

**Samsung World Championship
BIGHORN Golf Club
Palm Desert, CA**

October 10, 2007

Pre-tournament quotes

AN INTERVIEW WITH LORENA OCHOA

PAM WARNER: Lorena, thank you for coming and joining us today.

LORENA OCHOA: Thank you.

PAM WARNER: You are back here at BIGHORN as the defending champion after a come-from-behind win last year; just talk about being back here.

LORENA OCHOA: Hello, everybody, good to see you. Yes, last year was a really special year, especially this tournament. I think winning here, you know, the tournament and having that last round play with Annika, and coming from behind, it was something very special and important for my career. And now I feel we are back.

It was a lot of fun to finish strong last year and be able to play good so far this year. So a lot of positive things, a lot of, you know, good things, improvement, in my golf game, and inside the ropes, things we've been working on.

I'm ready to start playing tomorrow. I'm really excited. I've already had a couple of practice rounds. The course looks in great shape and I'm very excited about starting tomorrow.

PAM WARNER: Questions for Lorena?

Q. Last year when you won here a lot of people thought that maybe that was when you became the No. 1 player in the world, even though you said you weren't.

Was there a point in the last 12 months where you actually felt that you were the No. 1 player other than when the computer said so?

LORENA OCHOA: This year or last year?

Q. When did you feel like you became No. 1?

LORENA OCHOA: Well, I think for sure, last year, the way we finished the year, finishing in Mobile and finishing high in ADT. The 2006 season was the one that put me in the No. 1 position for sure.

Q. Starting this year you felt you were the No. 1 player?

LORENA OCHOA: Yes.

Q. Do you have any thoughts on the criteria change for the tournament at all with the Hall of Fame exemption, and would you like to see the criteria change for next year even more, maybe use the

Rolex rankings?

LORENA OCHOA: No, I think, you know, I will support whatever they decide to do. But for sure, you know, it's important to just stick with what they say. And at the end of the year they have, you know, saying that the first 18 will qualify from the Money List, I think that's great. I'm glad that they keep their word.

And, you know, what Annika decided to do, that's something that I admire very much, I respect. She thought they were wrong to do it. That just shows how much class she has and how professional she is. Hopefully, they will be clear with the rules, you know, how it's going to be, the qualifications for next year and just stick with that.

Q. I was just talking to Angela Park saying she was hitting 3-woods into one of the greens at least. What's the longest club that you have into a par-4?

LORENA OCHOA: I think a couple of holes, 4-iron and 5-iron. I think 17, if it plays into the wind, we could have for sure a 4-iron, 185 yards to the green.

Q. What about 9?

LORENA OCHOA: Nine today we used my driver, I hit a 7-iron.

Q. Back to Annika for a moment, do you kind of wish she was here, you wish she was here?

LORENA OCHOA: Annika? Yes, very much. You know I think, you know, what happened to her is very understandable, the way she got injured and tried just to slow down and not play as many tournaments. You know, she has been through a lot. And, for sure, I miss her, not only me but a lot of players, and the sponsors, and everybody would like to have her here. But she will be back. She is doing good and ready to start playing more golf in more weeks in a row and get a good rhythm to show the results.

Q. Lorena, you played very well at the end of last year, starting here obviously; you've played very well for six or seven weeks now; do you feel you can keep this going through the ADT like you did last year?

LORENA OCHOA: Yes, I would like to do that; that's for sure. You know my goal right now, just to be focused in every tournament and give myself a chance to win all of them. I would like to win not only one, but hopefully I can win a few more. I'm feeling good. I think it's all about being in good shape, being strong, and I can tell you that physically I feel very good. And then I have this week, and next week we go to Korea, a couple of weeks off, and then ADT. It looks good to be able to finish strong and where we would like to be at the top.

Q. You took a little time off just recently, about four weeks?

LORENA OCHOA: Yes.

Q. How important is that during a year to take the right time off at the right time?

LORENA OCHOA: Very important. I will tell you that four weeks could be too long. I did it for two reasons, after coming from three wins then my brother got married, it was really tough, the whole summer. And I just, me and my coach, we decided to take it easy. It was a good time to go home and relax, recharge, to be able to finish strong.

So in this particular year I think it was important to do that. I think next year I'm going to try to do maybe one rest, no more than three weeks in a row. Because it's always hard to get back to the game.

I was feeling not very comfortable the first week in Birmingham, Alabama. Much better last week, and I think by now I'm 100 percent ready. It's part of the learning. It was good

Q. Lorena, there are many more people, more cameras in this press conference than previous press

conferences, and even with you in previous years. With more people watching you, more people paying attention to you, does that give you more incentive to play better?

LORENA OCHOA: Yes, for sure. I do feel a lot of support. Thank you to all of the media and also the fans, not only in Mexico but people here in the United States, from all over the world, they come and watch us play. It always gives you extra motivation when you feel that good energy, and I want to say thank you for that.

PAM WARNER: Other questions?

Q. Can you just comment on the condition of the course and how you feel like it's playing?

LORENA OCHOA: Yes, tournament relations, everybody here at BIGHORN, it's a beautiful golf course. I think the setup for the tournament is for a Grade A championship for the top players. It's going to be challenge. That's also fun for the spectators.

The greens, I've never seen the greens in better shape. Not even one ball mark. They are so flat and fast. So I think it will improve the way you are playing. So I think that's good; it's very fair.

PAM WARNER: Any other questions? Thank you very much, Lorena.

LORENA OCHOA: Thank you.
