

**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW**  
**March 6, 2020**



**DAVID MORLAND IV (-10)**

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**Q. Just another day, huh?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** Nice stroll in the park.

**Q. Where'd this come from?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** Actually, I've been playing well for a few months now. Finished second in the Jamaican Open in December and then I finished second at the Q-School for the European Senior Tour, so I've got full status over there this year, and finished third and first at the other two tournaments over there. Naples, I lost in a playoff to get in, and then obviously got in this week and just making the most of it.

**Q. What was it like at Goose Creek? I guess there were five guys tied at 2 and no one knew what was going on, right?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** No, it's the craziest thing. I've got video, we were on the 18th hole, I think I was 3 under for the day and the chopper was picking up water right in front of us and dropping it on the fire. The flames looked about 20 to 30 feet and they said you've got to evacuate the property. So we were sending our scorecards in by picture because they wouldn't let us back on the property. And then you're wondering who teed off the front nine, who teed off the back nine, who shot 3 under. So now I'm tied with four guys at 2 under. Are they going to do a playoff, are they going to do a scorecard playoff? So it was the most nerve wracking, are you in or are you not in.

So my game plan's just to make the most of the opportunities that I get in.

**Q. What was the tie breaker? How did you get in?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** I birdied the ninth hole. They went off two guys from the front nine and my birdie on nine was good enough to get in.

**Q. Can you see the fires? What were you seeing?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** So it actually sounded like rapid gunfire. When we were playing the 12th hole, it was kind of a smallish fire but you could hear "pop, pop, pop, pop, pop, pop, pop," so the bamboo was crackling really loud. We just thought someone was clearing brush at the time. By the time we got to 16, we're like, holy smokes, the wind's really picked up. I think I hit a 3-wood in from 208 and that's my 245 to 250 club, so it was blowing pretty good, so it didn't take long for it to spread.

**Q. So how many holes did you play that day?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** I was on 18 tee.

**Q. So they only counted your first nine?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** Yes.

**Q. So you played the back nine?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** I did, but there was only six people that had finished out of I think 55 guys. And then my brother actually called me and he said they canceled it, they're going off the money list. I said, no, I don't think so. I said I think if everybody gets in nine, they've got to go off the nine-hole scores. So yeah, there was lots of indecision going on until finally we found out about 4:00, I think.

**Q. Ten birdies today?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** Ten birdies today.

**Q. And how did you go from that chaos to preparing for this, to the main draw?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** Again, just doing what I've been doing. I've been playing well, I've been rolling the ball well and just took it one stroke at a time, add it up when I got done.

**Q. Is it sort of about taking advantage of an opportunity here when you qualify for an event?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** Yeah, I don't know how many starts I'm going to get over here. Obviously I would rather play over here than Europe from a purse standpoint, but I haven't played much over in Europe so we were kind of looking to the opportunity of seeing some of Europe, but it's getting kind of scary now with the Coronavirus. You know, I've got two more days, I'm just going to take it one step at a time and make as many birdies as I can.

**Q. Speaking of that, did that come into play at all in terms of the way you changed your approach or did you think about it out on the course at all?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** No.

**Q. Were you able to give anybody high-fives or touch anything?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** Well, after I make a putt I give my caddie a little fist bump, but just try and stay even keel.

**Q. David, how old are you?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** Fifty. I'll be 51 April 3rd.

**Q. So this potentially could be big for you because there's probably not a whole lot of status on the tour, right? Is that the deal?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** Yeah. I mean, there's five spots each year for me to qualify for and, you know, Monday qualifying, it's tough. You've got major champions that are Monday qualifying, you've got PGA TOUR winners. It's not like the bottom of the barrel. You're playing against good quality players each week and there's four spots.

**Q. How big was it to get to 10, and after what you did to get in here, that's a pretty special number?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** It's one more than nine, you know. And the other thing, so I did see Kenny Duke up on the board, he's a good buddy of mine and we've had a lot of fun over the years, so I'm looking forward to playing with him tomorrow.

**Q. Are you normally pretty good about taking this kind of stuff in stride and will 10 under going into the second round change anything?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** No. Going to hit my tee shot down the middle, knock it on the green, try to make the putt.

**Q. Where does this round rank of all your rounds as a pro?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** So my low PGA and Korn Ferry are 63s. I shot 59 this summer with a buddy, short-ish golf course, but I think in June or July this summer. My buddy shot 60 and lost 80 bucks.

**Q. Where was that?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** Riviera Golf Course in Ormond Beach.

**Q. What's it like to play out here?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** It's awesome. I love the golf course, it suits my eye. It's old-school golf, got to shape it off the tee, dogleg right and the fairway slopes right to left, so you've got to hit a little cut off the tee. It's just old-school golf.

**Q. And the old-school guys, how are they reacting to your 10 under?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** Actually, they've been pretty happy to see me play well. You know, it's someone taking advantage of an opportunity.

**Q. Are they congratulating you?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** Yeah, yeah.

**Q. You started off with three straight birdies, right?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** Yes, I did.

**Q. So to get off to a good start like that, it felt good?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** Yeah, it felt good. Just kind of put you at ease and just tried to keep making more.

**Q. Looked like you had an eight-year gap between Korn Ferry and turning 50. How did you spend --**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** I actually got in a car wreck in 2011 and I had a four-year hiatus. I didn't know if I was going to play golf again. So I had back surgery and torn labrum from the car wreck. My wife had her neck fused and shoulder surgery from it.

A buddy of mine had a robotic swing trainer and he's like, "What are you doing?" I said, "Nothing." He says, "Do you want to come to Toronto and teach on it?" I said okay. So I got on the robotic swing trainer for about 30 minutes and hit my first 4-iron and the thing went -- wow, that felt pretty good.

So at the time I think I'm 46 and going, "Can I put enough time in to practice to be competitive?" And it was kind of like Tiger, we didn't know if Tiger was going to come back from his back. As time prevailed I was able to put some practice time in, and I didn't do any Mondays for PGA or the Korn Ferry Tour. I played mostly mini tours, some up in Canada, but I stayed competitive the three years prior to turning 50 and that's a big difference. It doesn't matter what level that you're playing in, you just need to get the juices flowing when you're under the gun and make a putt under pressure.

**Q. So David, there was a point where you thought there was no more golf?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** Realistically, yeah, that was an option. I didn't know what to expect. It was only over a period of time that I was able to play and practice, and the back's felt pretty good.

**Q. Still living in Canada?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** No, I live in Palm Coast, Florida.

**Q. What year was that accident?**

**DAVID MORLAND IV:** 2011 coming back from Mayakoba Classic heading to the Honda and we got hit by a Range Rover going 55 miles an hour with us at a stop on the highway, so lucky to be here.