

**FINAL ROUND INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: RUSS COCHRAN**  
**Sunday, June 29, 2014**

**Q. Russ, you got yourself into contention today, especially on the back nine there. Talk a little bit about that.**

**RUSS COCHRAN:** You know what, it was just a strange day for me. I just don't feel very comfortable over short putts, and I think these greens, I know you saw a lot of missed putts out there. They're very tough and on a lot of slopes out there. So I felt like I kind of yipped a couple putts on the front, just kind of really down and out. Started playing a little bit better. Made a bomb over there on 13, I guess, so that kind of turned things around a little bit for me and gave me a little hope they had bogeyed or whatever. I thought hey, I might run the tables and get hot and do something good.

**Q. Can you walk us through your birdies?**

**RUSS COCHRAN:** Oh, shoot, I can't even remember where I birdied. The big thing was, like I said, making a nice putt on 13 over there. Then made a nice birdie on 14. 15, I hit a good pitching wedge from about 95 yards just to try it chip it up the hill. Hit it in there about six feet and missed it. Then came back on 15 or on 16 rather and hit a driver and 8-iron in there about maybe, I don't know, maybe five or six feet and made that. So felt like I had a decent chance.

Coming in on the last hole I actually hit that 3-wood a little too good. I'm not very good from that 50-yard range and I had 52 yards, I think. I was kind of hoping -- we were hoping for about a 65- to 70-yard shot in there and I hit that 3-wood a little too well and it kind of took off on me a little bit. So I kind of had an awkward yardage and obviously hit a poor wedge and then gave the putt a good run but just came up a little short.

But like I said, after feeling so poorly on the front side and starting off so poorly, feeling bad over the putter, it was a very nice turnaround for me.

**Q. Kenny talked about how the rain affected him negatively. You seemed to do better after the rains came through.**

**RUSS COCHRAN:** Yeah, you know, I think it just had to do with kind of the putts and stuff. But yeah, it was a little consideration, you know. I know he hit a couple loose shots. Looked like he was on the money pretty well with his game and then the rain hit and I know he hit a loose shot over there about then he holed a bunker shot and I thought he was going to kind of stabilize. But I think it did affect him a little bit, and Bernhard as well. You know, some of these little wedge shots you either have to be super aggressive and throw caution to the wind or you have to kind of play it a little

safe and try to make some putts. Neither one of them are that much fun, you know, because if you play conservatively, seems like you're always putting up over a slope and trying to gather a putt in and then you're faced with three-, four-footers all day.

**Q. How tough was it to control the backspin once the greens got so soft?**

**RUSS COCHRAN:** Well, that's the thing. I mentioned on I guess it was at 15th hole I hit a good drive down there and I had maybe 92 yards to the hole and I hit a pitching wedge. Ryan, I thought did a real good job, my son. He said, Dad, if you feel comfortable you've got to hit a pitching wedge. Otherwise just play it safe because it's going to spin all the way down to the bottom. I said, Well, let's gamble a little bit and try to hit a pitching wedge from 92 yards or 95 yards, whatever it was. So missed the putt, but that gives you an indication, you know, so many shots are well struck and you have to -- with the back pin you have to play them so tight to the back fringe. You saw Bernhard on No. 12, he tried to throw it in the back fringe and suck it back to the hole where he really needed to get it close and he flew it over into the bunker. That's kind of the game you're playing, especially after the rain I think.

**Q. What did Ryan say after you hit that shot in close after he told you what club to hit?**

**RUSS COCHRAN:** I think he wanted a raise. You know, he just said, Look, I've watched this shot and everyone's hit it and there's no way you can stop it by hitting the sand wedge, you've got to hit a pitching wedge.

**Q. Are you pleased with improving on your first-round score or are you disappointed to come up short?**

**RUSS COCHRAN:** No, no, no, I'm not disappointed. Here's the thing with me. I'm a momentum player and a confidence player. I don't have a lot of confidence now. I haven't had that great of a year but I'm building on it. Kenny and I did well in the team championship. I had a course record the last day in Chicago. So I can feel my game coming around a little bit, but the nuances of being in that last group and standing over those six-, eight-, 10-footers on a very tricky set of greens, I'm not there yet. So I think it was nice to come back. You're always disappointed when you get that close but it was at least nice to hit -- nice to kind of get things going back in the right direction and actually feeling the confidence starting to build in my game.