The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican

Sunday, November 16, 2025 Belleair, Florida, USA Pelican Golf Club

Miyu Yamashita

Press Conference

Q. Okay, here with Miyu Yamashita after finishing up the The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican. You officially clinched the Louise Suggs Rookie of the Year honors. Can you just describe what you're feeling?

MIYU YAMASHITA: (Through translation.) So I'm very honored to win this award. This year I won the major championship and then it's really nice to win, so I learned a lot of things, so I'm very happy about it.

Q. And was winning this award something you have been thinking about all year or something you have been thinking about when you started on the LPGA Tour?

MIYU YAMASHITA: (Through translation.) So I didn't think too much about Rookie of the Year but I just focused on like each tournament and then I could achieve this goal, so I'm really happy about it.

And also, like I'm really grateful to have my name included among wonderful players, so I'm really glad to get this award.

Q. Were you thinking about it at all going into this week? I don't know if you knew how close you were going into this week. Were you thinking about winning the award going into this week?

MIYU YAMASHITA: (Through translation.) So I didn't think too much about and I just focused on this tournament this week. So, yeah.

Q. And you played previously on the JLPGA Tour. How much do you think your success on that tour helped you this year on the LPGA Tour?

MIYU YAMASHITA: (Through translation.) So I played in JLPGA for a long time and then the course setting was really difficult to play so that things makes me like more stronger to play here.



And then there are so many good Japanese player in LPGA so that makes me more motivate. Yeah, so...

Q. And you also are the second consecutive Japanese player to win this award. What does that say about the strength of Japanese golf?

MIYU YAMASHITA: (Through translation.) So I'm not a long hitter but I tried to play well for the short game, so it makes it getting better.

I'm really good at playing short game so that's why I could play well on the Tour.

Q. And you said you learned some things while playing on the LPGA Tour this year. What are some of those things you learned?

MIYU YAMASHITA: (Through translation.) I played with many wonderful players this year so I could learn like many skills from them, but I really want to communicate with them more so I want to work more about it.

Q. And lastly, too, with the award you'll be honored tomorrow night at the Rolex LPGA Awards. What are you looking forward to most about celebrating your achievement tomorrow?

MIYU YAMASHITA: (Through translation.) So I'm really excited about tomorrow's award, and also like I could get a chance to play CME as well, so I'm really happy about it.

I will do my best to play good golf next week.

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