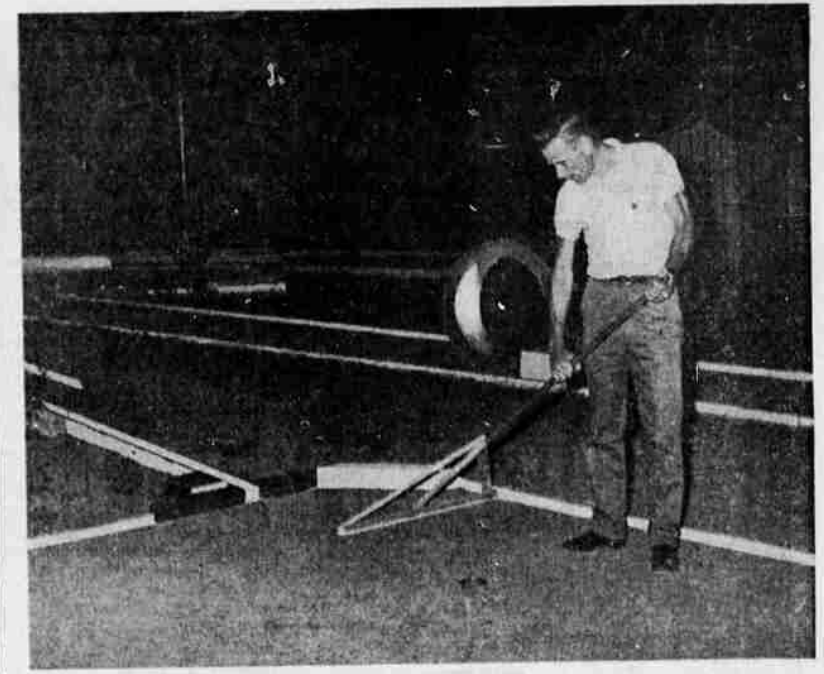


Learning just how hard to hit the ball and in what direction is a serious business if one is ever going to be a pro at miniature golf. Ron Edmonds (right) prepares to hit the ball through a circular obstacle while Ernie Clark (left) and Jim Allen watch.



Everyone seems to enjoy miniature golf, including these three girls. They are (left to right) Miss Fay Roberts of Bonanza, Ore., and Miss Margie Andrews and Miss Barbara Cox, both of Medford. Besides small groups after churches and Scout organizations will spend the evening at the course.



Don Eckenrode of Medford, one of the owners of the course, keeps the sand greens smooth by using a wooden rake (shown above). The owners are considering putting felt on the greens and fairways if a mildew resistant felt is perfected.

Miniature Golf Becoming Popular Sport

By JIM FRAKE
Mail Tribune Staff Writer

Recreation is more than a pastime; it's a million-dollar industry that is of primary importance to most Americans, particularly in the summertime.

Summer recreation includes everything from swimming to tennis, from baseball to water skiing and bowling to golf. One form of family recreation that has long been a favorite throughout the nation, but which is little known here, is miniature golf.

In Florida, for example, at one course an estimate 500-700 games of miniature golf are played daily. There is even indoor miniature golf in Brunswick, Me., and in many places golfing leagues have been organized.

One Course in Valley

Here in the Rogue Valley, there is but one such course, the Family Miniature Golf course on Highway 99 about seven miles south of Medford.

Two local couples own and operate the course. Mr. and Mrs. Russell Davis, 5421 South Pacific highway, Phoenix, and Mr. and Mrs. Don D. Eckenrode, 2147 Sunset dr., Medford.

This is the second full year the course has been operated by the new owners. The two couples came from southern California primarily to build a miniature golf course. They purchased the present site in 1959 and moved to Oregon in March, 1960. The course was opened in September, 1960.

Davis and Eckenrode designed the course and did most of the actual construction themselves. There had been a gravel course at the site previously, but it hadn't been used for some time, according to Mrs. Davis.

No Longer In Operation

In recent years there was another miniature golf course along the Rogue river, just east of Grants Pass; however, it is no longer in operation. Other than the one at Phoenix, the nearest miniature course is in Klamath Falls.

In California, the owners were avid golf fans and played at most of the many miniature courses located in and around Los Angeles county. Many of their ideas for the local course originated from visiting other links and reading golf magazines.

The local 18-hole course consists of sand covered greens and runways. The average distance from the end of the approach to the hole is 50 to 60 feet. Par for the course is 54, three for each hole.

