

**2005 ADT Championship
Trump International Golf Club
West Palm Beach, FL**

**November 20, 2005
Final-round tournament quotes**

AN INTERVIEW WITH ANNIKA SORENSTAM

PAUL ROVNAK: Annika wins the Vare Trophy with the fourth lowest scoring average in history 69.33. Annika is the first player in LPGA history to sweep Rolex Player-of-the-Year honors, Vare Trophy honors, and the Money List title five times in her career.

With that being said, this is your 10th win this year in 20 starts on Tour.

You began the season with a win, ended it with a win, eight in between, just talk about that.

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Yes, I mean, obviously I'm more than pleased. I feel great. I wouldn't use the word relieved but this means so much to me to win this championship. It's been a tough week, mostly because of the conditions. You know, to top this great season off with another win against the best players in the world. It just does not get much better than this. I love it. I really do. This is very, very satisfying.

PAUL ROVNAK: Can you talk about winning the Vare Trophy officially?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Yes, officially.

Q. You have to give it back.

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: I was a little worried until yesterday. I could sleep good last night knowing it was all right.

It's something I haven't won the previous two years since I've been cutting back on my schedule, and now I'm back playing full season, I guess you can call it, and to win, that means a lot.

I have always been a person that run crunches numbers. Stats means a lot, it shows a lot of consistency. Having said that, I'm very proud of that.

PAUL ROVNAK: Questions?

Q. I think you had this season in your top 4 a couple of days ago, does this move it up the ladder, 10 out of 20 here and 1 out of 1, I guess it was abroad, 11 out of 21?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Yes, I know it does. This year I won some big ones; to win McDonald's, to win Nabisco, to win this one, to win Samsung. It's big tournaments. With the field, it's the greatest. It definitely ranks up there.

I think I've been consistent this year. Maybe in the summer I was a little shaky at times. But, you know, I dug deeper and I came back when I needed to. I'm very, very proud of that as well.

Q. What would rank ahead of this and why?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: I guess it would be when I won 13 times or I tried, 13th world-wide.

Q. In '02?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Yes.

Q. 59?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Exactly.

Q. 2.8 million.

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Exactly.

Q. Where do you put '03? Do you put that ahead of this or behind this; given that little exhibition you played in Fort Worth?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: You know, you have so many great memories. It feels so bad to single a few of them out. I think everyone has a little purpose and everything has its own little piece in my history. You know, if you look at Colonial, I mean, I only played for two days, but the experience I got there is just for a lifetime. That's really what I think is helping me to sit here today, and all of the wins that I have had since. You know, it's just a step in my career. They all mean a lot.

If you take one of them out, who knows where I would be. All of them adding up, it just makes a great picture.

Q. (Inaudible)?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Yes.

Q. (Inaudible)?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: I'm still 22 away. Again, it's just so much. But then again, I'm on my way. You know, I started great; I finished great this season; I'm going to come out next year and see what happens.

Q. Would you mind elaborating a little bit on Colonial? We shouldn't be talking about this two years later. You almost make it sound like without Colonial you might not have 66 wins at this point. You might not have 9 Majors. Is it because you played in that stifling pressure, or is it because of how you condition yourself to get ready for that tournament and then carried that beyond?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Well, I think it's all of the things that you said.

Q. What did I just say?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: It's tough to speculate, obviously. What made me win these tournaments the last few years, the Colonial, like I said, it was only two days, but I prepared for three and a half months for that, which was a lot of weight training, a lot of fine-tuning on my swing, a lot of hard work on my short game and, you know, I wouldn't say it paid off that particular week, but it paid off down the road for sure.

I think being in the limelight, with the pressure that I felt on the first tee, it was just enormous. Today, I'm standing on the first tee and I felt pressure.

You look at that fairway and the wind is blowing, you wonder where can this ball go? I got to hit it just totally straight. It felt like that all week. Every shot has to be perfect, and that is pressure. And when you are tried, I think, you know, the most pressure there is in the world, it seems like I can handle this. I can handle it

the first drive on this hole. I can handle making par on 18. It just feels like I've been to the toughest place, and now it's more routine and trusting myself when I'm out there.

Q. Annika, were you worried at all about the field that was so close or behind you throughout the day, part of the day; Liselotte being right there?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Yes. I'm one of those players, I look at the leaderboard all the time. The first one was probably on the third hole. I mean, I watch it. I listen to the crowd, and then I asked my dad on the course -- I was like, what's the score, and he told me. I knew at the time I was on the 13th hole, I was two shots ahead, and then I saw the leaderboard on 15 and all of a sudden we are all square. I think I saw Michele Redman had made a birdie as well there, and it was very tight there.

