



**PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: KENNY PERRY**  
**Thursday, August 22, 2013**

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** We welcome Kenny Perry into the interview room. Kenny, you tied for 5th here at the Boeing Classic in 2011, you're coming in with five straight Top 10s, consecutive major championships during that run and you've got a commanding lead in the Charles Schwab Cup right now. A few thoughts. We saw the story earlier in the week about your driver and snapping the shaft, but thoughts about coming back to Seattle for this event.

**KENNY PERRY:** Excited, one of my favorite places to come in the world. The weather here's outstanding and I love the golf course. It's a big golf course. I think it favors a power hitter where last week at Dick's it's very tight, tree lined where you really had to be more ball control where this week you can kind of let it loose.

But I'm pretty disappointed, my driver that they broke, Delta broke my driver coming here, the one I've used all year and my backup wasn't that good. I tried it and I re-shafted the head but there's a sleeve that goes on these adjustable drivers and it's not that good. So it's pretty disheartening to go from having a driver that gave you such an advantage to now I'm searching again and I'm trying to figure out how to play. It wasn't that good today in the pro-am, so that's pretty disappointing, to have the year I had going and then to have it, you know, changed up like that to where I'm having to grind again to figure out a club to get back out there and, you know, get my length to be an advantage. You know, I had a huge advantage with my length. I guess that's life, I don't know, just it's pretty disappointing.

**Q. What do you do on 14?**

**KENNY PERRY:** I hit 3-wood in the middle of the green today but that's pro-am day. Normally I lay up right. I just play safe, lay it up right and wedge it on or sand wedge it and just play percentage golf. At least this year they put hazard all the way around it, they've red staked it where in the past it hadn't been so if you knocked it over or left it was automatic re-tee. Now you can drop it up by the green. They did the same thing on the par 3 13th, there used to not be hazard long and left there because I hit one there last year and made 6 on that hole because going for that back left pin, I hit it just a little over and it went down that cliff, so I had to go back and re-tee. Then the par 5 15th, they put hazard, it's red staked and it used to not be red staked around it. They allowed us to be a lot more aggressive this year so if you get after it and you actually hit it a little too far or whatever, it's not detrimental, you can still get up and down and salvage the hole.

**Q. When you play, I don't know if you played with Fred up here, he's very popular as you know, is it disconcerting sometimes or any time you play with a**

**guy in his hometown and you're in the same group?**

**KENNY PERRY:** I felt the same love at Valhalla when I played the Ryder Cup, PGAs. I think it's great.

**Q. (Inaudible.)**

**KENNY PERRY:** You mean motivates Fred more?

**Q. Yeah.**

**KENNY PERRY:** Yeah, I think it motivates you more. Yeah, I think Fred's definitely very motivated to do well in front of his home folks. We're not going to change the way we play. I like being the spoiler, I like being the underdog, that's never bothered me either.

**Q. Are you now headed for the range to keep trying to find --**

**KENNY PERRY:** Well, I've been here since Tuesday trying to figure it out and I haven't had much luck yet, so I think I've exasperated my brain. I think I'm just going to call it a day and play with what I've got.

**Q. And that is what?**

**KENNY PERRY:** Well, the driver, it's the head I've used all year but it has a different shaft in it and it's not -- it doesn't have any -- it doesn't seem to have the pop to it, it just seems sluggish, slow. But it was going straight today, I was hitting it straight, but I just think my advantage, I feel like I'm missing out on 10 to 12 to 15 yards.

**Q. Is this a course where you just can't get away with using your 3-wood?**

**KENNY PERRY:** Well, this year I don't think you can. The golf course is very soft. In the years past it's been very hard, firm and fast and they've been putting a lot of water out there. I've been getting mud balls today. In the past, yes, I think you could have got away with 3-wood a lot, but you still need to try to get to the par 5s. Like 1 and 2, I like driver on 2 because I can carry that right bunker and 3-wood brings that bunker right into play. I don't know, it's just a lot of holes. 3's another good hole, 3 and 4 are great par 4s out here and you need a good drive, you know, to get -- usually I was hitting it way past those bunkers on 3 and I can't even get near them now with this driver, the way it's going right now. I was way short of them today. And then 4 was the same deal, I could hit it over those right bunkers last year, the two down the right side, I flew it right in the second one today, I didn't get over it. So it just tells me my driver's not going like it did last year.

**Q. Did they at least apologize?**

**KENNY PERRY:** No, I haven't talked to anybody from Delta. I made a Tweet though, I made it known that I wasn't very happy.

**Q. Can you talk a little about the rookie crop this year?**

**KENNY PERRY:** Let's see, who've we got? We've got Bart Bryant, Bart won last week. Rocco, Rocco's been great. Elk.

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** Monty.

**KENNY PERRY:** Colin, great group of guys, bring a lot of fire power, lot of notoriety. You know, Elk's a major winner, Colin being a six or eight time whatever European money Order of Merit winner. I actually played with Monty last week, had a great time with him, super guy. It's good to see that the people are pulling for -- you know, I didn't hear any boos or negative or anything from the gallery for him last -- they were all rooting for him. I thought that was great.

**Q. Did he make any comments about that?**

**KENNY PERRY:** I don't know, I don't know if he has or not. I didn't mention anything to him about it, I just was paying attention listening to the gallery with him and he was interacting nicely with them.

**Q. Why do you think that is?**

**KENNY PERRY:** Got me, I don't know. You know, the next few years you're going to see this TOUR's really going to get strong. You've got a lot of guys coming out with a lot of career money and you're going to see a rollover effect a little bit. The golf is just going to keep getting stronger and stronger out here.

**Q. You're not surprised (inaudible)?**

**KENNY PERRY:** No, it's kind of the thing out here. Rocco won his first event I think. The guys 50 to 55 probably have a big advantage out here. Once you kind of get past that age, I think it starts getting kind of tough for you.

**Q. Going back to the driver, you're committed to the company that sponsors you, right?**

**KENNY PERRY:** Correct.

**Q. You can't go on the range and say let me try this one, that goes 15, 20 yards farther, you can't do that?**

**KENNY PERRY:** No, I'm with Adams and in my contract I have to use an Adams driver, which was great. I mean, I was killing it, so I had a home run hitter. I don't know if it was just lightning in a bottle, it just all came together perfectly, right shaft, right setup, I don't know. Now I'm searching again, so I'm just going to have to start over.

**Q. The club you own in Kentucky ...**

**KENNY PERRY:** Country Creek?

**Q. Right. Is it true you sometimes you work the desk and people come in ...**

**KENNY PERRY:** Oh, yeah, they'll ask me how Kenny's doing, are you his brother. Oh, yeah, yeah. I just play right along with them, yes, I am, he's doing great. (Laughter.) I never let them know. It's a lot of fun for me, I like messing with them.