Built by Course Owners

Buildings on the greens and fairways were built by the owners themselves. The decorative obstacles include a barn, castle, well, pump, wind mill and light house. A

water wheel, several benches and wooden pumps make the course more attractive.

More landscaping is planned, especially with colored gravel and planters. Davis also plans to redesign at least one of the holes. The course is illuminated for night playing.

Mrs. Davis noted that they are considering putting felt on the greens and fairways if a mildew resistant felt is perfected. In this climate, she explained, it is impossible to leave the felt outside without mildewing. The felt would be added at considerable expense, she added.

If the new type of felt is marketed, it is possible that at least the greens will be covered with it before next summer, according to the owners.

The course is now open daily from 1 until 11 p.m. Mrs. Davis emphasized that there is always open play on the course, although they do cater to groups. Since they have been in operation, several church and Scout groups have spent the evening there playing miniature golf, she added. Groups of 10 or more are charged 35 cents per person for each game. The regular price is 50 cents, with the third consecutive game free.

Half Are Tourists

Reservations for groups are not needed, but they are appreciated. Mrs. Davis pointed out that as many as 50 people can play at one time by starting them at different parts of the course.

Nearly half of those playing miniature golf at the

Phoenix links are tourists, according to Mrs. Davis. She said many California residents stop on their way through the valley, and she remembers at least one family from Kansas who stopped.

Interest in miniature golf "slowed down" for a while, but is now "coming up rapidly," the owner notes. Enthusiasm for the game has even gone abroad with more and more courses in Europe.

Miniature golf courses can become quite expensive. A 50 by 100 course, not including buildings and extras, could cost about \$10,000 if contracted, Mrs. Davis estimates. Additional landscaping and buildings on the fairways would cost several hundred dollars more.

Economic Disaster Resulting by Exodus

(Editor's Note: On Sept. 2, the barely two-month-old State of Algeria will hold its first general election. The future is, at best, unpredictable. In the following dispatch, UPI correspondent Joseph W. Griggs reports on the terror and turmoil of the almost eight-year struggle for independence.)

By JOSEPH W. GRIGGS
United Press International

Paris — (UPI) — A busload of American tourists pulled up at the Trocadero Terrace in Paris to admire the Eiffel Tower and found themselves face to face with the letters "OAS" daubed in red paint on the subway station entrance at the tower's base.

Parisians hurrying to work near Montparnasse railroad terminal were startled to see women and children peering from windows of the derelict building that once housed the "Sphinx," the best known of Paris bordellos until the city government closed them all in 1947.

When President Charles De Gaulle left Paris for an August vacation at his home in Eastern France, he traveled by special Air Force plane—not by auto as he used to do.

All these incidents — small and seemingly insignificant in themselves — reflect how the long shadow of Algeria still looms menacingly over life in a France which handed independence nearly two months ago to its former North African possession.

The letters "OAS" stand for Organization of L'Armee Secrete or Secret Army Organization, the group of diehard European terrorists who fought with guns and plastic bombs in a futile struggle to prevent Algeria becoming independent.

The women and children peering from the windows of the "Sphinx" were squatters, a few of the more than 500,000 Europeans from Algeria — one half of the original European population — who have fled to France.

Their exodus has meant grave problems of housing and employment for the French government and the threat of economic disaster for newly independent Algeria.

De Gaulle flew instead of driving from Paris to his country home because there was less danger of a new attempt on his life, already the target of more than one abortive terrorist plot in the last year.

On Sept. 2, newly independent Algeria will vote for the first time in general elections for a constituent assembly from which its

first representative government will be chosen.

Frenchmen hope this will mean the end of the political chaos that has wracked Algeria ever since independence. They hope it will be the green light for the European refugees to return to North Africa. They hope it will mean real peace for France — a country which had known no peace since Sept. 3, 1939, until Algerian independence on July 3 this year.

End French Rule

It took seven-and-a-half years of bloody war in Algeria to end 132 years of French rule.

The Algerian war began on All Saints day, Nov. 1, 1954, when 30 bands of armed Moslem rebels struck simultaneously in different parts of the country, killing hundreds in the first orgy of violence.

France rushed reinforcements to Algeria. For more than seven years she maintained 500,000 men there, the flower of her army.

De Gaulle was swept back to power in June, 1958, by a nation sick of the war and by a succession of feeble, ineffectual governments of the French Fourth Republic. He was brought back on a pledge to end the Algerian conflict.

