

## BRIEFS

**JUPITER, Fla.** — The 427 golf courses built in the United States in 1997 have had a positive impact on the economy, according to Richard Norton, a National Golf Foundation vice president. Construction projects completed last year represented a total investment of roughly \$1 billion, added nearly 8,000 new jobs and \$400 million in gross sales/output to the U.S. economy. Norton estimates these facilities contribute from \$14 million to \$20 million in taxes.

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**CHARLOTTE, N.C.** — Greg Norman is designing an 18-hole track that will be the centerpiece of a 1,200-acre development called The Point. This is Norman's first project in North Carolina. It will feature 13 holes that play along Lake Norman. The private course is being developed by Crescent Resources and will open fall 1999.

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**PHOENIX** — Del Webb Corp., a leading builder of active-adult communities for people 55 and older, has closed the sale of its course and country club facilities at its Terravita community in north Scottsdale. The property was sold to an equity membership group comprised of community residents. The purchase price was not disclosed.

## Best golf cities by size

(Number in parentheses indicates position in overall rank)

## BIG CITIES

Population more than 1 million

## Top 10

1. Salt Lake City (59)
2. Greensboro, N.C. (84)
3. Minneapolis (103)
4. Cleveland (112)
5. Oklahoma City (113)
6. Austin, Texas (124)
7. Nassau, N.Y. (128)
8. San Antonio, Texas (134)
9. Milwaukee (151)
10. Denver (164)

## Bottom 10 (Worst first)

1. New York City (308)
2. Bergen, N.J. (307)
3. Charlotte, N.C. (306)
4. Philadelphia (305)
5. San Francisco (304)
6. Orange County, Calif. (302)
7. Oakland, Calif. (301)
8. Raleigh, N.C. (300)
9. Washington, D.C. (294)
10. San Jose, Calif. (293)

## MEDIUM CITIES

Population 250,000 to 1 million

## Top 10

1. Rockford, Ill. (12)
2. Davenport, Iowa (23)
3. Dutchess County, N.Y. (25)
4. Ann Arbor, Mich. (27)
5. Mobile, Ala. (31)
6. Spokane, Wash. (33)
7. Boise, Idaho (34)
8. Provo, Utah (35)
9. Peoria, Ill. (36)
10. Springfield, Mass. (40)

## MEDIUM CITIES (cont.)

Population 250,000 to 1 million

## Bottom 10 (Worst first)

1. Richmond, Va. (309)
2. Wilmington, Del. (303)
3. Fayetteville, Ark. (294)
4. Modesto, Calif. (290)
5. York, Pa. (284)
6. Honolulu (272)
7. El Paso (266)
8. Birmingham, Ala. (265)
9. Stockton, Calif. (262)
10. Beaumont, Texas (260)

## SMALL CITIES

Population less than 250,000

## Top 10

1. Duluth, Minn. (1)
2. Rapid City, S.D. (2)
3. Fargo, N.D. (3)
4. Waterloo, Iowa (4)
5. Terre Haute, Ind. (5)
6. Bismarck, N.D. (6)
7. Yuma, Ariz. (7)
8. Cheyenne, Wyo. (8)
9. Fort Collins, Colo. (9)
10. Barnstable, Mass. (10)

## Bottom 10 (Worst first)

1. Las Cruces, N.M. (299)
2. Dover, Del. (298)
3. Texarkana, Texas (297)
4. Hourma, La. (296)
5. Vineland, N.J. (292)
6. Rocky Mount, N.C. (291)
7. Odessa, Texas (285)
8. Laredo, Texas (283)
9. Naples, Fla. (281)
10. Longview, Texas (280)

## Smaller is usually better when it comes to golf availability in U.S. cities

NEW YORK—Duluth, Minn. and Rapid City, S.D., rank first and second, respectively, while Richmond, Va., and New York City are dead last when it comes to access to good, affordable public and municipal golf among America's cities, according to a recent Golf Digest survey.

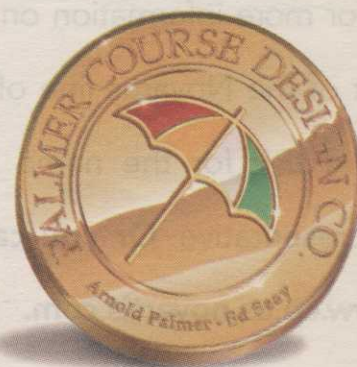
While golf is a game that is notoriously urban-unfriendly, many cities have much to offer the urban-dwelling duffer. In its upcoming July issue, *Golf Digest* lists America's 309 cities and identifies which are the best and worst for golfers.

A joint effort between the Golf Digest Research Resource Center and the Department of Geography at Oklahoma State University, the ranking was based on six criteria: number of public courses per capita; number of municipal courses per capita; number of public courses per population of golfers; number of municipal courses per population of golfers; average star rating of the courses listed in *Golf Digest's* biennial "Places To Play" guide; and the value rating of the courses listed in "Places To Play."

After every city was ranked in each criteria, the rankings were totaled and divided by six to determine an overall

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