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INTERVIEW OF MARC TURNESA

THE MODERATOR: I would like to welcome defending champion Marc Turnesa to the interview room. Marc, if you kind of make some opening comments about coming back and defending your title and then we will take some questions.

**MARC TURNESA:** Well, it's great to be here first of all. Obviously it's a special place for me, because I won here obviously, but even if I hadn't, it's always nice to be in Vegas. I think everyone has fun here. I got here early. I got here Sunday and played a few holes yesterday and the course looks great as usual. I think it's going to be another great tournament.

THE MODERATOR: Questions?

Q. Talk about the last year and how obviously winning this tournament has changed your career and perspective.

**MARC TURNESA:** Well, it's given me some kind of security. As you probably know I played pretty poorly this year. It just goes to show you that you never know what's going to happen in this game. Sometimes you play great and sometimes you don't. It's nice that I have a cushion for next year, but I would really like to play well this week and the remaining four events this year giving me some confidence going into next year.

Q. You said you got a chance to play. I know they tried to make some changes to the course, did you notice that?

**MARC TURNESA:** When I was here for the media day a month or so ago they told me. Yes, you can notice it. On the right side of 9 and the right side of 16, those trees definitely play a factor. Last year you could just blow it over there to the right and it will be fine. Actually yesterday I hit a drive down the right side the fairway on 9, kicked a little right, and it was blocked out by the

tree. So I think definitely those holes will play a little bit tougher, and they obviously changed a third hole to a par-4. It doesn't change the course, but it changes the par when you look up at the score. Instead of being 24-under par, you will be 21-under par, so it's going to be a difference.

Q. How does playing a tournament in Vegas compare to say Augusta?

**MARC TURNESA:** Well, I never played Augusta so I wouldn't know Augusta. Do you mean other Majors or something like that?

Q. Yes, what's different about playing a tournament here like this?

**MARC TURNESA:** I think it's just fun. I think everybody is kind of relaxed out here. The players are more relaxed. It's more of a relaxed attitude. It's a little more spread out. Whereas other tournaments, Majors especially, you see most of the guys in the hotels when you go back. Here everybody is all over, so many different hotels that you don't really see everybody at the same restaurants or the same hotels when you go back to eat. I think it's fun out here. It's a little more tight when you are playing a Major.

Q. Marc, could you talk about the frustration that's come with knowing what's wrong with your game, tinkering with it, trying to make the necessary adjustments and still not getting the positive results?

**MARC TURNESA:** Well, it is frustrating for sure. You can get upset about it and, you know, be down about it, but that doesn't help anything. So I think I've done that a lot the first part of the year. I realize I just got to keep my head up and practice hard and work on what I think are the right things and just go with it.

Q. Can you talk about what your best celebration in Las Vegas was after the win last year, and did you go back to celebrate with your friends and family?

**MARC TURNESA:** Yes. Well that night, my buddy Steve Marino, I'm sure you know, another player out here, he stayed around. We got a suite in Bellagio, went out that night in Bellagio and didn't really sleep that night, caught a flight going back to Florida the next morning. Then we went out again there. It's like everywhere you go, you know, you see somebody different. They want to celebrate with you. Like you haven't been celebrating before. So it ends up being a week celebration. You are like okay, that's enough. But every other day you see somebody you haven't seen. Oh, yeah, congratulations, let me buy you a beer. Okay. It ends up being a week celebration. I had a good time with all of my friends. It was fun and hopefully I can do it again here.

Q. Marc, to defend your title do you have a game plan going in already? What would that be the holes to attack, maybe a number you are looking for for somebody to come away with this title this year?

**MARC TURNESA:** I think everybody knows about what it's going to take to win the tournament. It's going to be around 20-under par. But, you know, as far as a game plan, you got to take advantage of the par-5s obviously. You got to make putts out here. I'm not going to put too much pressure out here to make putts you got to appreciate it every other week. Hopefully they are falling for you. As far as the game plan, I'm just going to try to play well. If anything, I know I have to play well, get the par-5s, knowing anybody is going to play those par-5s well.

Q. Some players are field players, some are technical, spend time on the range, have you felt any difference this week since you won, any added confidence?

**MARC TURNESA:** I felt good. I like it here. I feel pretty confident about my game, which is something I haven't felt all year. As far as a field player or technical player, I'm definitely a field player. I think I've been getting probably a little too technical earlier this year. It's probably what's been holding me back, trying to do things. My set up and my swing weight, what you would think would be textbook. But I'm not just a field player. I think I got away from that a little bit. That's what I've been trying to get back the last couple of months. It's been feeling better. My putting feels really good right now. That's the most important thing out here. So, hopefully, I can keep that going and make some putts this week.

THE MODERATOR: Thanks a lot, Marc. Good luck this week.

**MARC TURNESA:** Thanks a lot.

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