ROUND 1 INTERVIEW June 22, 2018

JERRY KELLY (-4)



Q. Jerry, great day for you today. Can you talk about the highlights you had out there?

JERRY KELLY: My highlight was that I got it around. I hit the ball really bad today. I really didn't hit a solid shot. I can't -- I really can't pick one.

I worked -- yeah, I did, 4. I hit a great 3-iron hybrid on 4, knocked it to about five feet. There's my highlight, okay?

Q. So what worked for you?

JERRY KELLY: You know, I've been doing this enough this year that, you know, I don't lose it as much mentally because I know that I can still make birdies on these golf courses. So I stay in there, I bunt it down, I keep it in the fairway, get it on the green, hope I can make some putts. I really didn't make any putts. I missed a real short one for a three-putt. But there's plenty left in. I'm looking forward to the range and see if I can find something.

Q. The new tee on 18, does that change the way that hole plays?

JERRY KELLY: I mean, thank goodness it was downwind; completely changes the way it plays. I was actually able to carry that first bunker today, but we get normal wind and it starts coming in, I'm going to be pitching it right and hitting 3-iron in, so it's going to be quite a hole.

Q. Are you surprised at all what Steve did today?

JERRY KELLY: Absolutely not, the way he's been playing. I talked with him yesterday and he's, of course, complaining about that he can't make anything. You know, I know how well he's hitting it and I think he's right, he hasn't really capitalized like normal on his putting, but he's hitting it so good that percentages, he's not going to make all of them. He may, but he's probably not.

But he is playing world championship golf. I mean, he's playing PGA Tour -- he could win any week out there that he got the putter hot because he's hitting it long and he's striking the irons so pure, yeah. Bothers me a little bit. (Laughs.)

Q. You're close to the top. Does this now become less fun and maybe more of a work thing now even though it's Madison, even though it's Wisconsin?

JERRY KELLY: No, no. Now it's actually more fun. Now it's okay, let's go chase Steve. You know, everybody -- I tend not to get off to great starts because you're usually not chasing anybody quite yet, although we were chasing him quite early. Once a number's posted, then you've got something to chase. I was glad I got two of the last three to at least close the very large gap that was there.

Q. Will you go to the concert tonight? Are you going to hang out with REO Speedwagon and Shaq?

JERRY KELLY: I really would, but I've got a little work to do on the body, so I'm going to -- Dr. Kurt Stein is here and he's going to twist me around a little bit after I hit some balls. Yeah, I'm going to be pretty easy.

Q. Did you happen to hear Shaq when he announced the group on --

JERRY KELLY: No.

Q. You couldn't hear him out on the course?

JERRY KELLY: He didn't stay to announce me?

Q. No, he didn't, just his LSU buddy David Toms.

JERRY KELLY: C'mon! Barkley would have stayed for me.