

**SBS Championship
The Plantation Course at Kapalua
Kapalua, Maui, HI**

January 9, 2010

Third-round leader quotes:

INTERVIEW OF MARTIN LAIRD

JOHN BUSH: We would like to welcome Martin Laird into the interview room after a 4-under par 69. Martin, not a lot going through eight holes, then you got it going. Comment on the day as a whole for us, please.

MARTIN LAIRD: Yes, I was hitting it nice the first eight holes, I couldn't make a putt. I 3-putted for my only bogey on 6. And then I hit a great shot into 7. I hit a great putt. The big thing, the big one was on 8. I didn't have a very good shot there, in the front bunker, and end up holing a 12, 15 footer for par and that was the first putt I made all day. That was a big save and I went on a nice run after that.

JOHN BUSH: Take us through those birdies, No. 9.

MARTIN LAIRD: 9 was totally different straight down wind and we decided to hit driver right down to the bottom of the hill through the fairway and into the rough. I hit an 8-iron, hit it to the green about 30, 35 feet and 2-putted.

And then 10, I hit a 4-iron off the tee as opposed to driver, the last couple of days and then hit a sand wedge six feet and made that.

14, hit a good drive right up there in front of the green, pitched up there, thought I had a good one, went six or seven feet passed the hole, had a fat putt and it was nice to see that by the hole. 16, was the same, I hit a great dive up there, thought I hit a great shot and the wind decides when I went to hit it. It went 15 feet long. I had a nice putt down the hill and dropped in.

The last, perfect wind for me, off of the left, so I just hit it as hard as I wanted and I hit it way down the hill, I had a perfect number for a 4-iron. Again, I hit a nice high cut into that pin,

hit a great shot in there to 8 feet. I hit a good putt, put it in the right side.

Q. How much practice in the first three days in this kind of wind helped you?

MARTIN LAIRD: It definitely helped. Thursday was like playing a new golf course. I mean, I think the course definitely plays tougher in this wind. But holes like 17 and 18, as I said, I like to see it go left-to-right. For me, I can actually get it farther down the hill on 17 and 18. Especially 18, like the wind left-to-right like yesterday, so it plays easier on that hole for me.

Q. When you came here was this the first time you seen the course?

MARTIN LAIRD: Yes, I only saw the course on TV before.

Q. How do you prepare for it if you haven't seen it? What do people tell you?

MARTIN LAIRD: They told me it's very, very hilly. I obviously knew the wind could blow. One of my friends that played here, he would say, it's one of those courses you got to hit it in spot A, and it ends up in spot C, kind of golf course. You can't get too frustrated where the ball goes. Or aim it away from the hole on some holes. Some putts you have to hit it sideways to get there. I get here and tried to enjoy the week and I'm playing well, so I have been enjoying the week.

Q. Did you have a long off season, short off season?

MARTIN LAIRD: I played pretty much steadily. After my last event which was HSBC in China I didn't touch a club for two weeks. With the new V grooves I done some testing, and I had to figure out what wedges to use. I took a week off and went back to Scotland. And then I had a week off over Christmas when I went to Colorado. Prior to that I've been playing frequently. I had my coach up from Florida and Arizona, and we worked hard the three days before I came out.

Q. You are only four shots back entering the day, not too much to make up, are you surprised how close it is right now the way Lucas is playing?

MARTIN LAIRD: Yes, I played with him yesterday and he didn't miss a shot all day. It was impressive to watch yesterday. The greens, it's tough to make a lot of putts every day on these greens. I don't know what he was doing. I think I saw he made a couple of birdies, got it to back par or 1-under. I knew it was playing tougher today. If I just went out, I was kind of excited on the back 9 instead of the front 9. I like the back 9 better.

Q. Do you think a lot of guys open up their rounds carefully? It seems like there is a lot of round of pars for a lot of guys the first five or six holes?

MARTIN LAIRD: Yes, maybe 1 and 2 in the wind today are probably the toughest holes out there. Starting par par is pretty good. Everyone will take that. And then three or four, they are not easy, even though they are shorter holes, they are not too easy. A lot of the guys are getting used to the wind and the greens, and when they get the wind all figured out, they can start firing at the flags a little more.

Q. How will you approach tonight and prepare for tomorrow?

MARTIN LAIRD: Yes, exactly the same as every other night. Take it easy. Don't too much. It's a long walk, try to safe up some energy. Have some dinner and a couple of drinks and take it easy.

JOHN BUSH: Martin, play well tomorrow.

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