16 year old Emilia Migliaccio is a very determined young girl. Born to a Swedish mother and a Venezuelan father of Italian descent, she has inherited great genes. She proved herself today by winning the Women’s Western Golf Association’s 89th National Junior Championship at Hope Valley Golf Club in Durham, North Carolina by defeating Tess Hackworthy in today’s final match 6 & 5. That was her 7th competitive round of golf in the last 5 days.

The week started with two days of qualifying rounds. Hackworthy was the Medalist with a combined score of 143 (74-69). Migliaccio placed 2nd with a combined score of 145 (75-70). Both kept winning their matches through Thursday. Semifinal matches were played this morning. Hackworthy defeated Madison Moosa, Charlotte, North Carolina, 2 up. Migliaccio defeated Anna Buchanan, Athens, Georgia, 3 & 2. After a break for lunch, they teed off for the final match. After matching scores on the first three holes, Hackworthy hit her ball on #4 into a ditch which she determined to be unplayable. Migliaccio won the hole with a par. Migliaccio also won holes #5 and #8 to go 3 up at the turn. She won holes #10, #11 and #13 to take the match and the title that goes with it. Migliaccio only missed one fairway in the Championship match.

Migliaccio will be a junior at Athens Drive High School in Cary, North Carolina. She won the state High School 4A Championship as a freshman. She made a verbal commitment to Wake Forest University during the spring of her freshman year. She may have inherited some of the golf genes from her mother who was born in Sweden and came to the United States to play golf for the University of Arizona. Her mother Ulrika (nee Johanssen) spent a year before college in the states working on her English. She entered Arizona in the fall of 1991 and played on the same team with another Swedish golfer, Annika Sorenstam. Ulrika spent 4 years at Arizona and got her degree while being named both All American and Academic All American. Emilia is following in her mother’s footsteps by also being an excellent student.

Hackworthy lives in Madison, Wisconsin. She took up golf when she was 3 while her family was living in Appleton, Wisconsin. Her father played on the golf team at Iowa State University. She graduated from Edgewood High School in June, and is excited about entering the University of Wisconsin next month. In 2015, she was the Wisconsin State High School Girls Champion and was also named the State High School Player of the Year. She has been named to the Wisconsin State High School Girls Golf First Team in both 2014 and 2015. On Tuesday she shot the low round of the tournament with a 69.

In the morning round of Championship Flight Consolation, Amelia Root, Jacksonville, Florida, defeated Georgette Garcia, Davie, Florida, 2 & 1 (Note: Garcia had a 2 on the 437 yard,
Par 5, 16th hole. Commonly referred to as a Double Eagle, her 2nd shot was 178 yards.) In the other match, Sarah White, Caledonia, Michigan, defeated Anna Kramer, Spring Lake, Michigan, 2 up. In the afternoon final, Root defeated White, 3 & 2.

As we end the tournament we congratulate Migliaccio and Hackworthy, as well as all other participants in this year’s WWGA Junior. We thank all those parents who walked the fairways in support of their daughters. We also thank the members and staff of Hope Valley Country Club for providing the WWGA such a grand venue to stage this event. Everyone connected with club was most welcoming and supportive.

We also look forward to seeing many of the same faces at the WWGA’s 90th National Junior Championship at Blackhawk Country Club, Madison, Wisconsin, July 11-15, 2016. The WWGA’s 116th National Amateur Championship will be held at Dayton Country Club, Dayton, Ohio, June 20-25, 2016.

For more information, please visit our website at www.WWGA.org.

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