



# Long Live the King

By L'anse Bannon

The Arnold Palmer Turning Point Invitational recently held at the Country Club of Detroit was just about as good as it gets for a fund raiser. Final tabulation, has the total take hovering near the six million dollar mark. It was the culmination of "A Big Idea".

The idea was unique, the celebration of Arnold Palmer's 50 year anniversary of winning the U.S. Amateur at the club. The other part of the uniqueness was to invite all the past U.S. Amateur Champions to join in the celebration.

The idea was well received by all of the past champions. Those who attended included: Gary

*Photo by Carter Sherline /  
Frog Prince Studios*

Cowan '66 and '71, Robert B. Dickson '67, Bruce Fleisher '68, Steve Melnyk '69, Lanny Wadkins '70, Marvin (Vinny) M. Giles '72, Fred Ridley '75. John Fought '77, Mark O'Meara '79, Nathaniel Crosby '81, Jay Sigel 82 and 83, Sam Randolph '85, Billy Mayfair '87, Phil Mickelson '90, Mitch Voges '91, Matt Kuchar '97, Hank Kuehne '98, David Gossett '99, Jeff Quinney '00, Ben Dickerson '01, Ricky Barnes '02, Nick Flanagan '03 and Ryan David Moore '04

Ryan Moore, an amateur who won everything this past year, had a turning point of his own, and that was when Arnold Palmer told him to stay in school. Moore is just about the hottest new thing in golf, but when asking advice from Arnold, The King told him to stay and finish up school, enjoy the moment and then take up the game

professionally.

Arnold has left his legacy in Michigan, winning the U. S. Amateur, the Senior Championship at Oakland Hills and by designing the likes of The Ravines, The Preserve, The Legend, Northville Hills, King's Challenge and The Crown.

It was a glorious even that perfectly captured the impact this man had on golf. As the score bearers walked behind their respective foursomes, it was noted that Arnie's group wasn't keeping score. It seemed they were concentrating on the moment. There was one moment, when Arnold walked up the 18th fairway holding the hand of his new lady friend, stopped, and then gave a soft and knowing wave to all those who were there to honor him.

Long Live the King. **MG**