NEWS IN BRIEF

PLEASANT HILL, Iowa — The City Council approved a "tax increment financing district" that will permit Hubbell Realty Co. to be repaid for investing in road improvements near the Copper Creek Golf Community its development. The project includes 900 housing units and a golf course in the northern part of town.

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — Warrick County officials are weighing the merits of the county's first public golf course. A group of partners known as BR&S Inc., which hopes to build the facility, has huddled with the Redevelopment Commission, and also is working with the landowners. The course would be surrounded by housing.

WAYCROSS, Ga. — The Laura S. Walker State Park Golf Course should be ready for play by the end of 1995. To be constructed across Georgia Highway 177 from Laura Walker Lake, the $4 million project should be in place before the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta. The 350-acre facility will include a clubhouse, maintenance building, 238 parking spaces and a safety buffer around the entire course.

PABLO ROBLES, Calif. — Area impact of a proposed golf course near the Municipal Airport is under study. The project proposed by Coastal Golf Co. includes an 18-hole course, driving range, clubhouse, coffee shop and cart barn.

CLEVELAND — Oakwood Club, an 89-year-old private country club in the eastern suburbs, plans to pull up its golf roots, perhaps meaning the end for its Arthur Hills/Tom Fazio design. Club officials are negotiating to build a new club & course in Geauga County. Diversified Realty Corp. has offered to buy the 168-acre site for $22 million if it can get the land rezoned for shopping centers and multi-family housing.

Second-class postage paid at Yarmouth, Maine, and additional mailing office. Golf Course News (ISSN 1054-0644) is published monthly by United Publications, Inc., 38 Lafayette St., P.O. Box 997, Farnam, ME 04096. Phone number is 207-846-0600.

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Exhaustive water study indicates chemical runoff to be negligible

By MARK LESLIE

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Perhaps the most thorough study in the world has found that unhealthy amounts of chemicals are rarely found in runoff water from golf courses.

In a study unveiled at the 8th International Congress of Pesticide Chemistry here, two Japanese scientists reported results of a government-sponsored, three-year study that encompassed 246,000 analyses of water in and around golf courses.

"I've never seen anyone do such an incredible scope of work. It was a massive project," said Stuart Cohen, president of Environmental & Turf Services, Inc., in Wheaton, Md.

Of the 246,000 analyses, scientists found pesticides in 10,536. Just 31 samples exceeded the Health Advisory Level (HAL), according to Dr. Osamu Yamada and Masaaki Minoura, manager and technical specialist in analytical chemistry, respectively, of Tahara Agricultural Center in Aichi Prefecture for Cyanimid (Japan) Ltd. Funded by the government, the Environmental Study of Waterway W55SC in Water Insulator Around Golf Courses in Japan involved several official institutions including Japan's Environment Agency. K. Oiba and S. Yashikawa co-authored the study with Yamada and Minoura.

Golf Course News was unable to contact the Japanese scientists for comment in 1992, the last year of the study, scientists tested 110,701 water samples.

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Weed takes TPC formula to Japan

By MARK LESLIE

PONTE VEDRA, Fla. — The PGA Tour's Tournament Players Club (TPC) division has made an exclusive nine-year agreement with Tokyo Dome Corp. to develop International TPCs in Japan.

Saying that the first of the projects, International TPC at Mito in Ibaraki Prefecture, is being completed and is expected to open next May, PGA Tour chief designer Bobby Weed added: "We have a number of other courses in planning stages, and probably will build five to seven before the end of the contract."

Tokyo Dome Corp., based in Tokyo, is a blue-chip corporation that develops resorts and amusement facilities. While the Mito project will be private, others will be open to the public. "The International TPCs will go a long way in providing an avenue to play golf," said Weed, adding that the 14 TPCs built in the U.S. are open to the public, though designed as "stadium" courses with PGA tournaments, and their spectators, in mind.

Besides the Mito facility, the developers are awaiting final approvals for the public-access International TPC at Ichihara in Chiba Prefecture. Several others are planned, including "a potentially wonderful" course in Osaka, Weed said.

Weed said International TPC is working with Toyo Green, a Japanese agronomic consultant for residential and development contractors. "We've convinced them to incorporate some of our design ideas to improve the agronomics of the golf courses here," he said. "To get better golfers, they must incorporate more updated technology and better-designed courses. Some of the older courses they're playing on can't compare to the newer ones Americans are designing. It's very difficult to develop a strategic and well-designed golf course when you're playing to two greens on every hole. They just don't have the land to do that today."

