

Women's Western Golf Association

**114th National Amateur Championship
Lancaster Country Club
Lancaster, Pennsylvania
June 23 – 28, 2014**

**June 28, 2014
For Immediate Release**

Mika Liu is the Women's Western Amateur Champion

Only two players remained to play in the final match of the Women's Western Golf Association's (WWGA) 114th National Amateur Championship being played at Lancaster Country Club, Lancaster, Penn. 144 players started this week with the dream of having their name engraved on the W. A. Alexander Trophy beside the names of past winners Beth Daniel, Cristie Kerr, Stacy Lewis, and Nancy Lopez to name a few. This year Mika Liu's name will be inscribed as the 2015 Champion. Liu defeated Cammie Gray, a fourth generation University of Alabama student from Northport, Ala. by a score of 3&2 on the 34th hole of the 36-hole final.

In the morning 18-hole match Liu and Gray played fairly evenly. Cammie won 4 holes; they tied on 9 holes; and Liu won 5 holes to take a 1 up lead after the morning round. They elected to take an hour break between rounds to get hydrated, nourished and refreshed before starting the second match. Both hit some golf balls and practiced putting before walking back to the 1st tee.

The afternoon round started with 3 birdies by Liu to 3 pars by Gray and very quickly Liu went 4 up. Gray won holes 5 and 6. Liu won the 9th hole and was 3 up at

the turn. Liu won the 10th, 11th and 12th holes and was Dormie (6 up with 6 holes to go). Gray made a charge by winning the 13th and 14th but lost the next two holes and the match.

Yesterday afternoon both players sounded like they were dreading their third straight day of 36 holes on Saturday. Today both felt energized and ready for the 36-hole match. Gray commented that she ran between greens and tees to let some of her nervous energy out. Playing 36 holes three days in a row was not so hard for them but Liu thinks she may skip the next tournament on her schedule to relax and unwind from the nine rounds of golf she played over the past six days.

Liu turned 15 on February 9th. She resides in Beverly Hills, California but just finished her freshman year at IMG Academy Prep School in Bradenton, Florida. Both her brothers and older sister also attended IMG. (Her sister, Marika, also participated in the tournament and took home the medal for winning the Third Flight Final yesterday afternoon.) While at IMG, Liu typically plays golf or has golf instruction in the morning, attends school in the afternoon, works out and does homework in her remaining free time before going to sleep. She is on the Dean's List and her favorite subjects are Math, Science and Art.

Despite her age Liu has an impressive resume. She was the 2011 FCWT National Player of the Year, and named to the 2012 and 2013 AJGA Rolex All American Team. She recently won the Women's Southern Golf Association Championship and has participated in a LPGA Symetra Tour event where she placed 5th out of 140 players.

Gray did not pick up a golf club until she was 14. She played her first competitive round when she was 15. She reached the round of 16 at the 2013 US Women's Amateur Championship and won the 2013 Alabama State Women's Amateur Championship. She also was named the 2013 Alabama State Woman Player of the Year. She competed in the 2014 NCAA Division Finals with her teammates from Alabama.

The WWGA looks forward to the 115th National Amateur Championship to be held at Nashville Golf & Athletic Club in Brentwood, Tennessee, June 15-20, 2015. We hope to see of the many of the talented players who participated in Lancaster return to play with us next year.

Thank you again to the Members, Staff, and Volunteers of Lancaster Country Club who made this tournament so special for all who were part of it.

For all tournament results and photos, please visit our website at www.WWGA.org.