ROUND 2 INTERVIEW September 14, 2019

SCOTT McCARRON (-11)



Q. Scott, heck of a finish, man, there the last few holes for you.

SCOTT McCARRON: Yeah, I was what, 4 under the last five and then birdied the last three. So anytime you can finish like that, it's a pretty good day. I didn't really get anything going for most of the day, but I was hitting it well and I was hitting good putts, they weren't going in, so I just had to stay really patient.

Bradley Whittle, my caddie, who caddied for me on Tour for years and he's stepping in this week, did a great job just keeping me patient. Then we had a nice little flurry at the end.

Q. Tell us about -- we missed the last shot, the crowd went crazy.

SCOTT McCARRON: Yeah, it was a 51-foot putt straight up the hill. I hit a beautiful drive down there, I had 150 to the hole, 9-iron into the wind a little bit and I just smashed it and it landed about maybe a yard or two short of the pin and then spun back 45 feet. So I was a little surprised with that. If it hits another yard farther, the green's a little harder there and a little less slopey, so kind of a bad break.

But when I walked up there, Bradley said, well, I'm going to give you a little room service, I'm going to tend this one, because we haven't been having caddies tend flags much with the new rule. So we used to have a little thing where he would give me room service, and I made it and he gave me a little room service there at the end there, which was nice.

Q. With the way everybody keeps saying, yeah, I played great today "but," because they know you've got to do it again tomorrow or somebody else is going to do it on a course like this.

SCOTT McCARRON: Well, looks like we're going to have good weather again tomorrow, so you're going to have to go low. Jerry Kelly played obviously a great round today with 7 under. I won't be surprised if someone goes and shoots 7, 8, 9 tomorrow.

Having said that, I've got to again go out there and take advantage of the holes, the par 5s where I can reach some of them with my length and the couple of par 4s where I can drive it up there pretty close and see if I can get myself in contention with nine holes to play and see what happens.

Q. We were talking about 17 the last couple of days. Now that you see it, looks like there's more people out there. Did they give you --

SCOTT McCARRON: Yeah, it was nice. I birdied it yesterday, I birdied it today, so a lot of people -- I made a lot of fans the last two days with half-price beers for 17 minutes. That's 34 minutes of half-price beer on me, I think that's pretty good.

Q. How much are you watching the leaderboard during your round and especially tomorrow?

SCOTT McCARRON: You know, I didn't watch too much today. I knew Jerry was going low and I kind of saw where he got to 12. I wasn't looking at anybody else. Tomorrow I will definitely, you know, being in the last group, I'll know what's going on. I will look at the leaderboard a little bit, but hopefully one of the winners will come out of our group and I'll have a pretty good idea where I stand most of the day.

Q. You talked about going low here and what it means and being the money leader and kind of the big name that's been brought up. We talked to Fred Couples earlier, he's like, "I can go low here, but if McCarron's going to do it, I can't do anything."

SCOTT McCARRON: That's not true. (Laughing.) Freddie Couples is one of my heroes. That guy is so good. I actually grew up in Seattle, Washington, and I was playing in the 5- and 6-year-old junior golf tournaments and he was winning everything else in the 12 to 15. So I've been watching Freddie win a lot of tournaments. He's a legend, he's a Hall of Famer and he's a great player still. When he needs to go low, he can, just like he almost pulled it off at Dick's a couple weeks ago when Doug Barron had to really fight it out coming down the stretch. But Freddie can go low, way lower than I can.

Q. How do you like the pressure, though? Do you feel the pressure?

SCOTT McCARRON: You know, I really don't feel it too much. I'm sure tomorrow on the first tee you'll have a little nerves, which is good. If you're not nervous, there's something wrong, you'd better get in another business because there is some pressure out there. We want to win, we want to get ourselves in position.

But it's the guy that can control his emotions coming down the stretch is the guy that's going to have the best opportunity. Doesn't guarantee anything, but it gives you the best opportunity.

Q. With the way you're playing this year and how far in the money that you're up, how much junk are these guys giving to you? Are they telling you, hey, give someone else a chance? I know you don't care.

SCOTT McCARRON: Not much, not much. I mean, the guy that's right behind me, Jerry, is one shot ahead of me this week. We've been battling it out, we go to dinners and we hang out. It's a very friendly rivalry.

Langer's kind of had a stranglehold on the Schwab Cup the last few years, been playing

very well. I finished fourth, third and second the last three years, so my goal is to win the Schwab Cup, and in order to do that, I've got to go out there and win some tournaments coming down the stretch and then play well in the Playoffs.