

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: DOUG GARWOOD

Friday, June 27, 2014

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Doug, you follow up 64 with a 67 this morning, and at 9-under 131 you're the leader right now. We're playing the ball down today except for the 14th hole, so just talk first about your round and how the course played any different.

DOUG GARWOOD: Played a little bit tougher, not a whole lot. There's still a little bit of debris, if you will, on the ball, and of course you couldn't put it up on a nice fluffy lie so it made the irons a little bit tougher but not too bad. No mud on the balls.

I got off to a hot start, I birdied the first two holes, then I had a couple bogeys. I hit a driver into the hazard on No. 4, I chunked my lob wedge on No. 5, so things were going downhill quickly there. But knocked it on No. 7 and two-putted for birdie. After that, I don't remember.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: You birdied No. 8.

DOUG GARWOOD: Did I? Oh, yeah, I hit a nice shot in there. Good drive, 7-iron to about five feet for birdie. Almost birdied 9, didn't. Almost birdied 11, just missed. Lot of close misses. And then 15, that was a tough pin. The pin's in the back, and because we're getting so much spin it's hard to keep it on a back pin, so I left it short of the ridge and sucked it back to the front, so I had about 80 feet there and three-jacked it. Then 16, I hit a nice drive and a 9-iron to about five feet, made it for birdie. 18, I just killed it off the tee and had a 3-wood in, knocked about 15 feet and two-putted for my last birdie. So isn't that exciting.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: What were your details on the first two birdies of the day?

DOUG GARWOOD: First hole I hit a pitching wedge to about two feet, managed to get that one in. Second hole I hit a 4-iron on in two and two-putted.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: From how far?

DOUG GARWOOD: About 30 feet.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Okay, we'll open it up for questions. If you could, just raise your hand and wait for the mic.

Q. Doug, you chunked a lob wedge. How far in did you have on 5?

DOUG GARWOOD: I had about 90 yards to the pin, which is a perfect distance. Caught the ground first, didn't quite get there. Had a pretty easy little pitch shot but I left it about five feet short and missed it.

Q. Did you hit hybrid or iron off the tee there?

DOUG GARWOOD: Hit a 2-iron. 3-iron that's bent to a 2, so 2-iron.

Q. Yesterday I think you said you hit 2-iron into 18, correct?

DOUG GARWOOD: Tried to.

Q. Tried to. Difference?

DOUG GARWOOD: Yeah, I was so impressed, as I said yesterday, with my drive that I thought I could hit an iron as far as I wanted to and it wasn't the case.

Q. Are you surprised they played the ball in hand again today?

DOUG GARWOOD: I was a little bit because in the morning it's dewy and wasn't quite sure what to expect, but I would say that that really wasn't a factor. It played harder, but it wasn't unfair.

Q. I think you mentioned yesterday you keep lowering your expectations so that it's easier for you to exceed them. After two rounds like this, how much lower do they have to go?

DOUG GARWOOD: Well, I really don't have goals or expectations as far as the rest of the tournament. I stay in the now pretty much and just deal with what's right in front of me. Not even thinking about the weekend yet.

Q. I read up, I was reading about what happened in Iowa a few weeks ago and I love your Love's Labour's Lost response talking about Shakespeare, it was great.

DOUG GARWOOD: Yeah.

Q. Did that take a while to get over, or like Monday when you're back in the car or whatever going to the next stop are you sort of beyond it?

DOUG GARWOOD: Was I bitter?

Q. Not bitter but sort of upset or, you know, disappointed, whatever.

DOUG GARWOOD: You know, I would have to say no because being out here, every day's like Disney Land for me. Finishing second, I guess it was disappointing that I didn't win, but if you would have told me at the beginning of the week, hey, you're going to finish second in this event and win 150 grand, I think I would have

taken it. So I just looked at the positives.

And the way it happened, too, I birdied the last two holes, I made the putt after he chipped in. So I played well and he birdied to win it, so it's not like I made double to lose or something. If that would have been the case, then it would have bothered me but I felt like I did what I could do.

Q. Do you feel like you, we mentioned yesterday, belong out here yesterday. You talked yesterday about how you sort of, when you're in the locker room and you see these guys that you used to watch back in the prime of their careers and now you're playing with them. But do you feel that your game -- have you always sort of felt that your game is sort of when things are clicking that you could come out here and give these guys a run?

DOUG GARWOOD: I would say yeah. My golf game, I feel like that definitely puts me out here if I can find a way to be exempt. The thing like the locker room stuff, seeing the guys I've seen on TV, that's just more of an awkward feeling when I see them but it doesn't really impact the golf course.

Q. Doug, after the Web.com, that was '05, right?

DOUG GARWOOD: Right.

Q. I'm just unclear, what did you do in between then and when you turned 50?

DOUG GARWOOD: Played pretty much every mini tour around the country. Played Golden State Tour, played the E Golf Tour, played a lot of state opens, smaller events like the Rocky Mountain Open, Sedona Open. Wherever I could find a game basically. I did a few qualifiers for Web.com, PGA TOUR, but those are pretty tough because you've got like five spots, seven spots for like 300 guys, so didn't do that too much. I've always believed you play the tour that you're on and I wasn't on those tours. Even if you qualify, then you've got to make the cuts and just a tough road to go. So I would rather play in a mini tour event where I could make a check.

Q. Did you think the Champions Tour was, getting to 50, was that an objective? Did you think you would be able to do it?

DOUG GARWOOD: Well, getting to 50 as far as living was an objective, but no. People used to ask me when I was 48, hey, are you looking forward to the Champions Tour, and I really wasn't because I was like a baseball player, you're looking forward to the season two years from now? Not really, just the event you're playing in there. Again, back to the same thing, staying in the now.

Q. Not to bring up the bad part but could you go through what happened at Q School with the playoff, three-putting the last hole?

DOUG GARWOOD: Yeah, the Q School I was in was really easy, and then the last day it turned cold and I was wearing rain pants and I started bending over a little more on my putting stance and I had so much material I started taking the hands outside and I was pulling every putt all day. It was just one of those things.

And then coming down the stretch I bogeyed 15 after hitting hybrid into the hazard. That was probably my only bad shot. Then I missed a three-footer on 16, missed a six-footer on 17. And then 18, even though it was dark and they had lights out, I hit a good 3-iron in the dark over the water to the green and guys said, well, you know, it was so dark you should have waited until the next day to putt. But I said I missed plenty of four-footers in the light so it really wasn't a factor. I could see the hole. So I three-putted and fell into the playoff. In the playoff, missed the green, didn't get it up and down and so I lost that. And then we had a conditional playoff, hit a cart path, bounced out of bounds so I lost that, so I had a real nice ending to the year. Thanks for bringing that up. (Laughter.)

Q. Forgive me if you've already been asked this earlier on, but 9-under for the first two days, you had an opportunity to see the golf course before a lot of the other players. Do you see the scores going -- are they going to go lower or is the course going to even out the last couple days?

DOUG GARWOOD: I think the scores will continue to go lower. The fairways are in great condition, the greens are in perfect shape. You know, there's some reachable holes; two is reachable, seven is reachable, 18 is reachable. Mini tours, guys will shoot low and they might back up a little bit. Out here they go low, low, low, they just keep going low so you've got to keep going.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Doug, continued good luck.

DOUG GARWOOD: Thank you.