I walked away on 15 with a par, and I come to 16 knowing I got three really tough holes. I got to do something. My caddy says, make one birdie. You are going to be fine. I rolled in a nice putt on 16 and then played solid the next 2.

Q. The evidence would pretty strongly suggest your playing the best golf of your career right now. Do you feel that way, and if so, why do you think that at 35, which is kind of a time when a lot of players in the women's game start leveling off for whatever reason?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Well, I feel like I'm very solid. I'm driving the ball really well this week. I think overall my numbers -- I'm not really sure if I look at the stats, if they are any better than in the past, but it's just consistent.

I think this year I have been in the lead a few times and I converted it to victories in the past. I think I let a few slip by. I think that shows maybe experience, maybe a little more maturity maybe. You know, when it comes to being 35, I don't know what you mean. I feel great.

Q. That's just the average across the spectrum of the LPGA?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: I mean, I am working as hard in the gym as ever, and I feel as strong as ever, and knock on the wood, I haven't had any injuries. I think most of it, I have learned so much the last few years. I think I've learned how to control my temper. I still get a little upset at times, but I'm better at converting it. I don't throw away shots as much as I used to. So I guess in a way, I matured a little bit and putting things in the right perspective when I'm out there.

Q. You mentioned 16, that you felt like you got to do something here at this moment. Obviously you made that birdie. Can you talk about that hole, what your mentality was going in? Like you said, you came to that conclusion.

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Yes, I mean, I got three to go and I'm tied for the lead and I'm hitting a 4-wood off of 16. I just put it on top of the shelf up there, and I hit a sand wedge from 122 yards, and I rolled in pretty much the first putt I made all day. I mean, I made a nice one on 11.

Other than that, I had been 2-putting all day. It was really a key putt for me, a little left-to-right. I could not have made a birdie at a better time. It's all about timing.

Q. Annika, aside from the all-time wins record, you really have very little left to accomplish in this game. What types of things do you need to do to keep your motivation, and what kind of goals do you have for this coming year, '06?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: I really haven't thought too much about '06 yet. But I know that when the season is there, I'm going to be as fired up as I have been this year. What comes to my mind is the Majors. I

want to win more Majors. I want to win 10. That's a number that's in my head. But I want to try to win them, all 4. That's really what pushes me today, to do something that nobody else has done.

There are times when I just feel like I have achieved so much, and I feel I'm full. I don't need to do more to look back on my career and say, you know what, this is all I need.

So it's the Majors that really matters to me.

Q. If this is a year later and Soo-Yun Kang and Michele Redman are outside battling for a million dollars, what kind of conversation are we having in here?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Oh, yes, I would probably be in a different mood, I think.

Q. Sorry.

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: That's all right. I haven't even paid attention to it.

Q. That's what it would have been?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: I'm just glad it's 2005, that's all I can say.

Q. Will you talk to anyone at the LPGA about your feelings toward the Money List and the amount of prize money. You mentioned yesterday you thought it was too much money?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: I have already three times.

Q. Three times. What kind of feedback, how would you describe that feedback?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: They are thinking about it.

Q. How often does your mom and dad get to see you play?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: My mom and dad?

Q. Do they have a place in Orlando now?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Yes, they spend most of the part of the winter there.

Q. Do they get to see you play in tournaments a good bit now?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Not so much. They are going to watch me next week at that time Skins game. They normally come out in March for Phoenix and Nabisco. And Europe a little bit, maybe six times.

Q. The highest winning score for this tournament, what does that mean, any significance?

PAUL ROVNAK: 6-under was the highest winning score.

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Well, I thought the conditions were really tough. It's been windy for four days. We have had some rain. It's a difficult golf course. I really believe so. I know in the past we had two or three days of wind. I don't know if we had this much -- these type of conditions. It's been very wet also which makes the course a little longer. I think that has something to do with it as well.

Q. This is kind of minor detail I guess. But what kind of shot were you trying to play on 15, the par-5 for your third?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Third, well, I had 58 to the pin and I was trying to just run a little past and spin back.

Q. Was that angle awkward for you where the pin was?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: The read was on the right, I think I maybe landed two or three feet too far because I hit on top of it instead of maybe into it and shot a little bit more left.

Q. And on 17, when you missed that putt, was that a feeling of now it's not quite over yet, that would have given you a nice cushion?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Oh, yes, totally. I'm standing on the 17th tee and I have perfect yardage for a 7-iron. I'm kind of walking around feeling the wind, thinking a lot and my caddy says, what are you thinking? I said it really has no meaning what I'm thinking. He is looking at me. And I hit the shot, and he said what do you mean. I said I was just thinking thoughts you really don't want to think about it. I was nervous at the time. The wind is was blowing left-to-right. It's a really tough shot. I kept telling myself, you are going to win this championship, you have to hit this one shot one time later, you can't get away with it. You have to play this hole to win this championship. It's just some of the mind games, that goes through when I'm out there, so I'll take it.

