeded courses is up 10.2 percent.

"Overseeding has met with favorable acceptance," Lintgen said. "It seems like that is the trend. And as we get these new systems in, watering them becomes more efficient. Before we put in these systems, it wasn't feasible because of the waste of water that would happen if we overseeded the fairways."



# **The History of Golf**

By William Berg

Golf as we know it was invented in Scotland, but its roots stretches back into Flanders. The first record of "Chole" is from 1353 and portrays something that could be described as a mix between hockey and golf played in Flanders (Belgium). The game was preferably played on ice and the players used sticks curved at the bottom to move balls from starting point to finish point. Since Scottish and Dutch merchants traveled a lot between the two regions and traded with each other, the game played in Flanders soon spread to Scotland where it developed on the grassy Scottish fields and soon ceased to be a winter game. It was the Scots that started to dig holes in the ground instead of simply selecting a finishing point. Digging a hole in the Dutch ice had naturally not been a good idea.

Even though the game changed a great deal after being introduced in Scotland, the balls were still often imported from Flanders. The more patriotic Scots claim that golf instead evolved from different stick-and-ball games that we know were played all over the British Isles as early as the Middle Ages. These games were inspired by a stick-and-ball game introduced to the British Isles by the Romans.

The first record of the term golf is from 1457 when King James II of Scotland outlawed golf as well as soccer, since the games were so popular that they made the king's archers skip their practice and play golf and soccer instead. James III re-issued this law in 1471, and James IV followed in his footsteps with a new ban in 1491. Golf did however continue its development in Scotland despite the ban. Even during these early days, all the essential parts of golf had already been invented. The players used a club to swing a ball into a hole in the ground. The player that managed to get the ball into the hole using the least amount of strokes won.

The word golf is derived from the Old Scots words "goff" or "glove", and these words in turn derive from "kolf" or "kolve", medieval Dutch words that simply meant club. When the words kolf and kolve were imported to Scotland, the old Scottish dialect transformed the letter K into G, and the game was called Goff, Glove, Golve and Gowl. During the 16th century, the word Golf became established.

The ban on golf had been issued in a time when Scotland was preparing to defend itself from the English. In 1502, the Treaty of Glasgow made it possible for James I of England (King James IV) to lift the ban. He even began



to play himself and turned into a keen golf enthusiast. The game became highly fashionable, and its popularity spread over the British Isles during the 16th century, partly thanks to King Charles I who loved to play golf. Mary Queen of Scots had French roots, and she introduced the game to the French while she attended school in France. The word "caddie" actually stems from a French word – cadet. The cadets of the French Military helped Mary Queen of Scots when she played golf.

Two of the oldest golf courses in the world are Leith and the Old Links. Leith is located close to Edinburgh, and the Old Links is found at Musselburgh. When King Charles I received the news about the Irish rebellion in 1641, he was actually standing at Leith. The Old Links was founded in 1672. The first international golf match took place at Leith in 1682. The Duke of York and George Patterson (playing for Scotland) managed to beat two English players. Strangely enough, it wasn't until 1744 that the first known golf rules were written down and published in Edinburgh.

The game of golf has of course changed a lot over the years that it has been played, and more and more technology is involved in and surrounding the game. An example among many of such technologies that has affected the experience of golf is golf carts. All golf carts from the most basic ones to more elaborate models such as the Hummer golf cart has made it easier to enjoy golf regardless of your physical condition.

Article Source: [http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=William Berg](http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=William_Berg)

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call SCAHS at  
623-974-2568.*



**SUN CITIES AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



From: Del E. Webb Development Co.  
Public Relations Department  
P.O. Box 555  
Sun City, Arizona 85351  
Telephone: 977-7241

Sun City resident golfers will be exploring the fairways, greens, sand traps and watering places of the community's new Riverview Golf Course during the opening period, Nov. 15-21st.

Heavy tee and turf traffic is expected during the seven days of free golf. Play will be open to residents only. For reservations call 977-8365 one day prior.

Sun City's seventh 18-hole layout will be opened Wednesday morning with free donuts and coffee served at the golf shop from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

A brief dedication and ribbon cutting by Del E. Webb Development Co. executives at 9:30 will be followed by tee-off of the first foursome comprised of Webb Company president John W. Meeker, executive vice-president Owen Childress, property manager Gaylen Bartlett, and the head of Sun City's golf courses, Fielding Abbott.

