



INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: STEVE LOWERY
May 5, 2011

Q. Well, first of all, 17 just seemed like kind of a flukey thing. Just talk about losing a couple there.

STEVE LOWERY: Yeah, I chose not to go for it there and laid up and got down there a little bit too far and it was a little bit of a fluffy lie and got underneath it a little bit. It was kind of a fluke thing but, you know, that's the way it worked out. I made double there. But other than that, played really solid, good solid day, had a good start.

Q. First day, beautiful weather, 4 back of the lead, not a bad start to the tournament.

STEVE LOWERY: Yeah, not a bad start, you know? My game is kind of coming around so I feel like I'm capable of making some birdies so that's a good thing going into the second round.

Q. Did you feel some support as a local golfer around the course?

STEVE LOWERY: Oh, absolutely. I heard a lot of Roll Tides out there and a lot of people pulling for me, so it was good to have some local people out here pulling for me.

Q. You had some longtime friends along for the ride, too, didn't you?

STEVE LOWERY: Oh, yeah, absolutely. Some of my good friends that I grew up with were out here, so it was good to have them out.

Q. All the way back to Green Valley, hmm?

STEVE LOWERY: Absolutely.

Q. Steve, you know what it's like more than most people to lose a home. I mean, you had a fire obviously, and you can understand obviously what the people are going through, the tornado victims. Does that give you special empathy for them?

STEVE LOWERY: Yes, absolutely. I mean, I think when you -- I didn't have any, you know, loss of life or any family members lost, so it was a little bit different, but as far as losing everything you had, I came home and everything was gone. So it's a very unsettling feeling, and the uncertainty of going through the whole insurance process and all the things they've got to go through and just trying to let go of all the material things that you've lost. You know, it's heartbreaking to see it, to know what people are going through because I've been through that.

Q. Is there any way to encourage people when they're in the middle of it, so deep in the middle of it?

STEVE LOWERY: Yeah, you know, to me it seems like a lifetime ago, so you get beyond it and you move forward. I mean, they're right in the middle of it, the emotions of it. They're just really in the middle of it, but you will get beyond it and you move forward and you go on.

Q. How much -- how fun is it for you, the first major on this Tour, to be here, to have a sense of familiarity, and again, the support from so many friends?

STEVE LOWERY: Yeah, you know, it's great. There's a certain amount of pressure playing at home, you know, expectations. You want to do well, but beyond that, it's just great to be at home. And I've never really had a home game in 30 years, so this is the first one for me, so it's nice to be here and have fun and have family come out and watch.

Q. What are your expectations for the rest of the week?

STEVE LOWERY: Well, you know, my game, I putted better than I was expecting today, so I'm hoping if my putting stays like it did today, I feel like I can make a lot of birdies and hopefully I'll do that and get a chance.

Q. Thanks, Steve.

STEVE LOWERY: All right.