



INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: JOEY SINDELAR

Sunday, August 19, 2012

MODERATOR: We've got Joey Sindelar here in the interview room. Final round 66 today, right now you're posted at 12-under and we don't know what's going to happen, but can you just sort of tell us about your day and your round. It had to be special doing it here.

JOEY SINDELAR: Of course, Phil. I think these people inspire maybe three-quarters of a shot to a shot and a half a round out here, telling me that I need to do it rather than hoping, and for almost 30 years now it's been a blast. Today was fun. It was perfect scoring day, the wind wasn't really much of a factor, the greens were perfect, perfect speed, and I'm betting we still see some -- you know, my expectation is that they'll make some birdies coming in and we'll be talking about a nice tournament at fourth or fifth place. But on the other hand, there's a hazard there on 18 and I've certainly chewed up the 18th hole in my past and 17's not a particularly easy, so anything can happen. But it was a fun day, fun just to be able to have this conversation.

Q. You started the day 6 back. I don't know what you're thinking starting the round, but John sort of came back to the field and Brad took the lead and he sort of maintained. Just your thoughts starting the round and then talk about your six birdies.

JOEY SINDELAR: Yeah, driving down with my wife, Sue, she said, What do you think you have to shoot? I said 60, 61, 62 because John Huston is such an awesome frontrunner, as are some of the other guys up there but Huston particularly. I just thought he was going to be keep right on going and when he didn't -- you know, I'm betting all of a sudden when it's halfway through the round, the mentality changes and golf happens. So I was interested to see that the lead didn't get past like maybe 13 at any point. So that kind of gave John Cook and I hope, you know, in our group, Roger didn't have a great start, but it gave us hope if we could do something funny coming in we might have a chance. I'm surprised that 13 is in the conversation, actually, but on the other hand, it's a good golf course. There's lots and lots of birdies out there, but if you get off the beaten path you can get standing somewhere you don't want to be.

Q. Can you run through the six birdies?

JOEY SINDELAR: Sure, okay. So first birdie at No. 3, the par 5, very nice drive, a 1-iron in the front right bunker, sand shot to about three feet. The next par 5 a good drive, a 3-wood just short, a pitch to maybe six feet. Let's see. The 11th hole, a nice drive down the middle and a 7-iron to about 25 feet. That was my sea-goer or my long putt of the week and it really changed the momentum for me and that was important.

12, my best drive of the week maybe, a 4-iron into the back of the green and two putts for birdie from maybe 40 feet. 15, what is 15? The good hole on the water. You notice I blank out on that. I don't want to think of 15. It's a hard shot, but a good drive and a little too close to the water but it worked out great, and a pitching wedge to about a foot and a half. 18, another troubling tee shot but it was a good one and a 9-iron from 140 yards to about six feet. So fun day, nice to not see any of those square numbers on there for bogeys. You never get them all, but on balance, I'll sure take the day.

MODERATOR: Questions real quick for Joey? Wait for the mic if you could.

Q. Joe, since you went over the holes with the birdies, maybe some of the ones with the pars. Talking about 13, you had two dollars birdies in a row and looked like maybe you were going to start to make a run and it may have been a six-foot putt for birdie and just missed. How did that affect you at that time and how did you kind of work out of what could have been a funk from that?

JOEY SINDELAR: Well, luckily I haven't hit the 13th fairway enough times to be unhappy with a par. It was a little longer than six feet, it was probably almost a nine-footer. I was having trouble, I saw it different from both sides of the cup and I tried for straight and I pulled it to the left edge and it went a little bit left, so I just misread it. But I hit better putts today, and if you're missing putts when as soon as you hit them, they're sideways off the putter, that's ugly. That's when our spirits go downhill quickly because you just feel like you're handcuffed.

But today I missed several makeable putts but they were good putts, you know. They might have been a little offline, but they were at least near the hole and had a chance and that was one of those. It's a good tough hole and I had a nice short birdie putt, and of course I would have loved it. But then I come back on the next hole, left my 5-iron a bit short, miss-hit it a little and had almost 60 feet and that was a really nice two-putt with about a four- or five-foot second putt. Even though it wasn't as exciting maybe to the crowd, those are very important to

the player. I think you even talked about that yesterday, those par putts are very, very important in keeping our morale up.

Q. And again just to get back, on 16 it seemed like you guys had a long wait there before you could tee off, the guys must have had trouble on the green. Did that affect your shot? You sliced it quite a bit to the right. Was it too long a wait?

JOEY SINDELAR: Did he say I sliced it quite a bit? You could be Johnny Miller. Actually, yes, it was a long wait and that's never fun, but when it's warm it's okay, and the shot requires a fade to miss that tree. Is that a sycamore tree? That's a huge, huge tree. The shot requires a fade. But with the pin on the back left, if you fade it, number one, you're aiming left and if you miss it left to that pin, it's going to be hard. And then if you fade it, you're fading it away from the pin. So I thought we were up far enough on the tee that I could hit it over that tree and I think I could have. I didn't quite hit it as high as I wanted.

But actually, Mr. Miller, if the tree wasn't there, my ball would have landed right center of the green. It was actually a really good shot and it hit the tree and kicked down.

Q. Allen's in at 13.

JOEY SINDELAR: Oh, my heart's broken. Doesn't he have enough money? That's okay. I did not expect to be in a playoff. That's okay.

Q. The hometown crowd, is it at all distracting?

JOEY SINDELAR: Distracting wouldn't be the right word. Busy might be a better word, but it's fun. How do you not pull energy from all these people wanting you to do well? It's great stuff. I've had the discussion on sports radio this week. Some guys, notably Mark O'Meara at Pebble Beach winning five tournaments and Davis Love winning four Harbour Towns, in their home environment have done very well. But other guys just hate it because it's extra tickets and it's more dinners with people and it's a busy environment. But it's worked very well for me. I don't have the record they have, but I've had a lot of success here on the golf course at my hometown event, so it's worked well for me.

MODERATOR: Anything else? Joey, thanks much.

JOEY SINDELAR: Thanks for your interest, appreciate it.