

WISCONSIN'S ANDY NORTH WINS U.S. OPEN!

By Randy Smith

Congratulations to Andy North on his second U.S. Championship win. This one came as he was the only player under par for the tournament with a 279 score for the four days on the par 70 Oakland Hills golf course in Birmingham, Michigan.

North's first U.S. Open Championship came in 1978 at Cherry Hills in Denver, Colorado. The year prior he won the Westchester Open in Westchester County, New York. With this win, he becomes one of only 15 players to have won the U.S. Open two times since its inception in 1895, and joins Hale Irwin and Lee Trevino as the two active players on the tour to have done so.

Andy grew up in the Madison area and started his golfing career under the coaching of his father Stew North and Nakoma golf professional Lee Milligan. He played golf and graduated from the University of Florida. Following that joined the pro tour and returned to Madison, again as a member of the Nakoma Golf Club, periodically "working out" with Golf Pro Allan Mitchell.

Since the Open, Andy's commitments elsewhere have included outings at Elkhart and Fort Wayne, Indiana and in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. These delayed the homecoming festivities in Madison. On Thursday, June 20th, Governor Anthony Earl lead an official "welcome home" ceremony at the State Capitol Building and declared it "Andy North Week." Other awards were given by Alderman Ronald Trachtenberg, Dane County Executive Jonathon Barry, and the Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce Executive Director and UW Alumni Association President Robert Brennan.

A small ceremony was also held at the Nakoma Golf Club by Mayor Joe Sensenbrenner. A victory celebration is being planned by Nakoma for Andy when his schedule will allow.

Aside from the strenuous tour responsibilities, Andy finds the time to be an active member of our

Green Committee at Nakoma. He adds a dimension that can only help us with his knowledge of the game and his experiences on golf courses throughout the world. One example came at a green committee meeting last year after we had installed several thousand feet of "french drains." Our committee basically wanted us to backfill the top 6" with a sand/soil mix and seed or sod over them. Most of us that have dealt with these drains before know that the effectiveness of surface drainage is drastically reduced, even necessitating reopening them to every four to five years. Andy's presence and comments that most tour courses

have these drains and they are left open to the surface with free lift from them simply made the decision for the committee allowing us to gain full benefit from the 12,000 feet of new drainage.

It is a pleasure being associated with this fine gentleman and we wish him the best in the future. We thank him for his determination and accomplishment in furthering the importance of golf. Hats off also to his wife Sue and daughters Nichole and Andrea for their strong support and sacrifices necessary for one to take on the tasks to strive for the perfection in one's profession.



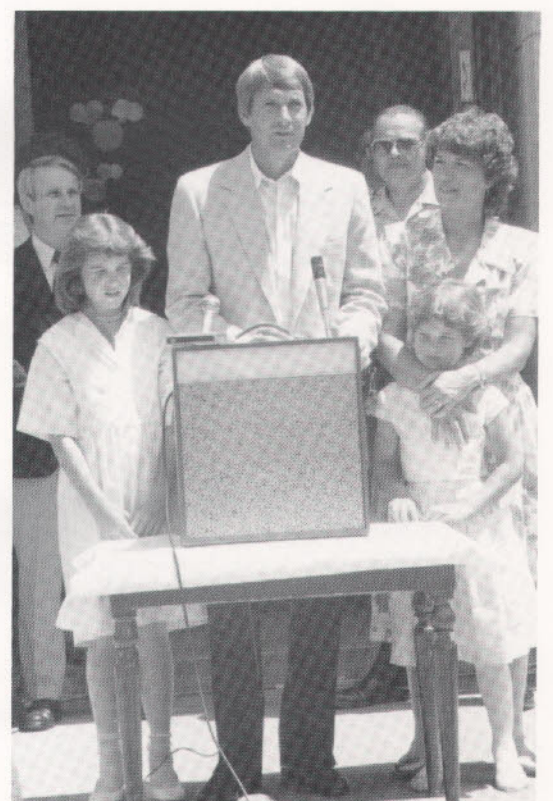
Superintendent Randy Smith and son Guy, congratulate Andy at Nakoma.



Madison Mayor Joe Sensenbrenner honors Andy North at Nakoma Golf Club.



Randy and Andy discuss the win.



Andy with his wife Sue, Nichole (left) and Andrea (by mom). Governor Earl is in the background.