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ENVIRONMENT ON LINE
Professor Bert McCarty discusses the rhizotron, a portion of the Envirotron that studies root growth. The much-anticipated Envirotron is online at the University of Florida. Turf research may never be the same (see page 37).

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Little conflict awaits supers in Big D
By PETER BLAIS
DALLAS — It may not be all peace and harmony on the eve of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSSA) annual meeting. But it's a darn sight quieter than during the NAFTA-like squabbles that preceded last year's vote on the proposed bylaw amendments. Everyone may not agree with this year's proposals. But most believe the process of communicating with and seeking input from members has gone much smoother than a year ago when even board member George Renault noted, "Many people feel like these [proposed changes] are being rammed down their throats."

Reservoir eases water pressure in California
By PETER BLAIS
HEMET, Calif. — The $2 billion Domenigoni Valley Reservoir under construction in Southern California should help ensure water supplies for future golf course maintenance and development through the 21st century in this water-starved region. "Knowing the reservoir is there should mean homeowners and environmentalists will put less pressure on politicians to pass bad legislation affecting irrigation water for golf courses," said Raymond Davies, head superintendent at Virginia Country Club in Huntington Beach, Calif.

Chemical firms join forces in search of profit
By HAL PHILLIPS
Hoechst-Roussel and NOR-AM Chemical Co. have combined their respective agrochemical activities to create a joint venture. The Scotts Company has acquired Grace-Sierra Horticultural Products Co. from W.R. Grace & Co. DowElanco has already offloaded a portion of its specialty chemical division to LESCO, as did Zoeecon Corp. following the merger of its specialty pesticide unit with Sandoz Agro Inc.

Best of the Best
The Virginian, a new Tom Fazio design in Bristol, Va., is one reason the architect and his firm are among the 1994 Golf Course News "Best of the Best" award winners. For Best Maintained LPGA course, Builder of the Year and more, see pages 53-57.