Prior to the opening a Press Preview Tourney will be held on Tuesday (Nov. 14), to include Valley sports writers and directors, officers of Sun City civic and recreation organizations and Webb Company executives.

Heading the professional staff at Riverview will be Earl Okestrom, assisted by Bob Kleinhouse. Located on Del Webb Blvd., 3 blocks south of Bell Rd., the course will be opened for both resident and public fee play Wednesday (Nov. 22).

Riverview adds another interesting and challenging golf course to the Webb resort-retirement community. It will play 6,010 yards from regular tees, with well placed sand traps and sufficient water hazards to demand the best in the golfer's bag.



Hole number six is a prime example. Possibly the toughest hole on the course, it is a 500 yard, par 5 dogleg to the left. Tee off is over a lake, with intention to stay straight down the center. That's because this beauty is double trapped about 200 yards on the left and has a stream, a second lake and another stream along the right side covering the complete distance to the green. The green, too, is well protected with a forward trap and two more in the rear to catch over-shots.

Number 14, although shorter, is another par 5 hole that can take its toll of boggies. Shooting from an elevated tee, the fairway runs downhill, then up hill to an elevated green. The well guarded green has a rolling surface making it difficult to hold.

The best par 3 hole is probably the 180 yard number 16. Not only is it the longest of the short holes, but two traps in front of the green demand accuracy in both distance and direction.

On the first nine, number three hole is another par 3 that calls for accuracy. Most of the 118 yards is over water and immediately onto a relatively small triple trapped green.

Water plays a big part in design of the course, with water hazards on seven holes of 1st nine and water on the 12th hole of the second.

Golfers will find the sand traps of special interest. They contain special crystal silica white sand shipped in from California. This is a fluffy type sand that will not pack and should improve the competitive characteristics of the course.

The thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth holes border the Agua Fria river, presenting a new type of hazard, as well as an unobstructed view to the west.



Other features of the terrain include rolling fairways watered by underground sprinkler system, and flood irrigation on perimeters and cart paths paved with asphalt.

Approximately 900 mature trees will dot the landscape, including olives, robusta and date palms, sour orange and willows.

The golf shop will have a display room, a cart storage and repair area, rest rooms and coffee shop.

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# Below par?

## Course renovations cause complaints

By TINA SCHADE  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Renovations at Quail Run Golf Course in Sun City recently received some renovations of their own.

The changes play well with some people, but have left others feeling the course looks below par.

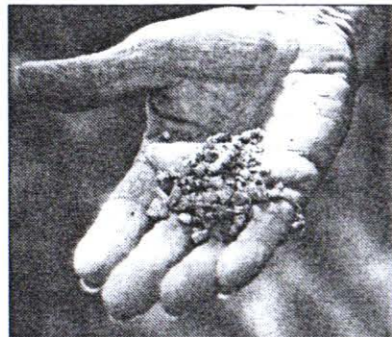
Two years ago, the Recreation Centers of Sun City Board of Directors meted out about \$100,000 for desert landscaping and to replace the aging sprinkler system on the course south of Grand Avenue.

But another \$70,000 was pumped into the course to buy extra granite and expand the "scope of the project," said Bill Collier, recreation centers finance director.

Some of the money was also used to fix a break in the new water system and add desert landscaping, said Recreation Center board President Bob Briscoe.

"It's one of those situations if it was done right the first time, we wouldn't have the problem," Briscoe said of the course work.