Q. Negative shots?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Yes, you stand there and you have a one-shot lead. Like I said yesterday I think it's one of the three toughest finishing holes in golf. You absolutely have to trust the yardage. You have to trust the club and swing to your targets. You know, if you let that go a little bit, it's either right. Or if you pull it, you're left. It's really one of those tough pins a Sunday that once you are past that hole and you make par or better, it's a big sigh of relief.

PAUL ROVNAK: Take us over your scorecard.

(Scorecard.)

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: No. 3, I birdied, I hit a 4-wood just short of the green and chipped it up and made a putt that was four feet.

No. 5, I hit a 4-iron to 19 feet.

No. 8, I might my 4-wood in the water to right, dropped it, hit a 5-iron on the green, 2-putted.

And then on 11, I hit an 8-iron and made a 20-footer.

And then on 16, I hit a sand wedge to 15 feet.

Q. Where do you come up with every 19 feet?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Sounds good.

Q. Are you converting metric at all? You said 26 feet yesterday, you are the only player in golf that says 26 feet?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Am I? I don't use meters at all anymore. I haven't for years.

Q. She is Americanized, it's official?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: I just look at it and I think that's what it is.

Q. It's interesting that --

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: I'm precise.

Q. You just made argument, and there is all of these disaster scenarios bouncing around in your head, just because of scar tissue from what happened in past years, or potential for disaster with water on the last few holes?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Yes, I mean if I look back at it, I haven't done it. So I don't know why I have those thoughts. I have seen other players do it. I've seen it on TV. You know, I just think of things that I don't want to happen. But then again I know I have the right club. It's a part of my brain that says you can do what's right. And I have another part that says, you got to be careful. So it's just back and forth. A little schizo, I guess.

Q. Liselotte was just talking about how those cheers from your birdie on 16 kind of like maybe a little bit unnerved her, being nervous coming in on the next hole, did you realize the affect that that had?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: On her?

Q. Crowds cheering.

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Well, if I would have been in her situation, and I looked at the board, and I have two holes left, and all of a sudden you are trailing by one knowing that the last two holes are tough to make up strokes, that's not really the greatest position.

If that was me then I would try to play aggressive. For me it's all about winning. There is nothing else.

When you see that, you just got to fire at the pins. I don't really know what her approach was but that's probably would what would have crossed my mind.

Q. At the very start of this you mentioned this has been a tough week, mostly the golf course, was there anything else that made it tough? In other words the Thursday soap opera, did that at all contribute to being a tough week?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: It makes it a little longer.

Q. Distracted?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Yes, a little distracted. It's not really what I had in mind coming here and dealing with that. It's been a long week in the sense that Monday I was playing in ADT skills challenge with dinner Monday, dinner Tuesday, the awards on Friday. And it's just a long week. Especially I feel like on the golf course I'm grinding every single shot. Where is the wind? Where is the green? Every single shot. It just wears me out.

Q. What does the off season look like for you, are you going to take some time off, or go back to practicing?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: I would love to have an off season. It seems like it's disappearing by the moment. I'm playing in the Skins game next week. And then I'm home for a few days and then I go to Singapore for a week and then I have a few sponsor outings and commercials.

So, I believe, the last time I looked at the calendar, the last thing is on December 21st, I should be ready for Christmas then.

Q. Are you going out to Hawaii at all?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: I'm not going to Hawaii.

Q. What do you use when you put your team together?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: You know what? I have not put the team together. It's an IMG event and Lexus decision. They chose me as the playing captain. I guess my roll will be to put the pairings together and just make sure everybody is there on time and give a few speeches and that's about it.

Q. Who do you think would make a good captain for '07?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: For Europe?

Q. Yes.

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Well, you know I thought maybe Liselotte Neumann would be the one, but she is playing great right now. I don't think it's good thing to combine a playing captain as captain. There is too much to do. So having said that I think that eliminates her. So it's either Karine to try for the third time, or maybe another Swede like Helen. I'm not really sure.

Q. Does it need to be a Swede?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: It doesn't need to be a Swede at all. But you know just thinking of players that have been on the team before, I think Helen is in line. Allison, she has been co-captain, I guess. I'm not really sure what her plans are.

Q. I thought you were the co-captain?

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: No.

PAUL ROVNAK: Are you guys all set with questions? Thank you.

ANNIKA SORENSTAM: Thanks guys.

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