

**Sony Open in Hawaii
Waialae Country Club
Honolulu, HI**

January 12, 2010

Pre-round quotes

INTERVIEW OF TADD FUJIKAMA

MARK WILLIAMS: Thanks for joining us at the Sony Open. Welcome again, this is your fourth time here.

TADD FUJIKAWA: Yes.

MARK WILLIAMS: Nice to have you back, and just talk about what you are looking forward to this week and what the future holds for you this year?

TADD FUJIKAWA: I'm just really looking forward to being here and going on and playing again. You know, for the past few years I've done pretty well here, and I feel likes -- I feel very comfortable here. I love the atmosphere. My home crowd. It's a really special place to me.

MARK WILLIAMS: Questions?

Q. We asked Parker this, what sort of conditions would you like to see on the course, the trade winds, not kona?

TADD FUJIKAWA: It doesn't really matter to me. Everyone is playing the same conditions. I feel most comfortable with the trade winds but, you know, whatever it gives us. We go out there and try to shoot the best as we can.

Q. How has your game changed since the last time we saw you out here?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Yes, a lot. I made a few changes with my swing. Not really changes, but just trying to keep on improving it. The shots I can hit now, you know, I don't see as much dispersion as I did last year, or the few years back. I feel a lot more comfortable with what I'm doing and my putting feels good. I just kind of go out there and play golf, I guess.

Q. What's the difference between Tadd last year at this time and this year at this time?

TADD FUJIKAWA: I think I have a lot more experience. You know, I think I can still hit, you know, the same shots that I could. But it's just, I think the main difference is just being able to control my emotions a lot better. I've kind of learned how to do that just playing more tournaments and more events. I feel like I don't make as many careless mistakes as I did in the past. Hopefully it will show this week.

Q. Did you feel that maybe the biggest equipment you made was maturity and your mental game?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Yes, I think so. And I think a lot of that has to do with just me going out and playing more tournaments. This year I think I'm going to go out and play the Tar Heel Tour. I think it's E Golf. I think I'm going to be playing that throughout the whole year. It kind of depends on how I do here. But that's kind of my plan and just kind of fill it in with exemptions and Monday qualifiers and stuff and just try to go out there and play as much as I can and get some good experience playing tournaments.

Q. When does that tour start?

TADD FUJIKAWA: I think it's like February.

Q. You are going to move to Seattle?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Yes, I will be moving there and just kind of staying up there and practicing.

Q. Do you have a place there?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Yes, we're renting go a place.

Q. Todd is there?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Yes, he better be there. I'm counting on him to be there.

Q. They don't have this, do they, it's a different kind of this?

TADD FUJIKAWA: It's sorts of like this except the water is kind of --

Q. Brown?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Brown, to say the least.

Q. Not as warm?

TADD FUJIKAWA: I don't know. I never really went in the water there. I don't think I want to. Usually if you can't see the bottom, that's not a good thing. I don't want to say it's different. It's a good atmosphere. All of The TOUR pros there and Davis and Jaybird and all of those guys. It's a good atmosphere, and coaches are there, so it really helps.

Q. How big is this tournament for you as far as getting exemptions?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Pretty big. It's early in the year. If I can do well here, I think it will give me some pretty good opportunities to play more events and just get myself out there and hopefully I will give myself a chance to win this week.

Q. How many exemptions do you think you got offered last year?

TADD FUJIKAWA: I don't know. I don't really know. It really depends. There is a lot of good young players coming out now. I think the field here is strong this week and it's going to be a tough field. But I think if I can do well here hopefully I can get into the maximum six events or seven events on the TOUR.

Q. Parker mentioned growing up as junior, coming to this event, hanging around the greens, collecting balls from the pros, was that your experience, too, and do you smile as you walk by the junior skills sign up today?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Actually I don't really like watching golf. I think I came here once or twice. I probably came here for an hour and left. I was probably bored. I think I came here maybe when I was 9 years old. I just didn't enjoy watching goal. If I'm going to be here, I want to play. That's not really my deal. I set a goal that I want to be out here playing and competing against the best players in the world and still trying to achieve that goal today.

Q. Seeing the players out here, does that inspire you to get that dream for you?

TADD FUJIKAWA: No, not really. I wasn't that serious in golf at the time. It was kind of for fun. I was more into Judo still. I think when I set everything aside and just really focussed everything on golf, it was definitely an inspiration, you know, to come out here and play.

Q. Do you still practice Judo?

TADD FUJIKAWA: No. Once in a while I will go. It's a little dangerous. You can get hurt pretty easy just by taking a fall. Once in a while I will go and help the younger kids. If I go there, like I said, I'm not much of a watcher, so if I'm going to go there I want to like do something. It's hard for me just go to go there and sit on the side.

