A Mini-Conversation
With John Harris,
National Amateur Champ

(Ed. Note: Following are some responses to questions asked of insurance executive John Harris, 1993 National Amateur Champion, consistently the Minnesota Golf Association's "Player of the Year" and a competitor in the 1994 Masters, where he was the only amateur to make the cut and finished the 72 holes with a score of 305. He is a member of Edina Country Club.)

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What are your favorite golf courses in Minnesota?
Hazeltine, Edina, Interlachen.

Any favorite holes?
I like shorter holes that have a high risk/reward potential that all players can play - in many different ways.

With your play in 1993 being exceptional, what are you planning for 1994?

How does John Harris set goals?
I try to keep improving try to keep challenging myself to get better. I listen to people who know more about golf than I do.

How do you feel about the Superintendent's role at the golf course?
Very important role. Communication between pro and manager is essential. Superintendent's role has changed in the last five years. Besides current education requirements, communication skills are key.

USGA National Amateur Champion John Harris was also low amateur in the 1994 Masters.

Who is your role model and why?
Jack Nicklaus and Jay Sigel. They both keep golf in perspective, family comes first. Good organizational skills. They have been good for a long time.

When playing golf courses, do you have any favorite architects?
I have had some success on Pete Dye courses. I admire the work of Donald Ross and Alister McKenzie.

Edina CC's Dream Team threesome from left are Bill Johnson, superintendent, John Harris, USGA National Amateur Champion and Dave Simeon, assistant superintendent.