

New Golf Course Mushroomrooms Recreational Area

In the midst of winter, it is difficult to imagine a summer day and the atmosphere of a golf course, but as spring descends, this becomes a reality. This spring will mark the second year the Walnut Hills golf course has been open to play.

Lack of recreational facilities in many cities the size of Sedalia has been a problem for city officials and citizens. The Walnut Hills Golf Course, housing division and surf club have been linked together to eliminate one such problem.

The idea was originated by John Talbott who started the Surf Club in 1962 and the housing division in 1968.

From this beginning, ideas grew and in 1967 land was purchased from Henry Lamm by five Sedalia men, John Ryan, Jack Cunningham, John Talbott, Dick Monsees and David Eisenstein, who formed a corporation.

The idea was to build a recreational area for the city which would include an 18 hole golf course, residential section and swimming facilities. "The swimming facilities had already been built, so it was up to these men to continue the plan," said Don Callis, newly elected board president.

The five men were unable to produce enough money by themselves so they sold stock to 25 more Sedalians giving the corporation 30 stockholders.

The original contractors were Steve Lyons and Floyd Farley, golf architects from Oklahoma City, who were chosen to design the course and its facilities.

Construction of the course began in the Spring of 1968. According to Arlen Joy, a recently-elected board member, "We had many problems in 1968-69 because of heavy rains.

of Don Callis, president; H. A. Joy vice-president; Henry Lamm, secretary-treasurer; Dan Wolf and Ralph Viebrock.

The club is in the process of negotiating with Smith-Cotton High School and State Fair Community College coaches for use of the course for school golf tournaments and class instruction.

Future plans call for a social club. The building of contemporary design, will feature a dining room with a seating capacity of 270 people. It will have an entrance foyer lounge, a large "19th Hole" (lounge), and a golf cart and equipment storage area. The brick and glass structure would overlook the 18-hole course. Board of directors are Paul Hausam, Vernon Bingham, Mrs. Joe Maunders, Richard Parkhurst, Hank Monsees and Dan Wolf. There are now 62 members in the corporation, but 300 will be needed to complete the project.

"It is an asset to the community," Bill Hall, Sedalia industrial development director, said "I have shown many industrial prospects the entire project with very favorable comments. There is a brochure in each plant location study as an illustration of one of Sedalia's most beautiful recreational facilities," he continued.

Throughout the building of the course, one small section of land remained the same as it had for many years. A small family cemetery, once lost among the weeds, is now neatly kept between the No. 18 and 11 fairway — a reminder of the past.



Takes a Swing

Arlen Joy spends his leisure time golfing at the Walnut Hills Golf Course. Here, he takes a swing as, left to right, Henry Lamm, Jim Fletcher, Fred Wertz, Monty

Basgall and Armand Beaudette look on. The course opened in May 1970 and now has 150 golf memberships.

(Democrat-Capital Photo)



A Pro Putt

Jim Hatfield, golf pro and instructor at the Walnut Hills Golf Course, illustrates the best way to sink a putt. Hatfield, 39, and his wife, Shirley, and their four children, moved to Sedalia last May from Seneca, Mo. Prior to that he had been active in West Plains and Ava. (Democrat-Capital Photo)

Richards, has been equipped with a large mower capable of mowing the entire area in a short time.

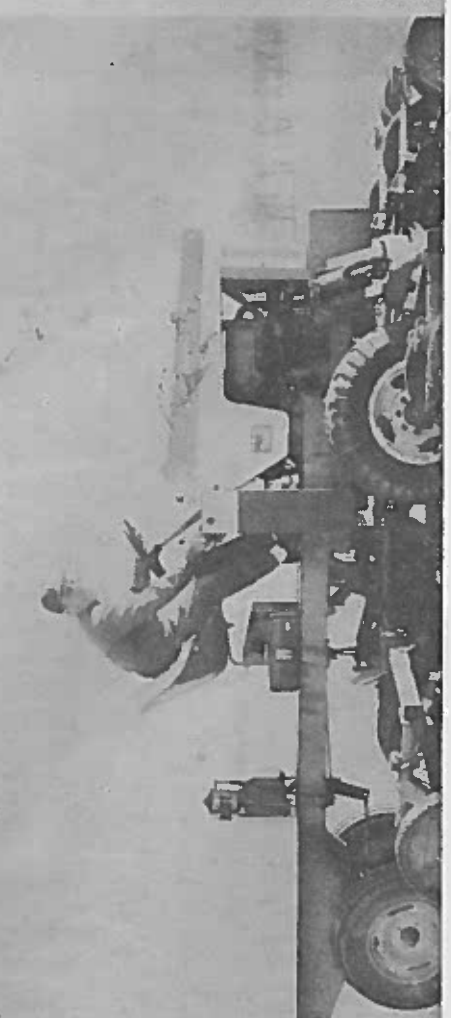
Opening day was May 1, 1970. There are now approximately 150 golf memberships and 325 members of the Surf Club. Jim Hatfield, gold pro at the club, gives lessons and runs the pro shop, located temporarily in the Surf Club building.

In September a new board of directors was chosen consisting

Greens were washing out and much had to be redone.

The complete Walnut Hills project includes 200 acres of land 1 1/4 miles West of Sedalia on 16th Street. The golf course is the only 18-hole course with grass greens in a radius of 50 miles. It consists of 6,300 yards and two lakes and 107 building lots surround it.

The course is automatically watered with an overall water system. Greens keeper, Leo



**MID-MISSOURI'S
LARGEST
FASHION CENTER**