Q. Just as long as they are like really younger kids?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Yes.

Q. Where do you go?

TADD FUJIKAWA: To my grandfathers dojo.

Q. Which is that?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Salt Lake Judo Club.

Q. Do you feel like there is a lot of similarities between mental toughness and Judo and the mental toughness you have for golf?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Yes, I think with Judo, it teaches you a lot to control your emotions. I think with golf, it's a little bit more important to control your emotions I'd say. But I think it's kind of similar in a way. Like I said, it teaches you discipline and it's really to work hard and never give up and give it your all.

Q. Tadd, when you were thinking about what to do, why the Tar Heel?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Because we were moving to Sea Island. It was in that area. It would be easier for us to drive. I have a few buddies that went there and they got their TOUR card this year. I guess it definitely produces a lot of good layers. I wasn't really looking so much at the money, but at the competition and how well The Tour is run.

Q. Kind of give you a base, a home Tour

TADD FUJIKAWA: Yes. I think our decision -- I talked with coaches, and we really tried to decide, you know, how we were going to do this because recently, the past years, I have been playing on exemptions and it's been like one week. I play one week and then I have a 2 or 3 week break, then play another week. It's hard to get some rhythm and momentum going.

So we decided to just, you know, try to get out there and play a few tournaments in a row and see how well I can do out there and put myself in contention every week.

Q. Can you talk a little bit about how you spent the last few months, what have you been doing?

TADD FUJIKAWA: I have actually be in Georgia since October and just been practicing with coaches, and I went to Q-School and didn't make it through. In a way I think it was a good thing. I got to work on my game a little more. I got to really see what things I can work on and how I can improve. I think it was a very good experience for me to see how Q-School is and I think I can use that as an advantage, you know, in the future.

Q. How confident do you feel coming into this week?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Pretty confident. I was working with coaches up until like the middle of December. I got some good practice time in. I feel pretty good about my game. I'm starting to improve and I'm feeling confident and comfortable, you know, with what I'm doing. I'm really looking forward to this week.

Q. Do you have any overseas tripped planned?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Not right now or just wait and see, I guess.

Q. If there had been no Sony Open would the world know about Tadd? Where would you be, do you think?

TADD FUJIKAWA: I don't really know. I mean the U.S. Open was sort of a big deal, but I think having the Sony Open to follow up

after, that is definitely something special. I think it helped the world see who I was, I guess. I think it definitely got me noticed. I think without the Sony Open, I wouldn't really be here right now.

Q. Have you made any add adjustments in living up there?

TADD FUJIKAWA: It's actually not bad. I really enjoy it up there. There is not too much to do. I guess it's a good thing in the way.

Q. Maybe just the food?

TADD FUJIKAWA: My mom comes and she cooks.

Q. What's the one thing she makes that you can't get there?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Spam musubi. I guess I miss that a lot. Spam up there is pretty expensive. I don't know. I guess my grandma can ship some over.

Q. Is there go something else other than golf that you wanted to do, your interest, what would it be, you mentioned Judo?

TADD FUJIKAWA: You know the only thing I can say is Judo, I guess. I did that competitively for a while. Other than that, I don't see myself doing anything else.

Q. Not living in Georgia?

TADD FUJIKAWA: No, I would probably just stay there.

Q. What kind of food do you get, something from the south that you kind of get attracted to that you like?

TADD FUJIKAWA: I don't know. I like everything. I really do. Maybe that's the problem.

Q. Coming from Beijing, China, a lot of people ask me how Hawaii can produce so many good junior players, Michelle Wie and you, is it the Hawaii Junior Golf program?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Yes, I think we have a very good program, and I think that being able to have a program like that where we can always keep playing tournaments, like during the summer and stuff, gives us a good opportunity to keep playing, almost like you are on a Tour. It kind of gives you that feel, and the competition is really good. And I think, the juniors from Hawaii, really practice hard and dedicate a lot of their time, and I think that's what helps us produce a lot of good players.

Q. Does the high school have a junior golf program?

TADD FUJIKAWA: Yes, I think so. All of the private schools have a junior golf program and most of the public schools do, I think so, I think that helps also.

Q. As you've gotten older, is there any regrets?

TADD FUJIKAWA: No. Like I've said in the past, the things I've learned out here, it's really special. You can't learn it anywhere else.

I think the improvements that I made with my game, I think I wouldn't have been able to do it without playing on the TOUR and getting coaching from the PGA instructors.

I think the things, the people, that I have met through golf and being out here, you can't take that away from me.

MARK WILLIAMS: Thanks for joining us, we appreciate your time.

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