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## LEGENDS AT SPARKS MARINA RENO-TAHOE OPEN SECOND ROUND INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT AUGUST 1, 2008

### AN INTERVIEW WITH LARRY MIZE

**THE MODERATOR:** We would like to welcome Larry Mize into the interview room. Larry, 6-under par 66, great playing today.

**LARRY MIZE:** Thank you very much. It was tricky at times out there with the wind and to get out this afternoon with a 66 I'm very pleased. I played real well and especially putted very good, which you have to do under these conditions.

**THE MODERATOR:** Talk about your season so far.

**LARRY MIZE:** I'm getting ready for the Senior Tour, and doing that I'm trying to play well out here. People say are you getting ready for the Champion's Tour. And if I do well out here, that will take care of the Champion's Tour.

I'm just working hard, and the hard work is starting to pay off this week. I haven't played as well as I'd like this year obviously. A lot of it has been the putting, and the putting has gotten better last week and this week especially.

So I'm very encouraged with that and I am really happy with the way I played the first two days. This has been a lot of fun.

Q. This looks like the might be the first time in a couple, two or three years, that you started in the 60's both in the first two rounds?

**LARRY MIZE:** You're probably right. I have not gotten off to good starts in tournaments the last few years. I've gotten off to a good start I think in Mexico this year, I shot a 65, but I brought it back with a 74, I think. This is the first time in a while I've gotten off two good rounds in a row in a tournament, so it's very encouraging for me. Like I said, I've been working hard and things have been getting better, but the results are slow coming. This feels really good.

Q. I wondered if you watched the British Open and seeing Greg Norman brought back any memories for you from your Masters?

**LARRY MIZE:** No, it didn't. But I was excited for Greg and was pulling for him. It was great for golf for him to do that and to continue to show what a great player Greg is. I was pulling for him over there, which he did. I would have loved to have seen him win but to do what he did was very incredible.

Q. Parker McLachlin shot a 10-under today, tied the course record, he is now at 14-under, what do you think it's going to take to win this tournament, do you think it's going to go deep, going to go lower than that?

(more)

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LARRY MIZE TRANSCRIPT—8.1.08

**LARRY MIZE:** I would figure it's going to go lower than 14. A lot of it depends on the conditions. When the wind picks up around here it can really make scores go up. It's according to what the wind does the next few days, I think, is going to be the factor. I would think 14-under, I think. Parker is a very good player. He has been playing well, so he is going to be tough to catch.

Q. Larry, you played courses all over the world, what do you think of the Montréux golf course and what brings you back to the Legends Reno-Tahoe Open?

**LARRY MIZE:** I like the golf course. I've been coming here for a few years. I haven't played that well, but I like the golf course. It's got a lot of good holes on it. You know, what brings me here is an opportunity to play. I want to continue to play. I get a chance to play here, so I have come the last 5 years or so I guess and enjoy coming back.

Q. What is it about the course that you like? What is it that suits your game?

**LARRY MIZE:** Well, you got to drive the ball well here. That's good for me. I drive the ball well. And I'm not very long, and I don't think the long hitters -- it's always an advantage to be long, but this one doesn't give quite a big as advantage than other courses. This course is more even for everybody involved. That's a good thing in there as well. It is beautiful out here. I enjoy coming here. The scenery is great.

Q. You folks talk about the elevation calculation, your up-and-down and wind. Do you have any secrets out there for number crunching?

**LARRY MIZE:** No, my mind is tired after the round because you've been crunching so many numbers. You are dealing with elevation change, then you are dealing with altitude, then you start dealing with the wind. There is a lot of calculating. I think the caddies are working over time this week to get all of that done.

Q. Larry, why don't you think the bigger hitters have as much as advantage on this course?

**LARRY MIZE:** Well, you've got 2 par-5s on the front, and according to conditions, 4 is reachable for everybody. 9 today downwind is reachable. It's not a big advantage, but everybody is getting to the par-5s. Then 11 and 17, the big hitters do have an advantage there. It's not a tremendously long golf course. It still has some good holes with some length. 15 has got some length and so forth. But it's not a golf course where the average hitter is having to hit long irons here and the big hitters are hitting short irons. The altitude helps that a lot. I don't know, what is the length of the golf course: 7,400 with altitude is going to play around 8 to 10 percent, according to who you are talking to, 6,800 yards or something. Obviously, the big hitter always has an advantage, but not as big here.

Q. You've been around here a few years, if you could toughen this up and make it a harder driving course off the tee, what would you do?

**LARRY MIZE:** You know, I mean it's funny, I say you got to drive the ball well and I do. There are a lot of holes with some pretty big fairways at the same time. You bring the rough in a little bit is what you would do. You have holes like 10 and 11, 15, 17 and 18, for example on the back that you could possibly bring the rough in. 14, there is nothing you can do to 14. 14 and 13 are very good driving holes there. Then on the front, you know, you could narrow 3. 6 is a pretty good driving hole. You can bring the rough in a little bit. I don't know, I think it plays pretty good the way it is. You could bring the rough in. Sometimes you have a hard time with the different grasses. I think maybe they could do that here. I like the way they have it set up. I think it's set up very good.

Q. Larry, being in contention, the competitive juices will be flowing this weekend, how important could this week be for your Champions Tour preparation?

(more)

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LARRY MIZE TRANSCRIPT—8.1.08

**LARRY MIZE:** It's already been great these first two days. Obviously it's only half over, I have to continue to do this. It could be a big plus, no question. It's hard to say how big. This is encouraging to know that the work I'm putting in is paying off, and I am doing a lot of good things; especially with my putting. It could be a big boost to play well this weekend, getting ready to go play the Champions Tour and also finishing out here.

Q. Any long birdie putts or birdies of notes today?

**LARRY MIZE:** I made a nice putt on 13. It was probably in the 18-foot range. Then I made 16, 17, 18, I birdied nothing really long there. Everything was 10 feet, 10 or 12 feet and in. I 2-putted 4 for birdie.

Nine, 12, 13-footer at 6 for birdie. Maybe a 6 or 8-footer at 8 for birdie. Nothing really long.

But the nice thing was the putts that I had, I capitalized, I made the putts that I needed to make. That's really good. I had some opportunities yesterday and didn't make a lot of them. Today I feel like I made all of them today.

**THE MODERATOR:** Larry, keep it going this weekend.

**LARRY MIZE:** Thank you.

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