CHICAGOLAND'S CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS GOLF TOURNAMENT

Presented by Cadillac Hosted by Park Ridge Country Club September 28, 2000

Mike Mortell from Olympia Fields Country Club carved a crafty 2 under par 68 to win Chicagoland's 2000 Champions of Champion's Golf Tournament held Thursday, September 28 at Park Ridge Country Club. Two strokes behind were three players including Vic Postillion of Ruth Lake Country Club, Phil Kenny of North Shore Country Club and Andy Gableman of Oak Park Country Club.

Under the bright blue autumn skies, with barely a whisper of wind, conditions were near perfect for a field of 63 golfers as they set aim on the coveted Champion of Champions title. Mortell started quickly with birdies on the three of the first four holes. He turned the front side at 3 under par placing him at the top of the leader board. He drained a 25-foot birdie putt on the par three 12th hole, before giving it right back on the 13th hole. Perhaps the key shot of the round was his second at the difficult 457-yard, par 4, 15th hole. His drive left him in the fairway, 200 yards from the green, but in a sand filled divot. He pulled his 3 iron and "flagged" the pin. Two putts later, he remained at 3 under par with 3 holes to go averting a potential disaster. A bogie on the difficult 16th hole off-set by a great up and down for par on 18 assured Mortell of a 2 under par 68 and a two shot margin over his closest rival.

Mortell has played competitive golf all his life. He was the 1977 Illinois High School State Champion and played on the Purdue golf team during his college years. In 1990 he won the Illinois State Amateur and was a qualifier for the USGA Mid-Amateur. He regularly competes in the Western Golf Association's Western Amateur held annually at Point O'Woods Country Club in Benton Harbor, Michigan.

