

Las Vegas' Summerlin to get second TPC track

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — The master-planned community of Summerlin is already known for its landscaping, mountain desert views and national ranking as the country's best-selling master planned community. Now it's about to get a second Tournament Players Club (TPC) course.

A second, 18-hole daily-fee TPC facility is under construction south of the Summerlin Parkway in The Canyons. Bobby Weed designed the course with player Raymond Floyd. The

course will become the new home of the Las Vegas Senior Classic in spring 1997, following its completion next fall.

Summerlin is already home to Nevada's only TPC course. That layout is the site of two major PGA tournaments every year — the Las Vegas Invitational and the Las Vegas Senior Classic.

Weed designed Summerlin's new TPC course to be a natural extension of the desert.

Weed has nicknamed No. 14, a short par-4 nestled between

two 30-foot rock walls, the "Indiana Jones" hole because of its rugged appearance. Weed expects No. 14 to become the course's signature hole.

In keeping with the TPC concept, the course will incorporate stadium features and provide hubs for spectator viewing.

In addition to using state-of-the-art drip irrigation, the new course will feature only 90 to 100 acres of turf, as opposed to the 125 to 150 acres on a typical course.

Milwaukee facility allows goose hunt

MILWAUKEE — Fed up with geese eating grass seed as soon as he could put it down, golf course owner Lloyd Robinson allowed 10 hunters on the Lake Park Golf Course each morning from September to December to fire away.

Robinson, like many course owners and superintendents, was frustrated with the geese and their hungry ways, not to mention their

droppings. The hunters, who needed a special permit from Germantown village officials, were required to be off the golf course by the time the first golfers teed off, usually around 7:30 a.m. This is the second year Robinson has allowed hunters on the course. The bag limit for geese in Minnesota is one per day from Sept. 23 and Oct. 8 and two per day after that until Dec. 17.

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Course building exhibit displayed at Houston Hall

HOUSTON — An historical exhibit tracing the evolution of golf course construction in Texas will be on display at the Texas Golf Hall of Fame at the TPC at The Woodlands during the Shell Houston Open here in late April.

"Building Texas Courses ... Then and Now" will feature tools and equipment used over the years like the antique "fresno." Fresno's, or scrapers, were powered by mules and were the fore-runners of today's bulldozers. They were used to construct golf courses well into the 1930s at historic Texas courses like Memorial Park in Houston and the Colonial Country Club in Fort Worth. The exhibit will also highlight changes in the construction industry including laser measurement and computer-generated, three-dimensional drawings.

SAJO Construction of Richmond, Texas, has agreed to underwrite the cost of the exhibit.

Texas municipal layout subjected to more review

LAKE JACKSON, Texas — A proposed 18-hole golf course is headed to Washington, D.C., for high-level scrutiny and debate.

A regional director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service based in Albuquerque, N.M., recently sent a letter to the Army Corps of Engineers that elevated the permitting process for the proposed golf course to high-level officials in Washington.

Lake Jackson city officials have been fighting for four years to build a municipal 18-hole golf course in a hardwood forest that contains federally-protected wetlands. Environmentalists and wildlife officials want to save the land for migrating songbirds.

Lake Jackson appeared to have won its fight to build the course in November when the Corps of Engineers in Galveston, Texas, recommended issuing a permit. But the extended review could last up to 50 days.