Makes Up Mind

It now seems almost certain that De Gaulle already had made up his mind that an independent Algeria was the only answer. But his first words to tens of thou-

sands of cheering Europeans on a triumphal tour of Algeria soon after he took office were "Je vous ai compris" (I have understood you).

The Europeans of Algeria took this to mean De Gaulle supported them. When it became clear he was pushing for independence, their cheering turned to bitter hatred at what they believed was a great double-cross by a man they had trusted.

In January, 1960, armed Europeans in Algeria under the leadership of cafe owner Joseph Ortiz barricaded streets and began a revolt designed to block De Gaulle's drive for independence.

French Army Rebels

The revolt failed. Then in April, 1961, part of the French army in Algeria rebelled once more against De Gaulle.

This time the rebellion was not led by cafe owners and student rabble-rousers but by two highly honored officers, Gen. Raoul Salan, former French commander-in-chief in North Africa, and Gen. Edmond Jouhaud, Algerian-born former French Air Force chief of staff.

This revolt failed, too, and Salan, Jouhaud and other rebel leaders went underground to create the OAS and fight De Gaulle with the weapons of terrorism.

On March 18, 1962, a cease-fire agreement was

signed at Evian. It went into effect at noon the following day, ending seven-and-a-half years of war between Algerian and French Government forces. It was not, as hoped, an end to bloodshed.

The French people on April 8 and the Algerians on July 1 voted their overwhelming approval of the agreement.

In it, the Moslem nationalists gave sweeping guarantees for the security of the million Europeans in a country where Europeans were outnumbered nine-to-one by the Moslems.

The Algerians won sovereignty over the Sahara with its vast, hardly-tapped oil wealth, with agreement that France and Algeria would exploit it jointly.

The signing of the Evian cease-fire was the signal for a desperate all-out offensive of terrorism and killing by the outlawed OAS.

Then, as suddenly as it emerged, the OAS collapsed. First in Algiers and then in Oran its leaders signed truces with the Moslems. The terrorist bosses, the diehard renegade ex-colonels, the swaggering Foreign Legion deserters and the hired gunmen disappeared.

But still Algeria's troubles were not over. As independence neared, a massive flight of Europeans set in. The French government was forced to organize an airlift and special sea



AWAIT TURN—More than 500,000 Europeans from Algeria, one half of the original European population, have fled to France. Their exodus has meant grave problems of housing and employment for the French government and the threat of economic disaster for the newly independent state of Algeria. Here, Europeans fill the Maison-Blanche airport terminal in Algiers as they await their turn to board planes for France. (UPI)

(ALN), announced formation of a political bureau in which most of the members of the still-exiled provisional government were not represented.

Provisional Government Premier Ben Youssef Ben Khedda, a mild, scholarly former druggist addicted to dark glasses, scurried back to his Tunis headquarters with most of his government and promptly fired the army general staff and its leaders.

This action, almost on the eve of independence on July 3, threw the young nation into political chaos, the worst of all possible birth pains.

Set Up Headquarters

Ben Khedda and his henchmen entered Algiers and set up headquarters.

But finally, Ben Khedda — with hardly any army — capitulated. Ben Bella and his political bureau entered Algiers in triumph and it was agreed that the Political Bureau and the now almost powerless Provisional Government would exist side by side until the Sept. 2 general elections and formation of a new government.

There seems little doubt that the new government chief will be Ben Bella himself.

One of Ben Bella's first acts after winning control of the political bureau was to cut the army down to size. He reasserted the leadership of the civilian administration and made it clear that the army must stay out of politics.

Strong Leftist Views

Ben Bella is known for his strongly leftist views. Rightly or wrongly he has been suspected of communist leanings. There is no doubt he wants to turn Algeria into a one-party state run on socialist lines. There also is no doubt of his passionately Pan-Arab ideals.

Ben Bella has stated repeatedly that he supports the Evian agreement with France, which provides for continuous close cooperation between the two countries and substantial French economic aid in years to come.

But French officials ask themselves whether such cooperation is possible if Ben Bella goes through with his announced program of splitting up big French-owned estates and dividing them among land-hungry Arabs.

They also point out that the pledge of continued cooperation was predicated on the continuous presence of 1,000,000 Europeans in Algeria. Whether the Europeans will return or whether the exodus will continue still can not be foreseen.



Miss Kathy Bevis and Gene Yost of Medford look pleased, but surprised, after Miss Bevis tees off at the Family Miniature golf course south of Medford.