USA Wins Solheim Cup At Interlachen

For the second time in two months, the national spotlight of golf focused on Minnesota, and, once again, participants and fans were rewarded with excellent competition and excellent golf courses on which to compete.

September 16-22 was Solheim Week for two of the state’s top courses: Interlachen Country Club in Edina, where the 2002 Solheim Cup was contested, and Oak Ridge in Hopkins, where the inaugural Junior Solheim Cup was played.

In August accolades also went to Hazeltine National in Chaska where the successful PGA was held as well as to the TPC in Blaine for the PGA Seniors.

One might think that considerable advance preparations would have to be made at the Solheim courses for these prestigious events, but those who know their golf course superintendents – Matt Rostal at Interlachen and Keith Scott at Oak Ridge – also knew that the courses would be in prime condition, even without any special preparations.

Ahh yes, there was some extra work to do, but nothing too much out of the ordinary. Interlachen hired 10 extra persons, primarily for routine mowing and bunker work while Oak Ridge pursued everything with its normal staff.

Early morning hours, as one might expect, focused on mowing greens, fairways and tees while tidying up bunkers (Continued on Page 7)
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With winter around the corner, all of the August and September tournaments will make for great reminiscing about how well Minnesota proves itself continually as an excellent tournament host in all aspects of the game.

Dale Reid warmly praised Rostal for the superb condition of Interlachen as well as the manner in which the club itself proved to be a good host. So did the players.

This course also will be the site of the 2008 U.S. Women's Open.

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And such was the case with Scott, who said "it was a great honor to host this inaugural junior tournament." He also enjoyed "spending time with the Solheim family, the Ping Company, the American Junior Golf Association officials and viewing the golf matches."

For the record the American team recaptured the Solheim Cup 15.5 to 12.5 while the American juniors prevailed 17-7...