
**Office Depot Championship
El Caballero Country Club
Tarzana, California
April 4, 2004**

Final round leader quotes

AN INTERVIEW WITH MEG MALLON

Q. Meg, how tough is Annika with a lead?

MEG MALLON: Well, she does it very well. Obviously, you know, I don't know how many of her 50 wins that she had, had the lead going into the last round. She obviously, holds on to it. It reminds me how Betsy King was. She would carry it even farther. She did a good job today because she didn't have her best game, or her best ball striking starting out. And kind of the same thing that I did, she knew she was playing well, and she just turned it on at the end. She did what she had to do.

Q. (Inaudible)?

MEG MALLON: It's very impressive, you know. She just passed Nancy Lopez, one of our greatest players of all time. You know, it's very impressive. Obviously, it's fun watching a player ride a wave like this.

Q. Can you tell us about how this week gives you confidence going into Vegas?

MEG MALLON: I'm not playing Vegas so I got three weeks off. But just because I struggled the first couple of weeks it's just really nice to find my game.

Q. What's your opinion of this course and would you like to see this TOUR stay here?

MEG MALLON: I will tell you what, this course wears you out. It's like playing the U.S. Open. You cannot lose your focus, and the rough got thicker as the weekend went on, and the greens it's just, you know, it's a matter of where you are. You know, a couple of times I was -- six feet above the hole was a really good golf shot, but I knew that I had to play really defensively because I had ten feet coming back. So just mentally it really wears you out. I'm glad it's a 3-day event and not a 4-day event. Although now I wish it was a 4-day and take this momentum into the next day. It's a good golf course.

Q. You have been scrambling almost for par on No. 1 yesterday, how about the scrambling par on No. 9?

A. Well, No. 9, it was nice, she hit it into stands. You know, onto the green because she got a huge break there. But that's what you need to win golf tournaments. She had a shot to the green after she was done with her drop. That was a huge break for her. She had just hit one left on 8 and into the bunker and made a really good up and down there. She hit it way left off the tee on 9 and, you know, was across the 18th green and got a very nice drop. You know that's in what's the grandstands do for you. It can hurt you or help you, and it helped her in that situation. I think that was a momentum swing for her because, you know, a couple of bad swings there, she came out with pars on both of them.

Q. (Inaudible)?

MEG MALLON: She went out and won it. I definitely would have liked to have challenged her a little bit better, but I didn't think I even had a chance after the first five holes. So, if anything, I may have pushed her a little bit out there. But, you know, that's what it takes. She has to play a solid round of golf and not make too many mistakes and that's how Annika has won a lot of golf tournaments.

Q. There was a couple of 65's out there, how good is a 65 on this course?

MEG MALLON: Oh, really, that's awesome. Ashli did that? That's great. Obviously, they are on the right side of the hole all day long and that's hard to do.

Q. Conditions weren't any easier than they were the last two days, were they?

MEG MALLON: No, actually it was playing a little harder and faster, so actually the rough came into play a little bit more today, I think, than it had in the past, and the greens were a little bit firmer. So, no, I think today was as difficult as the other two. Still good playing out there. I think you get more used to it and need a little more confidence on it. The first day it scares the heck out of you out there.

Q. Do you like to play tough courses like this?

MEG MALLON: Not all the time. But certainly -- you know what, I prefer it because I seem to play better on those courses and do well those courses. I'm going to take a break for a couple of days. There is a lot of focus. It's good. I like that kind of golf.