

CAROL SORENSON WINS GIRLS' JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Plays 109
Holes at Tulsa

Destiny is defined in the dictionary as "the predetermined course of events often conceived as a resistless power or agency."

While Carol Sorenson's bold, attacking style of golf truly earned victory in the 1960 USGA Girls' Junior Championship, it seemed several times that destiny may have been at her side.

The maximum number of holes, including the qualifying round, expected in a Girls' Junior Championship is 108. But, Miss Sorenson played 109 at The Oaks Country Club, Tulsa, Oklahoma, site of the 1960 playing. The route of the 17-year old thereby became the longest—and one of the toughest—for any champion in the 12-year history of the Girls' Junior.

Only once during the entire Championship did Miss Sorenson fail to play to the 18th green. This occasion came in the final round when she won her match with Miss Sharon Fladoos, 17, of Dubuque, Iowa, by 2 and 1.

The 109-hole total includes an 18-hole qualifying round, three matches which went the distance, a 20th hole victory in the third round over 13-year old Roberta Anne Albers, plus the final against Miss Fladoos.

Defending Champion Judy Rand and Miss Sorenson were co-medalists, in the qualifying round, with one-under-par 76s.

There were several times when it appeared that Miss Sorenson's opponents had the best of her, but each time she came back. The most notable example of this came in Miss Sorenson's semi-final match with 15-year-old Judy Torluemke, of St. Louis, Mo., low amateur in the 1960 Women's Open Championship.

Miss Sorenson was one up after six holes but then three-putted two out of the next three to lose all three and find herself two down at the turn.

Miss Torluemke looked unbeatable after winning the 148-yard 11th with a birdie two to assume a three up margin



Carol Sorenson, 1960 Girls' Junior Champion, accepts congratulations from Runner-up Sharon Fladoos while John M. Winters, Jr., USGA Vice-President and Mrs. John Pennington, Chairman of the USGA Girls' Junior Committee look on.

and she carried it through the 13th hole.

In retrospect, it appears that destiny stepped up to Miss Sorenson's side on the 14th tee where it looked as if she was hopelessly beaten. Miss Sorenson proceeded to win the next four holes in a row to assume a one up lead on the 17th hole and halve the final hole to win one up. Over that four-hole route on which par is 3-4-5-5, Miss Sorenson went 3-4-4-4.

Another example came in the final match against Miss Fladoos on the tough 454-yard 16th hole where there is a green with a sharp downhill slope. Holding only a slim, one up lead at this point, Miss Sorenson found herself about 20 feet short of the green on her third shot while Miss Fladoos had dropped her third shot on the green 16 feet from the pin. Miss Sorenson's wedge shot stopped 11 feet short and it seemed at this point that the match would be all even going to the 17th tee.

Miss Fladoos' first putt was short by two feet. Here is where destiny may have appeared again. Miss Sorenson stepped up and dropped her 11-footer. Then Miss Fladoos who had been putting magnificently all week, sadly saw her two-footer lip the cup. She three-putted for a six and was two down.

This was the all-important hole in the final match. Miss Sorenson appeared surely to be losing the hole and would have been all even; but instead she won and was two up.

In her opening round match with Nancy Jean Way, of Grand Rapids, Mich., Miss Sorenson saw her four-hole lead, after 13 holes, melt after losing holes No. 14-15-16. But, Miss Sorenson didn't buckle; instead she birdied the 18th hole for her two up margin.

Against Jeannie Thompson, of Tulsa, Okla., in the second round, Miss Sorenson lost the last three holes of the front side and was one down. Miss Thompson went two up on No. 10 before Miss Sorenson won three of the next five holes for a one up victory. Was destiny with Miss Sorenson?

Miss Sorenson was playing in only her second USGA Girls' Junior Championship. She was a semi-finalist in 1959 at the Manor Country Club, Norbeck, Md., before bowing to Miss Marcia G. Hamilton, of Evansville, Ind., one up.

First starting golf at the age of six, the refreshing, mild-mannered daughter of a Janesville, Wis., school teacher has come a long way. She is the Wisconsin Women's Amateur Champion, for the second year in a row. She was medalist and won the Women's Western Junior Championship in 1959, plus the Wisconsin Junior Championship in 1956 and 1958.

The other finalist, Miss Fladoos, similarly played outstanding golf throughout the Championship. Her path to the finals was easier. She defeated Miss Margaret Jones, of Fort Mitchell, Ky., 7 and 6 in the first round; Miss Sue Jennett, 4 and 3, in the second round; Miss Sandra Haynie, of Austin, Texas, two up in the third round; and Miss Ann Baker, of Maryville, Tenn., 3 and 2, in the semi-finals, before bowing to Miss Sorenson in the finals.

One of the feature matches of the tournament was the Fladoos-Haynie battle.

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Miss Haynie had thwarted Miss Rand's hopes of becoming a repeat winner of the Girls' Junior in the second round by a two up margin. Misses Fladoos and Haynie were all even after 15 holes before Miss Fladoos birdied Nos. 16 and 18 for a two up margin. Miss Fladoos' game was marked by accuracy off the tee and fine putting.

An incident came in the third round involving Miss Torluemke. She was in a small bunker behind the 13th green and was seen to be apparently sweeping sand out of the front edge. When Mrs. John Pennington, Chairman of the USGA Girls' Junior Committee went over, she saw that Miss Torluemke was simply trying to lift out a live snake. When she finally succeeded in getting it out, Mrs. Pennington proceeded to step on and kill the snake. In spite of this fright, Miss Torluemke calmly blasted her ball out and it landed right next to the pin.

An 18-hole stroke play consolation event was held at the Southern Hills Country Club, in Tulsa for first round losers. The winner was Jane Bostrom with a score of 79.

The tournament was a grand success and The Oaks Country Club, especially General Chairman Marian Askew and Mrs. Carl Hotz, were gracious hosts for the event. Mr. John Winters, Vice President of the USGA was on hand to referee the final match and present the awards.