**Identify and Supply**

First Tee Executive Director Tod Leiweke delivers State of the Program Address to the industry  

**Irrigation & Pump Stations**

The key to a solid agronomic program is great irrigation. Here’s the latest news and product info.

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**Thronson Has Designs on Architecture**

Eagle Crest Resort superintendent John Thronson moonlights as a golf course designer. His latest project was as construction supervisor at Running Y Ranch in Oregon, a Palmer Golf Design Co. layout. See story page 19.

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**Course Maintenance**

Michigan pilots self-audit program
Heat, drought drub the South
Birdwatching Open shows course diversity

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**Course Development**

Q&A with Hall-of-Famer Gary Player
Weiskopf eyes Michigan opening
International report: from Ireland to China

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**Course Management**

Reebok’s Fireman buys mgt./brokerage firm
AG-UK takes St. Mellion
Management firm telephone listings

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**Supplier Business**

Toro partners with Carnoustie
St. Andrews links up with Barenbrug
Griffin ready with global team

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**Medallist, Troon launch Australia operations**

By Peter Biais

SYDNEY, Australia—An Australian development company has joined forces with an American-based management firm to form an international course development and management company that will also call on the expertise of famed professional golfer Greg Norman.

Medallist Golf Developments, a golf course and residential development company with offices in Australia and the United States, and Troon Golf, a high-end management/development firm based in Scottsdale, Ariz., served as a fire break that may have saved a community of homes.

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**Abbott jumps into market with organic nematicicide**

By M. Levans

NORTH CHICAGO, Ill. — Abbott Laboratories’ Chemical and Agricultural Products Division has officially entered the golf course market with the recent release of its new biological nematicide, DiTera WDG.

According to Abbott—a manufacturer and marketer of nutritional, pharmaceutical, diagnostic, hospital and agricultural products that did more than $11 billion in sales in 1997—DiTera has been produced from a naturally occurring microorganism (Myrothecium spp.) isolated from a cyst nematode.

“The non-toxic profile of DiTera is its key difference.”

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**Fla. fires: Golf escapes catastrophe**

By Mark Leslie

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — With a wildfire leaping across LPGA Boulevard here and licking at his doorstep, LPGA International Golf Course superintendent Scott Besse to turn the irrigation heads on his new course toward the rough and flipped on the water.

When fire cut electricity to River Bend Golf Course in Ormond Beach, superintendent Bobby Gonzales couldn’t turn on the sprinklers, but the course’s fairways and greens

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**PGF Development Track: Get the balance right**

By M. Levans

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. — If you’re ready to break ground on a new public course or put a new spin on a faithful old layout, this year’s Development Track at Public Golf Forum was designed to help you save time and money in the process.

Six Development sessions are slated at this

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