
**Nissan Open
Riviera Country Club
Pacific Palisades, California
February 20, 2004**

Second-round leader quotes

AN INTERVIEW WITH BRINY BAIRD

THE MODERATOR: We will get started. Briny Baird with a 62. Give us an idea, I think the conditions are pretty good for scoring, a 62 is pretty extraordinary.

BRINY BAIRD: Yes, the conditions are real good for scoring. The greens are pretty smooth yet, and they're soft, so that's a real good combination when you can get greens like that. It's not real hard to get close to the pins. The fairways are still -- we're not picking up too much mudd on the golf balls so you are not getting too many jumpers. Every now and then you might get one. And The lack of wind today -- if I can shoot 62, geez, that would be real easy.

THE MODERATOR: Questions?

Q. You probably choke up on the club more than anybody else out here, this is reputed to be a shotmaker's golf course, did you do a good bit of that?

BRINY BAIRD: Yes, I don't know why I do that. It feels good. I didn't start it for any reason other than, you know, maybe I choke up on a shot. I had to hit a shorter 8-iron like most people would think. Now, I choke up on every club except for my driver. I think my 3-wood. Driver and a 3-wood and every other club has got a real good chance of choking up on it. It's for no reason though.

Q. I know you shot low scores a millions times all over the country, is there any special thrill to shooting a course like this?

BRINY BAIRD: Yes, when people said right away, as soon as I got done, man, 62, Riviera. I never thought about it while I was out there at all. I had a pretty good idea where I stood. I knew I missed a pretty short birdie putt on 12. I knew if I made the one on 12, I actually thought -- sometimes you get these crazy ideas, you get real under par real quick. You get these crazy notions. When I mess up, it was, oh well, there goes that idea. Let's see if we can pick up a few coming in, see how low you can go.

Q. (Inaudible)?

BRINY BAIRD: Any other hole? Yes, on the 2nd hole today I hit a driver and a little cut 5-iron in there, a pretty club, about ten feet, hit a real good putt and caught a good piece of the hole and spun it pretty good, and it's like, oh, here we go, it's going to

be one of those days. From then on out, most of the putts did seem to find their way in the hole, obviously.

Q. (Inaudible)?

BRINY BAIRD: Probably about 12 feet. Oh, no, the one on 12 was four or five feet. It actually almost had a chance of going in for a 2.

Q. (Inaudible)?

BRINY BAIRD: I didn't care, I was trying to get it down there as close as possible at that point. I knew that putt could get away from me in a hurry. I knew it was short the whole way. I was surprised that it cozied up there, that close. It's one that you hit it a foot too hard and it's going to roll seven feet passed the cup. I wasn't in real good birdie position there.

Q. What's the locker room buzz on Daly and his latest rise from the ashes?

BRINY BAIRD: Everything I have heard is good. Everything has been a positive. I completely agree with it. I think the fans absolutely adore the guy. How could you root against him? Or not think it's great for golf? It's not good for golf, it's great for golf. He is like a NASCAR, rock star, musician out here. They love him. It's great for the game when he plays low, especially when he wins. Especially the way he won.

Q. You had quite a bit of success last year, do you feel a higher comfort level this year, do you feel better, the same?

BRINY BAIRD: No, I feel the same this year as I did last year. I feel like -- I definitely feel like I belong out here. I think those humps that you try to overcome, I think the first couple of years you play out here, one of the humps you try to overcome is the sense of belonging, and I don't have a problem with that at all.

Q. (Inaudible)?

BRINY BAIRD: I don't feel any better this year than I did last year. Obviously, I felt like I played well last year. Throughout the year I had maybe one or two tournaments in a row where I didn't play well, but I seem to spread out what I consider good play throughout the course of the season. I think that's what anybody would like to do.

Q. Did you have any specific goals?

BRINY BAIRD: No, I never set goals. I'm not just saying that to not tell anybody my goals. Obviously, a goal would be to win a tournament, but I don't sit at the beginning of the year, write down and say, here is a list of what I would like to do. I would like to have this many wins, or this many Top-10's, or finish this on the money list. If you can go the entire season, for someone like myself, to play 30 to 32 events, be healthy and, you know, feel like you are swinging at it fairly well. There is not much more you can ask for from there out. It's guts from there.

Q. Is this the kind of golf course that you think you can win?

BRINY BAIRD: I don't think there is a golf course that I can't win on. I'm not saying that in an arrogant way. I don't feel like I have a game that's tailored for a certain style of golf course. If I'm hitting my driver well, and I am hitting my irons well and making putts. I don't play too many golf courses where they put trees in the middle of the fairway or on the green. I don't hit it so short that I can't play a long golf course, and I don't hit it so long that I can't play a short golf course.

Q. Is it too early to start thinking about the possibility of winning this thing?

BRINY BAIRD: No, I hope it continues to rain like crazy. You never know. The guy ahead of me -- you done? That wouldn't be good.

Q. (Inaudible)?

BRINY BAIRD: I know I missed the cut last year but I know I've made the cut here before because I saw a bunch of No. 4's in my yardage book, like where the pins were one year. I made it in either '01 or '02.

THE MODERATOR: Thanks.

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