ROUND 3 INTERVIEW May 5, 2019

SCOTT McCARRON (-17)



Q. Scott, 10th win on PGA TOUR Champions.

SCOTT McCARRON: Yeah. I heard there's a couple other guys that have 10 wins.

Q. Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Tom Kite.

SCOTT McCARRON: I know those guys.

Q. What's it mean to you to be in that kind of company?

SCOTT McCARRON: You know, I can't believe it. You know, Jack Nicklaus told me two years ago that he loved the PGA TOUR Champions and he wished he would have played more because it was so much fun and because there is an end in sight, and once you're done, you're done. Coming out here and not being able to play anymore, that's no fun.

So I really took that to heart as I'm going to put everything I can into this and try to win as many tournaments as I can, try to compete, have fun, be in good shape, be healthy and see what we can do.

You know, I'm shocked I've won 10 times out here tying those guys and John Cook, and John Cook. I'm not done yet. I want to win a lot more and I want to win the Schwab Cup. That was my goal at the start of this year, which has been the goal the start of the last few years. We're trying to get that done and today helps.

Q. That was your second straight individual win. What's been the key to this long streak of awesome play?

SCOTT McCARRON: You know, I played pretty solid. One, we've had just terrible weather both times. I guess I'm kind of a mudder. It seems a lot of my wins are when the weather's really bad.

But I've got -- I've been working with my teacher, E.A. Tischler, pretty hard over the winter and I'm sending him videos, even though he wasn't out here this week, and just trying to dial stuff in. I thought I dialed some stuff in with my putting this week after the first day when I played one hole and three-putted from about 30 feet. I kind of changed a few things and talked with E.A. and got it figured out and sort of started making some putts, which was good.

I also changed some of the lies on my irons going into this week. I felt like some of the irons

were a little upright. The guys in the trailer, they have a thing that if you win, you're not allowed to adjust anything the next week, so I had to wait a week and they wouldn't touch my clubs. This week we were able to kind of adjust them, make them a little bit flatter with the short irons and it felt much better.

Q. Scott, I'm shocked that you've won 10 times, too. I always thought you would win more. You played really well.

SCOTT McCARRON: Thank you. I played solid. You know. Scott Parel was playing some good golf, he was pushing me along. He was making birdies, didn't make many mistakes, so I had to keep the pedal down. He tied it up there in the middle of the round, and I kind of got him on that par 5 when I made birdie there and he didn't make birdie on 13. That was big.

And then I hit a really nice little carving 6-iron in the par 3 14th, made birdie there and that kind of at least got me over the hump. But he came right back out of the bunker and hit a fairway bunker shot to about 25 feet for eagle and almost made that. My hat's off to him, he pushed me hard today.

Q. On 16, how close was that?

SCOTT McCARRON: It was very close. It was about six, eight inches. Yeah, it was pretty close. It looked like it was going in and that was big. Scott was one shot back after birdieing 15 and he hit it just right of the green. I thought that was just a perfect opportunity for me to get it in there and hit one close. And it was an 8-iron, I had to get all over it, it was probably like 184 or something like that, 187 into the wind and I had to hit it hard. I hit it just a little bit thin, one groove low, but I caught a lot of it. It almost went in.

Q. Like you said, though, he pushed you.

SCOTT McCARRON: He did. He played great and he always does. He's a really good player and he's having a great career out here and he's going to win a bunch, too. For us to go head to head like that, it was a lot of fun.

Q. We've got two majors coming up. It's hard to imagine you bringing any more momentum into major season. What does the next couple weeks look like for you?

SCOTT McCARRON: Well, next week, Greystone, it's a golf course I like. I played in the final group there a couple times now and finished seconds and thirds and top-10s, so I like that golf course. I feel like I've got a good chance there. Obviously I'm playing well.

Then going to Oak Hill. Man, I played the Championship when Shaun Micheel won there. I thought it was one of the toughest golf courses I had played. So that's going to be a lot of fun to see how they set that golf course up.

But I'm playing well, and going into the major season, this is where you want to be, playing some of your best golf, see if I can knock off a major or two.

Q. When we have weather like we did, how do you focus and how do you get back into the flow stopping and starting?

SCOTT McCARRON: Well, one of the things, you've got to be very patient. You've got to conserve your energy. When we have rain delays like that, try to find a quiet corner and get some rest because you never now how long you're going to go.

I had a little thing, we played one hole on that Friday, then Saturday I hurt my neck in the morning and I wasn't even sure I was going to be able to play, so to go 35 holes and my neck was just killing me. But it started loosening up, and the guys in the fitness truck did a phenomenal job getting me ready to be able to play. I was lucky that they had another delay from 7:30 to 9:30, it gave me some more time to get therapy on that so I was able to tee it up, because if we had to go at 7:30 I might not have been able to hit drivers at that point.

Q. Thank you, Scott. Congrats.

SCOTT McCARRON: Thank you, guys. Appreciate it.