

**PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: MORGAN PRESSEL**  
**Tuesday, August 5, 2014**



**THE MODERATOR:** Happy to be joined in the media center by Morgan Pressel. Morgan, you've been here a while. You've been doing a lot of stuff leading up to this event. What does it feel like for it to finally be here?

**MORGAN PRESSEL:** Well, it's really great. It's great to finally have the opportunity to play in western Michigan here in Grand Rapids. I did media day, I was here for the couple weeks leading up to the tournament, so I have gotten maybe an advance look at the golf course and things like that. But I've met so many great people in my time here so far in Grand Rapids, and I'm really looking forward to the week.

**THE MODERATOR:** You mentioned that you got an advance look at the golf course. What do you think of Blythefield?

**MORGAN PRESSEL:** I think it's a great golf course, it's old school, old style course. I think it's set up to make some birdies so you have to definitely get after it. But it's tree lined and the rough is thick, so if you don't put your driver in the fairway you're not going to have a whole lot of opportunities to make birdies. So I think that's probably the biggest challenge out here this week is getting the ball in play and then after that firing right at the pins and making some birdies.

**THE MODERATOR:** You mentioned you're doing a lot of stuff for this tournament. You're just coming from a Women's Leadership Day thing. What do events like that mean to you?

**MORGAN PRESSEL:** I think it's really neat to get all of these women professionals together, myself being a golf professional, these other women being business professionals or moms, that's a very professional job too. So whatever it may be to bring everybody together. A lot of people look at what we do and think it's so farfetched and it's -- I mean, we play golf and it's really, really cool, but we're just like everyone else and we have our own passions and things like that. So to share them with these other women and everybody really just can rally together and draw a lot of support for each other, it's pretty neat.

**THE MODERATOR:** All right. We'll open it up for questions.

**Q Hi, Morgan. What holes do you think you really want to get after and any holes that fit your eye that you said this hole you want to take advantage of?**

**MORGAN PRESSEL:** I really like -- I think that probably my favorite hole is 15. And having shortened it from normally a par 5 to a par 4, I think it's a great par 4, a really good hole. Some of the holes definitely to birdie are the short par 3 like 12. I mean, a lot of the par 5s are reachable. So the par 5s, there's five of them on the scorecard. You definitely

need to birdie as many par 5s as you can. Let me think, some of other holes, there's some absolutely beautiful par 3s. You get to stand on the third tee and it's such a cool shot looking down. The only problem is you know once you go down, you've got to come back at some point so you have to walk up the hill on 7. It's a fun golf course to play because I think that, you know, so you do hit a bad shot and make a bogey, you know the next three holes are birdie opportunities. So you go out there and really get right back in the tournament.

**Q Morgan, I think you all have a major next week, but this field looks incredible this week. Can you just kind of talk about what you think about the field that's here this week?**

**MORGAN PRESSEL:** Yeah, I think it's a great field this week and I think that says a lot about Meijer and it says a lot about the LPGA. People want to come and we're very excited to have a new tournament here. I think the way that the city has embraced the LPGA thus far, not even having played a tournament round, I think this tournament will be around for a long time. I know the support from the community so far has been amazing and I have no doubt it will continue.

**Q Morgan, some of the new events we've been having on the LPGA Tour have been here in the Midwest. It seems to be a huge golf community that really rallies around the LPGA. What do you think it is about the Midwest that makes it such a great place for the LPGA to play?**

**MORGAN PRESSEL:** Well, I think that in areas like this the golf season is short and people get really excited about the golf season when it does come, kind of the same way at the one we play in Canada. This whole kind of northern area of our country and southern Canada, they just love golf. It's different than in Florida when you can play golf all year around. Not that things don't work in Florida, but it's a different feeling when you're here. It's also not 100 degrees in the summer, so it's a nice place to play at this time of year and people just really, really enjoy having us here and that makes it even that much more fun for us.

**Q You said the course was set up to make some birdies. Do you have an idea in your head what kind of score it's going to take to win this weekend?**

**MORGAN PRESSEL:** No, I'm not good at predicting those kinds of things. There are some good players in this field so I have no doubt it will probably be a low score and so I'm going to have to go out there and just try and make as many birdies as possible. I don't like to set a score. One, I don't like to limit myself, but I also don't want to put too much pressure on myself that way. I'm just going to go out there and play the best that I can and try and give myself as many looks at birdies as I can.

**Q Morgan, what's the state of your game right now, what are you working on and what's going to be important for you this week?**

**MORGAN PRESSEL:** I think what's going to be important for me this week is going to be my driving. It has kind of been my Achilles heel lately, which is hard as I've always been a great driver of the golf ball in terms of accuracy. So I picked up quite a bit of distance, but my accuracy hasn't been right where I need it to be. So it's something that I work on every day and I feel like I'm plugging along and getting closer, and so I feel good about it. I had really great practice here in the last two weeks so I'm ready for Thursday, waiting for it to start.

**Q This is the first time the LPGA Tour has been back in Michigan, it's been close in Toledo, but to be back in Michigan, I know you have Michigan ties, big Detroit Redwings fan. What does it mean for you to be here and what do you hope people know in this great season we've been having in the LPGA? What do you hope people in the community will learn about the LPGA this week?**

**MORGAN PRESSEL:** Well, I think that people will, one, learn that golf is going to be incredible. You come out here and you're going to see some really impressive shots and some great shot making, but you're also going to see a lot of fan friendly, fun women from all walks of life, some that are still in their teens and some that are closer to retirement and some that have families. I mean, there are so many different women out here, but we're all competing for the same thing and I think that's the cool part about the LPGA. And being back here in Michigan for the first time as a pro for me is really cool. I spent every summer as a junior golfer traveling around the state of Michigan playing in what was then the PowerBilt Junior Tour, now the Meijer Junior Tour and so, yes, we play in Toledo and it's close, but this is really neat to play in Michigan for the first time. And I know that I am going to have a lot of family, my husband's family is coming out. So it's going to be one heck of a party this week.

**THE MODERATOR:** Any more questions? We'll end on this for Morgan. First year event for this. What would it mean for you to come home with the trophy?

**MORGAN PRESSEL:** Oh, man, it would mean everything. Just being like almost a home event for me, my husband running the event, a lot of things go into wanting to play well here, having met all the people with Meijer and here at Blythefield. So I definitely want to play well this week. That would be awesome.

**THE MODERATOR:** We appreciate your time. Thanks, Morgan.