

2nd ROUND INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: MARK CALCAVECCHIA
Friday, May 16, 2014



DAVE SENKO: Okay, Mark, thanks for joining us at the Regions Tradition. Another 3-under 69 and sole possession of the lead by one over Jay. Looks like another good day for you, just the one blemish at No. 15.

MARK CALCAVECCHIA: Yeah, it was a good day. Got off to a pretty good start, especially with the putter. Made a lot of putts early and was 3-under through six, and then that was about it for making putts. Then hit a bad iron shot on 15, pushed it right of the green, not a very good chip and made bogey. Nice to end the day with a birdie on 18. Had a good yardage for a hard 7-iron and hit a good shot about eight feet and made that. All in all, you know, good day. Very similar to yesterday condition wise. The wind was kind of all over the place a little bit, maybe not quite as hard as yesterday but scores might have been a little bit better today, I think, but similar conditions.

DAVE SENKO: Birdies, No. 3, par 5?

MARK CALCAVECCHIA: Hit a 3-wood in the right bunker, which was a tough bunker shot, kind of short sided myself because the pin was front right, blasted that across the green and made about an 18-footer for birdie there.

DAVE SENKO: 5?

MARK CALCAVECCHIA: 5th hole, good 6-iron, I would say 20 feet and made that. And then on 6, really not a very good sand wedge to about I would say 18 to 20 feet again and made that. So it was nice to make some putts. And then had some good looks. I hit a great shot on 9, which is one of the toughest holes especially into the wind, right below the hole about eight feet and missed it. I thought my putt was going in on 12 and had about a six-footer on 14 that I missed. Then I hit the bad iron on 15 and made bogey. So I had some chances for birdies and missed them, ended up making bogeys, so I was a little bit frustrated. Then laid up too close on 17 and that wasn't good, didn't birdie that hole, but anyway, birdied 18.

DAVE SENKO: You said at 15 you hit a poor iron?

MARK CALCAVECCHIA: Yeah, I hit a 5-iron, I had 180 yards to the hole. I had kind of an uphill lie and I just got ahead of it and just -- I flew the bunker. I thought it was going in the bunker for sure, but flew the bunker and kicked dead right down there about 10 yards right of the green. Actually had kind of a terrible lie and chipped it about 15 feet past the hole. I missed it.

DAVE SENKO: Questions?

Q. How aware are you when you had a chance for birdie and kind of knowing where you stand as far as tied for the lead?

MARK CALCAVECCHIA: I really didn't know where I was at all. I really didn't see any boards until I think 14. You know, I figured I was close or somewhere near. Before I left home I knew Pernice birdied the first four holes and I think right off the bat I saw -- I knew Jay was 5-under, I saw he birdied a couple holes early, but that's all I knew. There's no point in really looking at this stage. You're just trying to play the course and make as many birdies as possible, and pars. Try to not make any bogeys or bad numbers. Still a long way to go. If it was a three-rounder like most of our regular tournaments, it would be a little bit different story maybe, but we're only halfway done. Same goes for tomorrow, you know, just play the course and shoot the best you can and probably won't worry about where you're standing until Sunday.

Q. So do you sleep any easier now with a one-shot lead than you would have, say, tied?

MARK CALCAVECCHIA: Really doesn't matter other than the fact that I'm happier that I made the putt on the last hole, made the eight-footer for birdie as opposed to missing it. A 69 sounds better than 70, it always has, so it always feels good to birdie the last hole. Leading as opposed to being tied for the lead makes no difference whatsoever to me. Like I said, just a long ways to go. I'll be playing with Jay and I'm not sure who else, probably Kenny Perry, I guess. (Inaudible) Whoever was first in, yeah, one of the two. Either way they're both great guys, so it will be fun tomorrow. I always sleep good, so yeah, I'll get some good rest. The only thing I'm worried about is my rib thing kind of has come back. I don't know. What I actually was worried about is fine and I don't know, yesterday on 12 I hit a fairway bunker shot and I felt something in my rib cage. It was fine the rest of yesterday until 17 and then my whole upper back went into spasm. And today it was fine until 14 and it's kind of killing me again. That's the only thing that will worry me, but I should be okay. Actually didn't hurt to swing. It hurts after I swing and all of a sudden it hurt, it's kind of weird. It's like a delayed reaction, then it kind of goes away.

Q. Okay, so it doesn't hurt when you swing, a little bit after. Does it affect the next shot?

MARK CALCAVECCHIA: No, no. It goes away and then I walk and then it's okay. Then I kind of do a little stretch and I hit it and then same thing. I just concentrate on the shot and then I hit it and it's just kind of a delayed pain. I don't know. It's a spasm thing, it's kind of weird. Yesterday it was more in my back and today it's more in my side, so I don't know. Maybe tomorrow it will be gone, we'll see. Today I wore one of compression shirts that I thought might help, these tight T shirts. I got them when I was super fat thinking they might make me look skinnier, but they actually do help my back. My chiropractor gave me one of those waist, you know, those things, those

Velcro things to keep your ribs in, but I can't swing in those, so I got these little tight T shirts that kind of help my back a little bit and they actually do help. I'll wear that and I'll be good to go tomorrow.

Q. I think you said yesterday when you make a good closing shot it kind of makes the dinner taste better and makes the night go better?

MARK CALCAVECCHIA: Absolutely.

Q. So it doesn't make a difference if it's for the lead or not, it's just good to finish on a good note?

MARK CALCAVECCHIA: Always good to finish on a good note, yep, absolutely. You never like to butcher the last hole no matter, you know, if you're tied for the lead or leading or whether you're in 40th place. If you double the last hole, it just pisses you off and kind of wrecks the evening so to speak a little bit.