

**S**everal months ago we began a discussion about tree inventories. There are three levels of complexity to a tree inventory and analysis.

In Level 1, which we discussed before, we identify all the trees on the course by genus, species, and common name, and plot these trees on a map. The purpose of a Level 1 inventory is to help a

the recorded information is to give dimension and analysis for each individual tree. This is a prerequisite to management.

What information do we need before we manage a tree?

We need to know the size of the tree. This is done by taking the diameter, height, and spread of the tree. The **diameter** measured four and one half feet above ground

given in relation to buildings, roads, walkways, etc. Location is very important. A tree next to the pro shop will have a higher priority than a tree growing in the rough. The **type of trimming** required for the particular tree or species of tree should be recorded, if needed. **Tree removals** should be recorded. Insects and/or diseases present need to be identified. Lastly, a general remarks column is included for special items of note.

Once all the above information is recorded for each tree, Level 3 of the tree inventory and analysis can take place. Level 3 involves analyzing the above information in order to prioritize and budget tree care.

We will discuss Level 3 next time.

**ATTENTION: All Cal Poly Alumni**

Alumni breakfast will be held during the GCSAA Conference. Preliminary date: Saturday, February 25th, prior to Trade Show opening. Check message board or Host Chapter Booth for further information.

*On January 13, 1985, ninety-nine year old Otto Bucher aced the 12th hole at the La Manga Golf Course in Spain, becoming the oldest person to make a hole in one.*

**Arbor Care**

**TREE INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS**

by Gil Mitchell

superintendent see the variety and extent of their treescape. The map and species list can be the first indication of how intimidating it can be to manage acres of trees on a golf course. At the same time, there is comfort in knowing there is a finite number of trees on the property.

In a Level 2 analysis, various pieces of information are recorded in a spreadsheet for each tree. The purpose of

line is a tree industry standard. **Height** is determined as a function of short (less than or equal to 15 feet), medium (16 to 40 feet) or tall (over 40 feet). The **spread** of the foliage measured from branch tip to branch tip through the center of the tree gives an indication of tree development. The structure of the tree will indicate potential hazards and can be used to prioritize trimming.

The **location** of a tree is

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**JOHN DEMING**

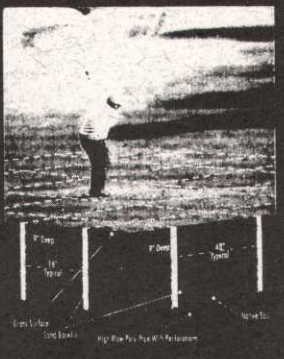
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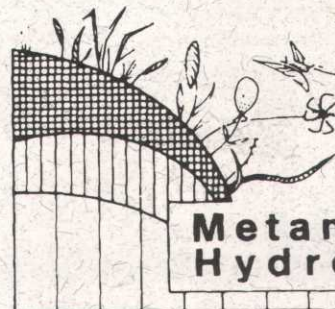
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