

**Samsung World Championship
Half Moon Bay Golf Links
Half Moon Bay, CA**

October 1, 2008

Pre-round quotes

AN INTERVIEW WITH LORENA OCHOA

MIKE SCANLAN: Lorena, thanks for coming in. You're a two-time defending champion at Samsung looking for the three-peat this year and you're also coming off a win last week in Alabama. If you will talk about this new venue at Half Moon Bay and your thoughts on the week.

LORENA OCHOA: Hello, everybody. Well for sure it's a beautiful place. I cannot say anything else. The weather has been beautiful and the course is probably one of the best courses that I play on Tour.

It's nice conditions so far, hopefully it stays like this. I think it should be a fun week. The greens can get quick. And if it gets windy, it can be tricky with the speed. I think it's a great course for a championship like this.

It's very tough, having the best players. And I am just really happy to be here and have an opportunity to defend my title.

I would love to win again, so I'm going to try really hard. I think it's most important just to enjoy everything every day and be up there on Sunday.

MIKE SCANLAN: Questions?

Q. Lorena, obviously, another very good year for you this year. How hard is it to maintain that level year after year after especially last year's success?

LORENA OCHOA: Thank you. Well, this year has been a lot of fun the way I started, winning so many tournaments, and then a little bit slower in the summer especially.

Right now I feel really good. I went home and took some rest and did good practice, and what I did last week winning the tournament, I think it was just good timing, and hopefully I carry on that good

momentum and continue and finish the year the way I wanted to finish, to keep winning.

You know, I'm enjoying myself a lot. It's a challenge, learning a lot of new things and a lot of new activities I need to do outside of the golf course. Sometimes it's hard to manage the time. But I still learn from every moment. I'm trying to get better. There is still a lot of motivation. There are plays where I can improve, and I am going to try to continue that, to maintain myself in the No. 1 position.

Q. Two questions, Lorena, if you don't mind. First about the golf course, I was wondering if you can explain why you like this golf course, if it fits your game and in what capacity?

LORENA OCHOA: I love the course. It's great that it has five par-5's as well as five par-3s. I think that's always fun. I am hitting my driver good. That's important this week. I'm going to make sure I can get it in the right direction. I think hitting the fairways is probably going to be the most important thing this week. I can reach maybe two for sure, maybe 3, of the par-5s and I am going to try to give myself some eagle chances and just go from there.

It all depends on the weather, but I like my opportunities to reaching the par-5s and just have some excitement there.

Q. The second question is: You said you went home and worked on your swing a little bit, do you mind if I asked what you worked on?

LORENA OCHOA: I'm always working on getting a shorter back swing so I can have a little more control, trying to eliminate extra movement that I have at the top of my back swing. And I work on the short game, especially from 100 yards in, to feel more comfortable with the distance, and be more precise, as well as the putting.

I think, you know, it's important to have your game ready for the tournaments, and like I said I want to finish the year strong, and I feel I'm getting to be a hundred percent, and I want to play good.

Q. Lorena, you have a lot of fans out there today, Latino fans. I want to know how are you adjusting to, I guess, becoming the pride of Mexico here in the United States?

LORENA OCHOA: Well, I am very proud to be Mexican. Like I said before, every time I see Mexican flags, which is people coming and cheering for me, it gives me extra motivation to play good. I want to say thank you to all of them. Hopefully they enjoyed the day today, and I want to invite them to be here during the week because they know that I play for all of them. There are a lot of Mexicans here. It will be great to see them come and cheer for us.

Q. Lorena, based on what you were told about the course how did it look based on what you were told and what you had learned on internets and pictures and what not?

LORENA OCHOA: I didn't check on the internet, and nobody told me anything about the course. I just come here with a blank mind. They did tell me before I started playing on Tuesday that hopefully we can get through the practice with abuse. The good thing, if you hit a bad shot it's nice to look at the ocean and breathe. It's beautiful. Congratulations to just everybody here. Everything is amazing.

