ROUND 1 INTERVIEW: SCOTT McCARRON (-5)

June 9, 2017



Q. You changed clubs twice and went with a putter?

SCOTT McCARRON: I changed clubs three times. I was going to hit a flop 60, but I was going to blade a 60. Then I was going to hit a hybrid but I never practice the hybrid, I never practice doing that. My caddie said, "You never hit that shot." I'm like "Yeah, you're right. Let's just putt it." So trying to get something rolling, it was sitting down and I didn't have any other shot, I don't think. It was a good par.

Q. How big is that momentum from your back nine?

SCOTT McCARRON: Well, it's big, it's big. I got off to just kind of a mediocre start and got an unfortunate break on the par 5 there. 5. Hit the tree and went about 50 yards left out of bounds. But again, if I would have hit it down the middle, there's no trees in the middle of the fairway. Mediocre shots get mediocre breaks. I did make a birdie for a bogey after hitting it out of bounds. And then one three-putt on the back side on 14, just had it about 12 feet. That green's really slow, it just got real fast around there, went about five feet by and missed it. But other than that, I played pretty nice.

Q. It was your driver that went out of bounds or your second shot?

SCOTT McCARRON: No, driver, yeah. Went down the left-hand side and just hit that corner tree and kicked left, so it was unfortunate.

Q. How's the wind going to change this course tomorrow?

SCOTT McCARRON: Well, I think it will change it a lot. If it's blowing the same direction at 20, 25, it's going to be very difficult to hit the fairways. So this golf course is a premium, you got to be able to hit the fairways. If you don't hit the fairways, it's tough to hit the greens because the rough is kind of like flyer rough right now. I think scores will not be very low tomorrow if it is blowing 25.

Q. Does it make it easier for you to shoot well when you've got another guy that's pushing low numbers like that?

SCOTT McCARRON: Well, you know, it's nice to see good golf, and I saw some really good golf today from Bernhard Langer and Tom Lehman. Tom played really well, unfortunately got one bad swing there on 16 and made bogey, but other than that, he played really nicely. It's nice to play with those guys. They're great guys. Hall of Famer Bernhard Langer, he doesn't miss a shot, plays so solid all the time, and I really enjoy playing with those guys.

Q. Is there almost a sense of panic when you're sitting there 1 over par because you're thinking, it's a three-round tournament and you've really got to --

SCOTT McCARRON: Well, knowing that the weekend's going to be very difficult, I didn't want to be too far behind on the weekend. So to be able to get only one behind, it puts me right back in the tournament. So absolutely there was a little bit of we've got to go on this back nine and make some birdies and be a little more aggressive, which I was able to do.