

JERRY KELLY (-1)

Q. We'll get started with Jerry Kelly. You brought it to within 2 with five to play. What happened over the last five holes?

JERRY KELLY: The wind gusted up on me. I tried to flight a cut, you know. I mean, I was trying to do a little bit too much to get it in there. It's like you bring it within 2 and you want to go for a kill shot with a 4-iron, probably not the smartest move. I pushed it into some heavy sand and I hadn't felt a bunker like that out there this week, but I haven't felt too many bunkers.

Left it short, just missed it, you know. Then misread the next putt. I hit the exact same shot, the same 4-iron shot, just head moves a little bit quick, I'm in front of it, it blocks it off and it goes shorter. It had no chance of being -- no chance of not getting over the water with any solid shot.

Q. What was the yardage?

JERRY KELLY: I had 200 to the front. I had my 200 club, so I was trying to fillet something in there to get it to stop. And again, it's doing a lot, but I was now 3 back with three to go, I've got to try for an eagle. You know, then I just -- I just lost all my adrenaline. It was kind of ceremonial from that point on once he got it in the fairway and I was standing on my head. Yeah, just a good golf course. I mean, to shoot even par when you've got a lead like that, that's tough. I would have had to shoot 4 under to catch him.

Q. You play well here, though.

JERRY KELLY: Well, it's the first round in eight rounds over par, that was disappointing to finish that way. I wanted to make sure I brought it in, but it was like the breaks decided to pile up on me. They gave it to me all week and said, no, not this time.

Q. It's only been nine scores under par in the three years of this thing and you have two of them.

JERRY KELLY: Yeah.

Q. That's got to be a little consolation.

JERRY KELLY: I think it's a great golf course. I'd like to feel like my ball-striking is good. I didn't hit many fairways this week for me, so I don't think I played particularly well, but I liked the way I get it around this course. You have to manage it, you can't just bust it. I can take

that into a U.S. Open.

Q. It's never over after 18, 36, 54, but when he shot 63 to open, I'm not saying anybody felt like he was going to win, but --

JERRY KELLY: Not when it came back to 3 and he birdied 16 to bring it back to 4, no. Once he started making bogeys, the door's open. He made some great up-and-downs starting with No. 1 from 50, 60 yards. He doesn't get that up and down and I make a five-footer...

Q. Game on?

JERRY KELLY: And it was game on at 14, but yeah.

Q. I'm just saying the way he started the championship, 63 to open, it wasn't a knock-out punch, but that's where he finished. Nobody got there.

JERRY KELLY: Yeah. I was just telling one of the young guys that I like to work with, I'm like, listen, somebody's always going to shoot a low one on the first day, and you know what? It might not even be the winning score when all is said and done when you get on a good golf course. These guys are so good, they're going to shoot a low score, but they're not going to back it up consistently, it's too tough of a golf course.

Q. But he did.

JERRY KELLY: My number was 7 to get to.

Q. It's good to know.

JERRY KELLY: Yeah.

Q. Out of curiosity, Jerry, you and your caddie had a little demonstrative after the chip-in on 9. What was that dialogue to seem to get you going there?

JERRY KELLY: He just told me to chip it in, so I chipped it in. That's about it.

Q. There were so many bad shots I watched there, that was the shot of the day there.

JERRY KELLY: I mean, with him knocking it in there close, it would have been out of reach had I not done that. Yeah, he made a great putt on 10. We both made good putts, yeah.

Q. I thought you were going for the jugular at 1.

JERRY KELLY: I know. If that would have been a two-shot swing, then oh, yeah, I think there's a chance it would have been very different. That was a great up-and-down.