Q. Lorena, how do you balance what you need to do to keep yourself from getting worn out and the fact that every week the tournaments would love to have you in their field? And that must sometimes be difficult to say no to people.

LORENA OCHOA: I don't know. I don't know yet how to balance that. Like I said, I'm still learning. I make a lot of mistakes and sometimes I go too far and I need to rest a little bit more, and I need more time to practice. It's just trial and error.

I think I'm learning, and I'm going to make sure that I make less mistakes every time, and I think, you know, as far as I can do, how far can I go, I think I'm trying my best. Sometimes, yes, you are tired, but it's also part of the obligations. It not only about winning. It comes with a lot of the things, with the sponsors and the media and the time.

So if you like to win, and you like to do those things, you have to find a good balance and I am trying my best.

Q. Lorena, when you first started on Tour a few years ago was it your goal to become the No. 1 player, or did you just kind of say to yourself, take it week by week and wherever I'm ranked is where I am ranked; what was your goal when you first started?

LORENA OCHOA: To be the No. 1 player. I knew it wouldn't happen in a couple of months or a couple of years. We always said it will take three or four years. That's exactly what happened. Nothing is easy. What we are trying to do is maintain myself in that position because it's not easy having so many good players, and the competition is getting better and better, but I like to stay there.

Q. What are your impressions of Yani Tseng? You've played with her a couple of times with her in the final round, what are your impression of her and her game?

LORENA OCHOA: I like her a lot. She is very strong. She hits the ball very hard. She is not a scared. It's good to see a rookie come in like that.

I've become good friends, and we have this game that we bet when we play to see who makes more birdies and to see who scores better in the round. So we have fun together. I think it's always important to have a good relationship, respect each other a lot, so we can compete on the course.

Q. What do you guys bet each other?

LORENA OCHOA: \$50 for birdies and \$50 for the best score. She owes me \$100, so you can put it in the newspaper.

Q. English is your second language, what do you think about the requirement for all players to master English?

LORENA OCHOA: I didn't understand.

Q. English is your second language, what do you think of the new requirement to require all players to master English?

LORENA OCHOA: I'm not sure where we are right now.

MIKE SCANLAN: There is no requirement right now. It's been redeveloped.

Q. This tournament is steep with international players, how is that happening out there on the Tour. There are only four American players on this particular event. Does that say something about The International players' game?

LORENA OCHOA: I think that golf is just growing, and it's going all over the place, becoming very global. I'm Mexican. I guess you see a lot of different players, different nationalities, and it's becoming so popular that we have more players from all around the world.

You can ask the American players, too. I'm happy to be here. I'm very proud to be an LPGA player and it's a lot of fun to be a professional.

Q. Lorena, Annika has a chance to get to you in the race of the Rolex Player of the Year. What are you going to do to get the honor the final year? In Spanish, please.

LORENA OCHOA: (Response in Spanish.)

Q. Lorena, you said that there is a large Hispanic population in Half Moon Bay. Would you consider buying property here and moving up here?

LORENA OCHOA: If I win, let's talk about that on Sunday.

Q. I will hold you to it.

LORENA OCHOA: Thank you.

Q. Looking ahead to next week you don't want to look too far ahead, do you feel unfinished business next week at Blackhawk?

LORENA OCHOA: No, no, but we can talk about it next week, too.

Q. Speaking about the economy here in the states have the players thought about how it's going to relate or affect The Tour next year? Many big companies support the LPGA. I don't know if the players have talked about the situation in the states.

LORENA OCHOA: (Response in Spanish.)

Q. Could you answer that in English?

LORENA OCHOA: Yes, I think the LPGA is in a good place. Of course there is going to be problems with sponsors, or not as high purses.

But, you know, the players will always support The Tour. I think we have a good schedule next year. I think the tournaments, if it means we add tournaments, it doesn't matter how big or how small is the purse, I think we should support them. Talking about me, I will be there, because it's tough times. The economy is tough, and for sure it will affect us in different ways. The LPGA is strong and it gives me comfort that we are in good hands.

MIKE SCANLAN: Thank you so much.

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