

**LPGA Championship
Presented by Wegmans
Locust Hill Country Club
Pittsford, NY**

June 24, 2011

Second-round quotes:

INTERVIEW OF MINEA BLOMQVIST

THE MODERATOR: I would like to welcome Minea Blomqvist into the interview room. Minea, good round today, your second consecutive 3-under 69.

Can you tell me a little bit about it?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: I'm just happy for 3-under and 3-under. I had been struggling with my game. The last six weeks I've been slowly getting a little bit better. I started with Debbie Smelts new coach last fall. I'm very happy that I could get an under par round.

THE MODERATOR: You became a mom last year, can you tell me how it's been balancing motherhood and golf?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: It's great. My boyfriend plays European Tour. He has to do achilles surgery next Thursday, so he's a home stay dad now.

I can play golf and do what I do. It's been good. I had a full-time nanny almost a year. So, you know, it was very good. I'm, of course, happy.

You always think about motherhood, that I can't make babies yet, and I had to wait when I'm in a certain level of golf. But, you know, it happened accidentally so I was happy about that. And afterwards I'm very happy.

THE MODERATOR: Any questions?

Q. On the subject of that, what's the baby's name?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: His name is Elmo, E L M O. I have an Elmo in my bag as well.

Q. Does he have red hair?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: No, maybe we should color it. He has sticky hair. It sticks up.

Q. You have a head cover Elmo?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: I had, but I lost it. I don't know where it is.

Q. What was the birthday?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: Of my son? 31st of March. 14 months now.

Q. Did that set your game back for a while?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: You know, that year when I got pregnant, that was U.S. Open, and I actually finished that. I played only like 28 holes because my game was so off.

Then I found out I was pregnant, and then I was kind of struggling with my game any ways before I got pregnant.

And then I made changes after I got the baby. I made changes that I need to find a new coach. Find something new for my game. So it wasn't the baby or anything like that. It was kind of off before.

Q. I'm sorry, I don't want to talk too much about the name thing, were you an Elmo fan? Is that his real name?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: The thing is, we wanted to put Elmo, E L M O. In Finland we have a sport book that's called Elmo. It's a sport person. He wins everything. Even in hundred meters he falls, but he still wins. It's kind of like a magical book when you are a big sport hero.

My boyfriend loves sport, and we follow ice hockey, so we thought that's a great name for my son.

But I told my American caddy that we are going to put the name Elmo. No, you can't, that's kind of a funny name here.

So I didn't even know that it is here.

When I found out, I've been buying all Elmoes. I spent thousands of Euros to buy all the Elmo stuff. It was kind of funny. We have that show. It's not that popular in Finland.

Q. So it's a fictional character?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: From the book, yes. Anyway, the funny thing was actually because I think I told you before my name is Minea. My boyfriend is Roope, which means the guy who has money in -- what is it called? Scrooge. The one that has a lot of money. Not Donald Duck.

Q. Donald Trump?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: In Finland it Roope's uncle. Are you going to put your son's name Donald? So actually, if you check the 31. 3-13, it's Donald Duck's birthday. So we actually put. It's a second name. So he was born on Donald Duck's birthday. So we give the second name Aku, A K U, Aku. That's Donald Duck in Finnish. It's actually funny. I couldn't believe when I was trying to get the baby out. Try to get it out. It was 10 o'clock. It's Donald

Duck's birthday, try to get it out. It's actually funny. I couldn't believe it when I heard it.

Q. Is Aku the middle name, A K U?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: That's the middle name.

Q. Can you spell your boyfriend's name?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: R O O P E.

Q. That's his first name?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: That's his first name.

Q. Last name?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: K A K A O.

Q. He plays on the European Tour?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: Yes, he got his card last year from Tour school. I was caddy. So fun.

Q. What are you going to name your second one?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: I didn't hear it.

Q. What are you going to name the second one?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: I don't know. I'm actually going to put Iines. It's Donald Duck's girlfriend. If I get a girl, I love that name. So I will do that.

Q. How do you spell that?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: I I N E S. If I get a girl, that's Donald duck's girlfriend's name.

Q. How do you know it was Donald Duck's birthday?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: From book, 3-13. It's his license plate as well. Donald Duck's license plate, 3-13.

Q. I hate to break this up, could you maybe tell us about your round, your birdies or bogeys or whatever?

MINEA BLOMQVIST: 11th hole, I made a long birdie putt. I'm going to talk in yards because I don't know about foot. It was maybe like 8 yards. I made a birdie putt.

No. 10, I made 3 yard par putt. It was a good start to get it going. I was still a little bit nervous. I had been struggling with my game. Yesterday I hit 4 fairways. It was kind of a hard day for me but I was fighting.

So today I was a little bit nervous. Yesterday I'm staying with the police officer, stay with this family. So he was, of course, following my scores. You know at his work. If you put google.com and you put Minea Blomqvist, you get my bra pictures.

All of the boys over here were watching my scores, we were all pulling for you. I got nervous. So 3-under was very good for me yesterday.

So I got a little bit nervous last night. I was very happy I made the putt on No. 10. And then 11 made a birdie and that kind of opened me up a little bit. I hit much better drives today. So on the back 9 as well on 17 I made a good 2 yard par putt. 15, I made maybe like 10 yard birdie putt. So I had some good putts out there, you know.

THE MODERATOR: Any other questions?

MINEA BLOMQUIST: Thank you.

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