CHICAGOLAND'S CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS GOLF TOURNAMENT

Presented by Chrysler Hosted by Park Ridge Country Club September 26, 2002

It took 4 holes of playoff golf before Terry Werner from Briar Ridge Country Club in Schererville, Indiana emerged as the winner of the 2002 Champion of Champions golf tournament.

At the end of regulation play, there was a 5-way tie for first place. Joining Terry Werner at even par 70 was Brian Streeter (Calumet Country Club), Mike McLoone (Crystal Lake Country Club), Stan Kapka (Ridgemoor Country Club) and Don Gaspar (Glen Oak Country Club).

Mike McLoone with 5 birdies on his card posted his score early. Everyone that followed knew what they had to do. Kapka followed, finishing strong by making birdies on 2 of the final 4 holes. Two hours later, Werner posted his par 70 which included a heartbreaking bogie on the final hole. Next came Streeter who was very consistent making par on each of the final 6 holes. Perhaps the most distressed competitor was Gaspar. On the 15th tee, he was three under par and the tournament was his to loose. The breaks didn't go his way and he finished with one par and three bogies.

The playoff format was 3 holes (10, 17 and 18) of stroke play. If there was still a tie at the end of three holes, then the remaining players would return to the 10^{th} hole and play sudden death.

Unfortunately Mike McLoone had a crisis business meeting in Milwaukee and was unable to return to PRCC in time to participate in the playoff. That left Werner, Streeter, Kapka and Gaspar. At the end of the three holes, Kapka was 1 over par and the remaining three were even par. That eliminated Kapka, but the other three returned to the par 5, 10th tee for sudden death. Streeter and Gaspar were greenside in 3 shots, but Werner was in the right front greenside trap laying 2. His trap shot left him about 20 feet from the cup and a tough side hill putt. Streeter and Gaspar made runs at their birdies, but each left their putt short. Werner took his time reading his putt and made a beautiful stroke. His putt was tracking from the start, finishing dead center and at the bottom of the cup. He won the tournament with a birdie, in fact it was the third time he birdied the hole (one in regulation and twice in the playoff).

