

FLORIDA STATE GOLF ASSOCIATION

5714 Draw Lane Sarasota, Florida 34238-5125

(941) 921-5695 (941) 923-1254 fax RELEASE UPON RECEIPT October 1, 1999

Contact: Chris Lowery (941) 921-5695

NAPLES' RON CLELAND TAKES MEDALIST HONORS AT FLORIDA STATE MID-AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – Ron Cleland, 58, of Naples, shot even-par 72 for the second straight day to earn medalist honors by one stroke over Steve Earsley, 51, of Wellington, at the Florida State Mid-Amateur Championship. Cleland was the only golfer to shoot par or better in the two qualifying rounds at the Donald Ross-designed Timuquana Country Club.

Play continues Saturday in this 25-and-over Championship with the first and second rounds of match play. The semifinals and final will be held Sunday.

Earsley, who shot a 1-under 71 to co-lead after the first round, closed with a 2-over 74. Six golfers qualified with a 3-over 147 including defending champion and two-time State Amateur champion Mark Leetzow of Sarasota and two-time State Mid-Amateur champion John Corzilius of Nokomis. Ft. Lauderdale's Rick Woulfe shot a final-round best of 2-under par 70 to also qualify with a 147.

The cut for the low 16 scorers who advance to match play came at 5-over 149, with an eight-man playoff to decide the final five places.

First-round co-leader Lance Serine of Apopka advanced via the playoff. He was one of the five players to make par on the first playoff hole. The other three bogeyed to miss the cut.

The Florida State Mid-Amateur Championship is the 14th of 16 state championships conducted annually by the Florida State Golf Association. The FSGA is a not-for-profit organization that promotes, preserves and protects amateur golf in the state of Florida. For information about membership, please call (941) 921-5695.

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{Scores and match play bracket to follow}