

KENNY PERRY

Q. So 20th anniversary here coming up for 9/11 and 20 years ago was the WGC event here at Bellerive in St. Louis. Can you just talk a little bit about your memories from that day?

KENNY PERRY: I just had flown in and had gotten my courtesy car and had driven to the club. I was walking up the steps in the clubhouse there at Bellerive and the guy said, "Did you hear what happened," and I said no. I just remember opening the door. They had a TV inside the door there and I just sat there for hours watching the recap of the planes hitting the towers. Then everything went crazy.

And I'll never forget I was stuck, I didn't have a car to get home to Kentucky, and thank goodness my caddie had driven there and he drove all the way out of his way. He lives in Denver, but he drove me back to Franklin, Kentucky, which is not -- it's only a four-hour drive, it's not that far, but still, four hours would be eight hours for him. Then he had to head back to Denver.

Q. Which is a long drive.

KENNY PERRY: It was a long drive, or I would have been stuck. I could not have gotten home, I don't think. Maybe figured out a way to catch a ride somewhere else, somebody heading east, I don't know. But it was pretty shocking just to sit there and watch the replay of those planes flying into the towers was pretty incredible.

Q. When did you leave St. Louis? I assume you were here for at least the next day because they didn't cancel until the next day.

KENNY PERRY: Correct, correct. I went to my hotel. I had my courtesy car, so I went to my hotel and I came back the next day and we were all just -- we were just in limbo, you don't know what's going to happen. We all pretty assumed we weren't going to play and then finally the Tour made the correct decision in canceling the tournament. Then we were all scrambling, checked back out of our hotels, giving the cars back and trying to figure out how to get home.

Q. I remember talking to, at least for the record anyway, quite a few of the players wanted to go ahead and play just because they felt like it was sort of giving in to the terrorists or whatever to have them disrupt -- I'm not saying everybody felt that way.

KENNY PERRY: Right. Well, I don't think that was the right thing to do, I really don't. When you have a national tragedy, you don't need to continue on with your sporting event. I mean,

that just wouldn't look good in my opinion. I think everybody did the right thing.

Q. And then of course years later and unrelated, but you come back to Bellerive and played great at the Senior PGA.

KENNY PERRY: I did. I didn't win, Kohki beat me on the last couple holes. I had the lead with the last couple and I think Jay Haas and I finished second. So I had a great tournament there. That's a great golf course for me, I love that place. I always enjoy coming to St. Louis. It's just a good place to come, it's close to home, I feel like I'm home.

Q. Yeah. And do you remember on 9/11, but that week, and you're sort of from the area so you can relate to it, but the weather, I remember the weather was absolutely perfect, the golf course was perfect and there were gobs of -- even on Monday there were gobs of people out here. Do you remember that?

KENNY PERRY: I do. I actually went out and played a couple holes and I made a hole-in-one that day on the par 3. I can't remember if it was the third or fourth hole, the first par 3 coming up, but I can't remember what number it was. But then I quit and I ended up turning around and coming back in because once I found out we were canceling the tournament and everything.

Q. But guys were scrambling trying to figure out a way -- I remember I came Friday because I was doing some follow-up stuff and all the Europeans were still on the -- Friday morning they were hitting balls on the range because they were stuck here, and I think the Ryder Cup was still sort of up in the air at that point.

KENNY PERRY: I just knew they canceled all private flights. You couldn't even fly privately. You were just grounded unless you had a car to where you could take off. It was a tough situation.

Q. Did you even get out on the course that day then or you walked in, planted yourself in front of the TV?

KENNY PERRY: Monday I didn't get out. I think I went out Tuesday morning to play some holes, and then once they canceled it --

Q. For the players, was there a lot of discussion among you guys about what --

KENNY PERRY: Well, there wasn't many of us around, I didn't see many guys. We were all still struggling -- guys weren't really flying in until Tuesday and then all that happened, all their flights started to get canceled. It was a mess, it was mayhem out there. Trying to get all 156 players there, we were all coming in at different times, it was quite a chore.

Q. 9/11 in St. Louis will kind of be in your mind --

KENNY PERRY: They always say you remember the place you are when a tragedy happens and I'll always tell everybody I was at Bellerive 9/11, I was on the porch of the clubhouse walking in when it happened.

Q. It's that clear to you?

KENNY PERRY: It's that clear to me, yeah. It's incredible.