He said prodding from some



Lisa Goettsche/Daily News-Sun

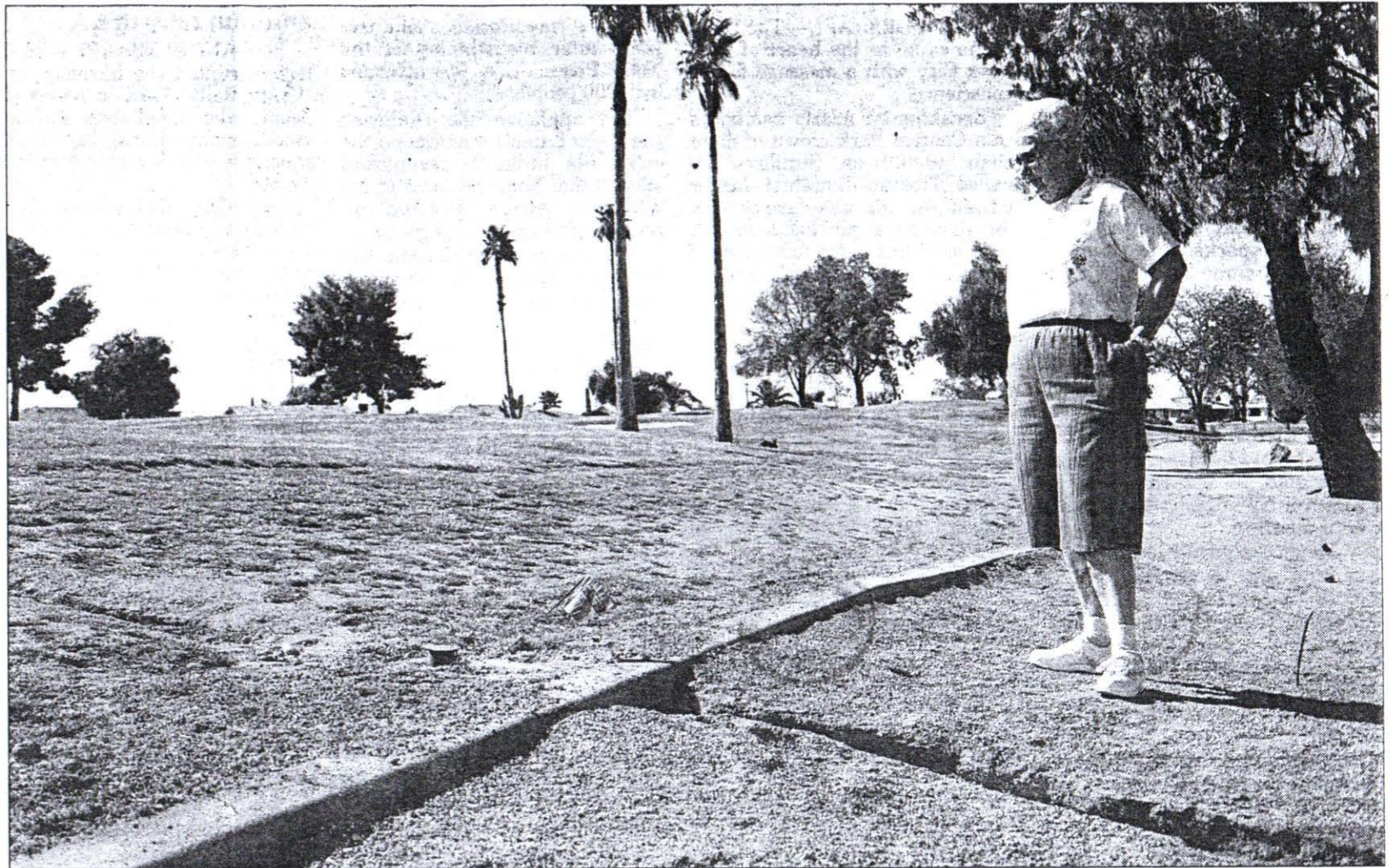
The decorative rock used around the edges of the Quail Run Golf Course is more of a sandy gravel than what Harry Dettmann was led to believe would be used at the edge of his back yard, he said.

unhappy golfers and homeowners living along the course led to the extra expenses.

Despite the upgrades, some golfers and homeowners are still unhappy with the course's revamp.

"They promised us they were going to put in rock, but it's ended up as sand," said Harry Dettmann, who lives on the course.

Other homeowners along the course complain desert flowers that have lost their bloom



Lisa Goettsche/Daily News-Sun

Christine Dettmann says that the Quail Run Golf Course was poorly designed along the edges where the grass is dying, and the drainage from the sprinklers is causing deep ruts in the gravel area between the course and her back yard.

because of neglect.

"They told us it was going to look like Sun City Grand," said one Quail Run homeowner.

Not all golfers dare unhappy with the Quail Run refurbishing, though.

Mary Phillips, a regular golfer on the course for the last 20 years, said she appreciates the changes.

"I thought they did a pretty good job. I didn't like the way it was before. Now it's a

nicer-looking course," Phillips said.

