

KIRK TRIPLETT (-13)

Q. You and Scott were genuinely happy for Mark there on the 18th green.

KIRK TRIPLETT: Yeah, and that's sort of a product of the Champions Tour. We try and beat each other's brains in while we're out there and give each other the look once in a while, but you're thrilled for a guy because you know what a tournament means. You're thrilled when a guy gets to do it, especially the way he played. He played beautiful golf, really beautiful golf. He deserved it.

Q. Did you feel like you were just kind of playing from behind the whole day?

KIRK TRIPLETT: Well, not the whole day, but at the turn -- I made a bogey on 9. I was playing some nice golf and making some birdies and staying in touch. You know in the back of your mind out here that 15, 17, 18, you can make an eagle or two and the other player can make a double bogey real easily. You know that a 2- or 3- or even a 4-shot lead with four holes to go, it's not like -- it feels pretty good, but it's not totally safe. You're just trying to stay in touch with the guy. He just made some birdies kind of 9 through 13 or 14, kept us at bay.

Q. You mentioned the turn at 9, you bogeyed and he birdied. That's what you feel was the turning point?

KIRK TRIPLETT: Oh, yeah, that put me in that, okay, we can't catch him on one hole kind of deal, right? Got to chip away. He did make a mistake on one hole and I really felt like, you know, I had a birdie putt there, if I could have made that --

Q. Which one was that?

KIRK TRIPLETT: They changed the routing, so 14, he bogeyed the par-3 14th. I had about a 15-foot birdie putt. I knew if I could have knocked that in, it would have tightened it a little bit.

Then I just didn't have good enough looks coming in and got a bad break on 17 over next to the tree, tried to play a screwy shot up to the right that I would never normally play but I'm trying to make a 4, not a 5. He, of course, made 4 and certainly put it out of reach.

Q. And he was dead center with the driver?

KIRK TRIPLETT: Oh, yeah, beautiful shot on 18, right. But even if he makes double, you know, with a four-shot lead on 18, you're in pretty good shape.

