



INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: JOHN HUSTON
Sunday, June 26, 2011

MODERATOR: Well, John, congratulations. I know this has got to be kind of a big thrill. This is just your third Champions Tour start and you win a total check for \$262,500. You also get a two-year exemption into the Mastercard Championship at Hualalai --

JOHN HUSTON: Nice.

MODERATOR: -- in 2012 and 13. But with that, if you could just share your thoughts on your three-stroke win today?

JOHN HUSTON: I felt like I played -- today was the best round I played. I drove the ball in the fairway for the most part and I really felt like I hit the ball solid all the way around, other than one par 3 where I three-putted maybe from the fringe, that was the only bogey. I felt like it was a really good round.

MODERATOR: Looks like you were tied for first in Greens in Regulation, 45 of 54.

JOHN HUSTON: Yeah, I felt like my iron play was really good this week, and like I said, I drove the ball much better today, gave myself a lot of good chances from the fairway and gave myself a lot of good chances once I got on the green and was able to make a few.

MODERATOR: Take us through birdies starting at No. 3.

JOHN HUSTON: No. 3, I had a good drive and I hit a 4-iron on the green about 40 feet away and two-putted.

What's the next one?

MODERATOR: 6.

JOHN HUSTON: If I could remember --

Q. Par 4 toward the river after the par 5.

JOHN HUSTON: Oh, yeah, I hit in there -- I think I hit a pitching wedge in there about four feet. And then --

MODERATOR: Bogey at 7.

JOHN HUSTON: Bogey at 7. I hit a 6-iron pretty far right, 50 feet right in the fringe and putted it by about five feet and missed that. Then No. 8 --

MODERATOR: 9.

JOHN HUSTON: No. 8, what did I do?

Q. Par 5.

JOHN HUSTON: Oh, yeah, I hit a good drive, hit a 3-wood just over the green, chipped it about eight feet short and made it. Then No. 9, I hit a lob wedge about 10 feet. 12 and 13, par 5?

Q. 12's a par 5 coming back this way.

JOHN HUSTON: 12, I hit it in the right rough and I hit a 3-wood out of the rough up short of the green, pitched it about six feet and made that one.

13, I hit a 9-iron about four feet. 16 was a hole I hit -- I guess I hit somebody up next to the green. My ball stayed right next to the green, which was good, and I chipped it about five feet short and made that. Then 17, I hit a 7-iron about six inches.

MODERATOR: Okay. Questions?

Q. On 12 and 13 you go from being two shots down to walking off 13 up two. Just kind of talk about that, what was going through your mind at that point?

JOHN HUSTON: Yeah, I was trying to just totally play my own game and not really -- if Mark had just kept going, I was just trying to worry about myself. You know, that was definitely the turning point in the tournament, but for me personally, I was just trying to do my own thing.

Q. Then you escaped disaster on 15. What was going through your mind in that second shot there?

JOHN HUSTON: It came out so different -- after I dropped it off the path and, you know, the one thing I didn't want it to do was turn left and it started turning over to the left, the grass kind of ground it and carried it by maybe two feet and got up on the green and that was a really good two-putt there, too.

Q. How far were you from the hole approximately?

JOHN HUSTON: I would say 45 feet up that hill.

Q. What club did you hit and what was your yardage on that second shot?

JOHN HUSTON: I had 175, I think, and I just tried to punch a 5-iron under there. If anything, I was trying to make it go right so it would be at worst in the bunker, and fortunately the pin was so far back that it carried the water.

Q. Was that your Sunday best off the 11th tee?

JOHN HUSTON: No. 11.

Q. Dogleg left.

JOHN HUSTON: Yes, that was, that was a good one.

Q. I just don't remember too many guys up there.

JOHN HUSTON: Yeah, that was a good one. I hit that drive really good.

Q. Have you exceeded your expectations?

JOHN HUSTON: Yeah, you know, I was pretty hopeful of playing well. I felt like I was hitting the ball really well and I thought if my putting held up at all, that I would do pretty well and this is definitely the best putting week that I had.

Q. I don't necessarily mean the final round, I mean winning your third time out.

JOHN HUSTON: I was hopeful, you know. Every time you tee it up, in the back of your mind you're hoping you'll win. It certainly feels good to go ahead and get a win early.

Q. When you're out there on the first tournament you played a couple weeks ago or whatever, do guys call you Rook or anything?

JOHN HUSTON: Oh, yeah, there's a lot of that, but this is -- these are the guys

that I played with my whole career so there's a comfort factor there. You know, it's all good fun.

Q. Is this another win to add to those that you've won before? Is there anything about this that feels like it's a first?

JOHN HUSTON: Yeah, I mean, it feels just as good. Anytime you win anything, it feels good, but it's just another -- you know, it feels like a good accomplishment. Myself, I won seven times and I probably didn't enjoy it as much, you know? I took it for granted a little bit and I'm going to really enjoy this.

Q. The last one was '03, wasn't it?

JOHN HUSTON: Yes.

Q. Is there anything -- something that you won in between?

JOHN HUSTON: No, not really, no.

Q. After you stuck it close on 17 and of course made birdie and Mark missed, did you feel like it was in your hands at that point?

JOHN HUSTON: Yeah, I felt pretty good. You know, I hit driver off of the last hole just because I felt like that was the least likely club in my bag to go left, which as it turned out I pulled it, but I hit it really solid so it got past the end of the water. Obviously, after it got past the water and I had that sand wedge, perfect angle, I felt like that was when it really felt pretty good.

Q. Was there any point where you thought to yourself, yeah, I've got this now? Did that cross your mind at all?

JOHN HUSTON: No, I don't think you can let yourself think that. I didn't feel that way until after my tee shot on 18 and I felt like I could probably get it done from there.

Q. Did you slow down a little bit while you were walking up 18 as opposed to playing at lightening speed normally?

JOHN HUSTON: No, just normal. I didn't try to do anything different. I just, you know, for whatever reason, when I get the yardage, I'm ready to go. It's my turn, I go. I don't -- I try really hard not to overthink everything.

Q. Talk about your putting this week. Did you talk about that today? It looked like some of the guys were leaving the shots just again very close but you were able to make them.

JOHN HUSTON: Yeah, I made most of the ones I should have made other than that one par putt on the par 3. I didn't really -- all week I don't think I made anything over maybe 15 feet, but I made a lot of the ones that I was supposed to make and it felt pretty good.

Q. A lot of golfers were complaining a little bit about the wind after the first and second round. Was it breezy out there today for y'all?

JOHN HUSTON: No, it was beautiful today. It was overcast, wasn't much wind at all really. You didn't really have to think about the wind too much.

Q. This win sets you up next year for the Champions Tour. Are you still going to --

JOHN HUSTON: This is pretty much it. I don't really have that much status out there anymore and a lot of the tournaments that I might get in are opposite tournaments out here, so I'll just play out here.

Q. Consumed a spiedie sandwich on 14th tee. Chicken or pork?

JOHN HUSTON: Chicken. My stomach was a little unsettled so I only ate a couple bites of it. I had one pretty much every day, at least one.

Q. They're going to taste better tonight, aren't they?

JOHN HUSTON: Yeah, it definitely is.

MODERATOR: All set, everyone?

JOHN HUSTON: Thanks a lot, appreciate it.