Identify and Supply
First Tee Executive Director Tod Leiweke delivers State of the Program Address to the industry ...... 11

Irrigation & Pump Stations
The key to a solid agronomic program is great irrigation. Here's the latest news and product info ...... 27

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.

COURSE MAINTENANCE
Michigan pilots self-audit program 15
Heat, drought drub the South 23
Birdwatching Open shows course diversity 24

COURSE DEVELOPMENT
Q&A with Hall-of-Famer Gary Player 31
Weiskopf eyes Michigan opening 35
International report: from Ireland to China 38-40

COURSE MANAGEMENT
Reebok’s Fireman buys mgt./brokerage firm 4
AG-UK takes St. Mellion 41
Management firm telephone listings 45

SUPPLIER BUSINESS
Toro partners with Carnoustie 47
St. Andrews links up with Barenbrug 47
Griffin ready with global team 48

Medallist, Troon launch Australia operations
By PETER BLAIS
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.,...Continued on page 46

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 was turned 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 served as a fire break that may have saved a community of homes.

When a "wall of flames" jumped U.S. Route 1 and reached the 3rd and 4th holes at Matanzas Woods Golf Course in Palm Coast, the last two evacuees were superintendent Andy McGuire and Michael Fabrizio, director of golf maintenance and construction for Matanzas and Palm Coast Resort’s four other golf courses, who kept the sprinklers going until the last...Continued on page 22

Abbott jumps into market with organic nematicide
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, Diftera 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—Diftera has been produced from a naturally occurring microorganism (Mycorrhiza spp.) isolated from a cyst nematode.

“The non-toxic profile of Diftera is its key differen...Continued on page 49

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...Continued on page 54

Chesapeake, Va. — The city of Chesapeake is finding that as industry booms public golf is sure to follow.

In the last year, Chesapeake has seen Chubb Insurance, Panasonic, Canon and Volvo, among others, expand existing physical plants and add 1,000 employees to their payrolls. The city of...Continued on page 54