



87TH PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

BALTUSROL GOLF CLUB

INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 2005

Quotes From:

STUART APPLEBY

Q. Talk about your round.

STUART APPLEBY: Today's round, I probably drove the ball better today than yesterday. I didn't putt as well as yesterday, misread a couple, probably hit a couple poor putts but misread a couple. Just a decent, consistent day, nothing really fancy out there. It was a good, solid round of golf. I certainly had opportunities to get under par.

The course was much easier in the morning than the afternoon based on the greens being softer, still got some nice speed to them, but I'm sorry there's nothing fancy to talk about my round.

The secret is to not make silly mistakes. I guess you can make some mistakes here, but you've got to make them small. You know, putting the ball in play this week makes a big difference. The greens are soft enough generally that the ball can stop and you can be much more aggressive. A long driver in the fairway here is such an advantage compared to anyone else because the greens are overly sloped, the pins aren't hidden that much, so once you can get 160 yards or less into the flags, you can actually think about sticking it in there.

You get a guy doing that, driving it well, can shoot 5- or 6-under quite easily out here.

I could have made a couple more putts, no doubt. I could have made a couple more, two, three putts -- really good putts that didn't go in that had chances that I didn't hit good enough. I would have liked to have shot 3-under again. I'm not disappointed by today by any means, I played good. I've got to be patient and keep playing like that, quality strokes, and then they keep dropping.

Q. How difficult is 7? Yesterday there was a lot of big numbers there.

STUART APPLEBY: I hit 9-iron into that hole yesterday. I hit a drive about 350 down there

and it sort of played a lot shorter. Today was 6-iron.

You know, it's a good hole. That is really a long hole, but most guys would be hitting 5s, 6s, 7-irons and maybe 8s. Yesterday I had a bit of a freaky drive down there. It's a good hole. You've got to work it left-to-right down there, 505 yards, it's got a fair bit of test to it.

Q. Did you have another good round with the putter?

STUART APPLEBY: I'd like to roll the ball better over the weekend. Considering where I've been, I've come a long way. I'm a long way from complaining about my putter.

Q. Are they still watering down the greens?

STUART APPLEBY: Not this morning. There was no watering this morning that I could see. I've got to think which hole it was. There's a couple that were getting dryer, but they weren't -- they were probably a few more hours away before needing a sprinkle. I think yesterday they were watering them by late morning, so yeah, I think they're doing fine.

Q. Did they play easier in the morning?

STUART APPLEBY: The greens were a little softer, moister in the morning than the afternoon. Generally the firmer greens weren't too firm. The balls are biting, holding well enough and the greens were fresh, so that helps. It's an advantage to have very fresh greens and greens that are just soft enough where -- and less traffic on them. It's obvious that it's going to be smoother to putt on them.

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