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quote Dr. James Beard, who has long main-
tained that turf actually enhances the envi-
ronment. Yet, in his penultimate paragraph, the author urges Americans to adopt the Scottish model, which is less lush but re-
quires few pesticide treatments and water. Golf Digest has its heart in the right place, but positions taken by the magazine
would make "Top Whatever" list
Golf
requires few pesticide treatments and water.
Scottish model, which is less lush but re-
course was deemed to sport subpar play-
ing conditions, it was derided as "a goat
track" orthelike. I wonder how many courses
if they adopted a linksland approach to main-
and the environment. Call and tell them to
read Golf Course News.

Massachusetts, my home state, is often
derided for its liberal bent and government-
ral propensity toward taxation.
"Taxachusetts," it's often called.
However, I'm here to tell you about a
progressive law already on the books in the
Bay State — a law that saves golf courses
with regressive tax codes, property is taxed
lower their taxes in the process. In states
Frederick D. Herberich, general counsel for
the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.
MacDonald urged course owners to ex-
term easements with their communities.
DRAFTED BY THE MASSACHUSETTS
Golf Association, Chapter 61B was passed
into law in 1978 following a public referen-
dum. Some have objected to the tax breaks, especially those given to private country clubs.
with the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.
Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

Philips comment

Continued from page 11

Forget composting: Clippings make Golf Paper
Continued from page 4

papermaking and a little magic," said Gustafson. "I've convinced a lot of people thought we were crazy during develop-
ment, but the finished product speaks for
itself.
Indeed, the finished product comes after much testing by Four Corners' inhouse chemists, and with cooperation from The
Boulders' superintendent emeritus Carl
Nancy and Resort Management of America.
Since grasses ferment, compost and dry out
together, scientists had to develop a
system to collect the grass and keep it
Green Golf is stocked in the papermaking
machine. The clippings must be dried,
blended, and suspended in the pulp solution.
Tests last fall found that ryegrass and
Bermudagrass were not as consistent as
broads. Their broad leaves made sus-
pension in the pulp difficult.
Arrangements were then made to col-
llect clippings from the area's Resort Man-
agement of America golf courses on days
when the greens are free from chemical
applications.
The 144 greens at the four courses pro-
vide enough grass for a month of paper-
making at current demand, Richardson
said.
Just how big is that demand?
"It's too early to tell how great the de-
mend will be. We've made tons and sold
tons, and we're making more. And we've
had a tremendous response from Asia and
Europe," Richardson said. "In Asia, so far
we've been shut out of the golf course
industry who sell in
Europe," Richardson said. "In Asia, so far
we've been shut out of the golf course
industry who sell in
Europe," Richardson said. "In Asia, so far
we've been shut out of the golf course
industry who sell in
European countries." Richardson said.

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Kenzetti: What every player should know... Continued from page 11

ball marks. Studies have shown that taking 5 seconds to repair your ball mark will result in a healed area in 5 days. Left damaged and unrepaired, how-
ever, this same area would take over 5 weeks to heal. A little preventative maintenance can go a long way.

Spike marks can also affect how "true" a ball rolls. Though the rules of golf prohibit the repairing of spike marks that might "im-
prove the line of putt" prior to putting, golfers are encouraged to tap down spike marks after the entire group has "holed out." Yet, it is a team effort — with the end result being a winning golf course that the
membership can be proud of.

Japanese water study

Continued from page 3

samples for 30 pesticides in ponds,
drains, rivers, municipal waters and
elsewhere in and around three golf courses. Some 4,485 detections of pesticides were recorded, with seven
samples containing pesticide levels over HAL.
In 1991, 14 samples exceeded HAL
out of 3,709 detections, which came from
89,713 samples. In 1980, 10 exceed-
ed HAL out of 2,342 detections, which
were out of 46,016 samples analyzed.
"That's an enormous, incredible amount of analysis," Cohen said.
"Clearly, this is something the Japa-
ese government felt important
enough to spend millions of dollars
on.
These results can only be re-
viewed as favorable."
Cohen said that, in his experience,
the number of detections seems
about right... The number of hits
over HAL seems a little low."