Briscoe also said he's fielded compliments about the golf course's new look.

Jim Warfield, recreation center general manager, could

not be reached for comment.

Despite the additional \$70,000 plunked into the renovations, the total cost for revamping the Quail Run golf course still falls below initial estimate, which came in around \$500,000, Briscoe said.



Thursday, May 21, 1998 Daily News-Sun, Sun City, Ariz.



Scott D. Ruby/Daily News-Sun

Quail Run Golf Course in Sun City is expected to be closed until September or October.

# Face lift

## Major renovations close Quail Run Golf Course

By MAGGIE REED  
Staff writer

Quail Run Golf Course is getting a face lift.

The Sun City course is in the process of receiving a new irrigation system, concrete golf cart paths and more desert landscaping.

"We started adding irrigation systems to the golf courses about four years ago," said Dick Ohnstad, treasurer of the Recreation Centers of Sun City board of directors. "We started with the larger courses and are working down to the smaller ones."

Courses which have received the new state-of-the-art systems are Lakes East, Lakes West, Riverview, Willowcreek and Willowbrook.

The Quail Run project is expected to cost between \$600,000 and \$800,000, Ohnstad said. The major cost is the irrigation system.

Tom Lintgen, golf maintenance manager at Quail Run, said they received a lot of input from both the nearby residents and members.

"The one thing they are very aware of is that the irrigation system was in very bad need of renovation," he said.

Morris Berman, a member of the club since the course opened in 1979, said, "Some of the people who lived around the course were annoyed that there was no desert landscaping. Now the grass will be greener with the seeding and there will be saguaros.

"It will be like a little oasis in the Quail Run section."

The course is expected to be closed until September or October.

"It depends on the weather, how the work progresses and how quickly the course comes back from the construction," Lintgen said.

Half of the cart paths have been removed and the bids for the irrigation system are expected to go out early next week.

Until then, members may golf at any other executive course in the area.

The temporary closure of the course doesn't seem to bother its members.

"It's an inconvenience, I'm sure, but it's no big gripe," said member Edith Oxman.

"If something has to be done, it has to be done. A lot of modernization is needed at Quail Run and I hope this does it," said Oxman, who will golf at Lakes East because of the proximity of the course to her home.

Berman is also golfing at Lakes East.

"It doesn't bother me, doing it myself," he said. "Although it is a whole different ballgame there. The greens go up and down," he said.

Future renovation projects on the North and South courses will be on a smaller scale, Lintgen said.



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# Birds in hand

## Quail Run Golf Club receives unique gift

By ANN T. DALEY  
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Quail Run Golf Club received a unique gift from longtime golfer Fran Michael.

Michael purchased a set of quail-adorned tee markers and flags as a memorial to her late husband, Mike, who died Nov. 19, 1990.

### Golf

"It's something that's lasting and is a nice tribute to Mike," Michael said. "He was a very generous person. He was always doing things that everybody could enjoy."

Michael, who turned 60 Sunday, also plans to provide the club with quail-decorated yardage markers.

The quail-shaped solid brass tees are coated in a solution of oxidized sea water that create a greenish tint. Below the bird are the words "quail crossing."

"We were hoping for something that said 'quail' or 'quail run', but this is also nice," Michael said.

At the holes, white flags sport a colorful scene featuring a quail standing on a patch of grass with "Quail Run" written below.

