



INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: MARK CALCAVECCHIA

Sunday, July 01, 2012

MARK CALCAVECCHIA: Might take me a few minutes to add up all my putts. I'm going to go with 35. That's about the story of the day. I know I had 19 on the front, but I wasn't putting bad, just wasn't my day. It was Joe's day, and that's fine. What a difference a week makes. I walked in a choke on a putt on the back nine, but my speed was bad. It was just bad.

Q Mark, can you talk a little bit about Joe, you know, being in that situation, where he is, where he's been, and to hold on and play as steady as he did?

MARK CALCAVECCHIA: He did, he really did. He made some great pars on the back. He had a string of holes there where he had about five straight holes where he had a four footer for par and he made every one of them, especially since I detected a flinch on the front nine. He had a putt somewhere and he completely yipped the shit out of it and it still went in. So I thought he might get a little shaky in the back, but he was solid. He made every one of them. He deserves it, you know. He drove it pretty straight. You know, I think 9 and 10 were huge for him. He made those putts and then he just tried to par every hole. You know, he had that three-shot lead most of the back nine. He deserves it. He's been at this a long time, and this is a huge win for him obviously.

Q You guys couldn't really get any pressure on him. You had a chance here when you birdied here, and you kind of tugged it on 16.

MARK CALCAVECCHIA: Yeah, I really wanted to hit one hard there and get as short an iron as I could with that front pin, and I just yanked it. It was the first one of those I hit all week. My misses have been over-putts to the right so it kind of surprised me really. And then, you know, 17 was playing tough. There was a lot of bogeys on that hole, you know, but I had the 3putt and 3putt 18 to cap it off, so

Q Mark, how big was 7 where Joe managed to save par and you guys sort of had birdies that you didn't make, that was a big hole, right?

MARK CALCAVECCHIA: Yeah, I mean most of the front nine for me, I three-putted 2 for par and got absolutely robbed on 3 and 4 and, you know, that's three shots right there. So it could have been a different story right off the bat. But like I said, last Sunday was my day and today was Joe's. So it's kind of, you know, the finish hurt me. I should have probably finished second or tied for second. So it's not good either.

Q With the exception of 18, was the back nine a tough one to get aggressive on?

MARK CALCAVECCHIA: Well, some of the no, not really. The greens got really hard. I'm sure some other guys mentioned the greens got really dried out, kind of U.S. Open looking, brown and swatchy. Some greens were hard and some greens weren't so hard and you really didn't know which. And, you know, 17 was slow, the long putt I had, and 18 was fast. So it was tough, no doubt about it, on the back nine to make up ground. That's why it was a perfect situation for Joe. You know, some of these holes are hard to birdie, but not really that hard to par. Like 12, 13, 14, 15. You know, 14 you just try to hit in the middle of the green. 15, you know, which is exactly what he did. He made a great putt from off the green on 16, and then I think that was huge. You know, 17 like I said, a lot of guys bogeyed that hole and he of course made the putt on 18 to make the hole. So it was his day.

Q Do you hope this tournament comes back here, Mark?

MARK CALCAVECCHIA: Yeah, I'd love to come back here. I enjoyed the course.

Q Did the course play different today than it did the first time?

MARK CALCAVECCHIA: Well, yeah, especially last week after 6 the greens got pretty hard, at least most of them. I hit this high beautiful soft 6 iron into 6, hit it 20 feet short of the hole and I think the first hop might have gone might have hopped 40 feet on the first hop, just rock hard. Then I whipped out my chip and whipped out my next putt. I hit every shot perfect and made a bogey. Even like the last hole, I just killed that drive and it flew right next to a sprinkler head where the grass was really green and super soft and rolled about three yards as opposed to 40 or 50 like it should have. So just stuff like that happened all day. And I don't want to make excuses, but, yeah, the course played pretty tough I thought this afternoon.