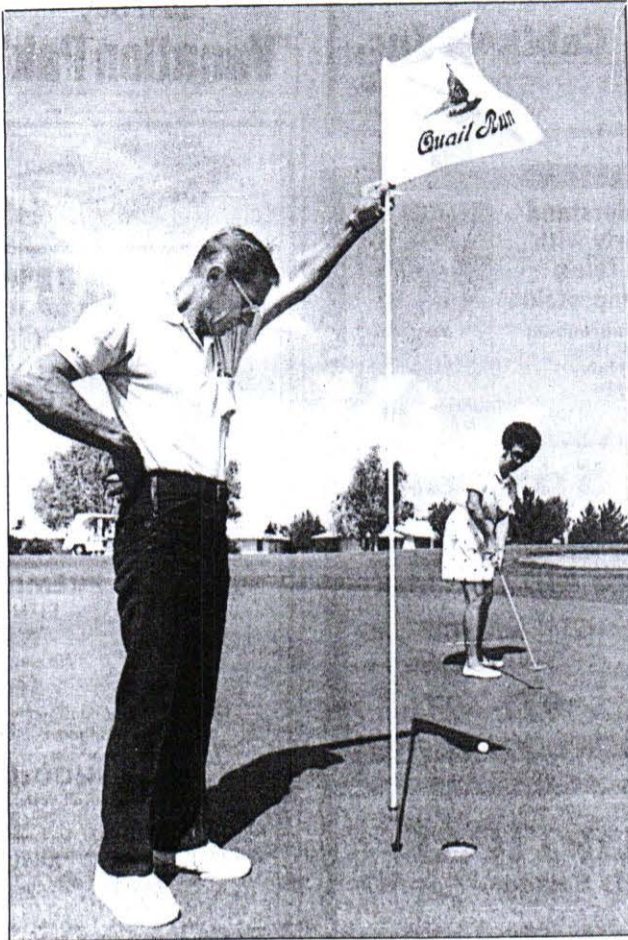
At Michael's request, no announcement was made in reference to Tuesday's installation of the flags or planting of the tees earlier this month.

Nonetheless, golfers have taken notice and are appreciative.

"They're really outstanding," said Ben Kosum, course superintendent.

"(Fran's) the queen of quails."

While in the Quail Run pro shop Wednesday, Sun City golfer Killian Schneider had a



Daily News-Sun photo by Frances Guarino

**ON LINE** — Ben Kozub, course superintendent at Quail Run Golf Club, holds the flag at No. 1 for Fran Michael.

chance to thank Michael in person.

"The flags are beautiful," he told her. "A flag is just a flag, so I didn't really notice them until yesterday."

Michael, a four-time Sun City Ladies Golf Association

champion, and Kozub rejected three proposed designs before deciding on the flags.

In all, the flag selection process was reasonably short compared to the 10 years that the Michaels searched for tee markers.

"We looked for a long time, beginning the year after we started playing," Michael said. "We found some concrete ones, but were afraid if someone hit one with a ball, the head might come off."

The course's quail theme proved easy to highlight, and it helped that the birds are cute, Michael said.

"They start off as a little dust ball and within a week or two, they resemble baby chicks," said the resident, whose lawn is visited by a pair of quail families twice a day.

"They're just darling."

In 1979, the Michaels gave up a "workaholic" lifestyle in Michigan to relocate in Sun City's Quail Run subdivision. After selecting a home on the course's sixth hole, the couple decided to pursue the sport.

"Once we started playing, we got hooked," Michael said. "Sometimes we played 27 holes a day."

Thereafter, the couple developed a family-like love for the course, its personnel and golfers.

"People here are just the greatest," said Michael, who has won the city championship in 1987, 1989, 1990 and 1991.

"It's really like a little family."

The Michaels met while working at Mike's office supply company in Michigan.

Fran worked 15 years for Mike before the couple married.

"His wife and my husband also worked there," she said. "His wife passed away before my husband, and we married about four years after that."

Michael said she plans to surprise the couple's four children with the memorial to their father.

OVER





Daily News-Sun photo by Stephen Chermek

**UNIQUE GIFT** — Fran Michael tees off at Quail Run Golf Club, where she provided the course with brass quail tee markers. The markers serve as a memorial to her husband.



## Quail Run sets tee off, free round

Quail Run golf course opens for play Friday, south of 99th Avenue and Grand.

Sun City's newest Executive course will be dedicated at noon ceremonies, with dignitaries then competing in a shotgun-start tournament.

Golf courses manager Dave Engelking said that all rules for golf courses under the auspices of the Recreation Centers of Sun City, Inc., will be in force.

The only exception will be that all carts will be restricted to cart paths for several months to give tender grass a chance to take hold.

Sun City residents are invited to play a free 9-hole round at Quail Run any time during the first week of operation. The free round can be obtained simply by presenting a current rec card to the starters, who, in turn, will validate it. The offer is good through Jan. 12.

Reservations may be made one day in advance either in person or by calling 977-4257.

The course will be open at 7 a.m. daily, with Jim Tuttle as resident pro and John Knoll as superintendent.

QUAIL RUN GOLF COURSE. OPENING DATE WAS JAN. 5, 1979