



INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: CRISTIE KERR
Friday, May 20, 2011

MODERATOR: Thank you, Cristie, for joining us. Congratulations on your 7 & 6 victory today. Can you just take us a little bit through the match today and how things went for you.

CRISTIE KERR: Sure. The first couple holes were kind of close. You know, it started pouring on the 2nd hole and it was difficult to -- I mean, really pouring for like the 2nd hole through the 6th hole, and I made a great par putt to win the hole on the par 3. Then I hit a 5-wood stiff on the next hole and she had a very long putt and she 3-putted and she just gave it to me. Then I made birdie on the next hole and just kind of kept rolling.

She started to struggle a little bit when I got her down and she had some par putts that she couldn't convert and I just kept winning holes. I went on to the 8th hole and she had a makeable par putt and I was able to make my birdie putt, so I just kept rolling. That's what happens when you have big wins like that, you just kind of keep winning holes.

MODERATOR: Questions?

Q. I happened to see you play 9. How long was that birdie putt there?

CRISTIE KERR: My birdie putt?

Q. Yeah.

CRISTIE KERR: Maybe 15 feet.

Q. Okay. You missed it, slapped your thigh as if like you were clearly angry. Was it angry because I'm on a roll and I should be making all these, or is it I want to keep my foot on the gas pedal, or is it just your nature?

CRISTIE KERR: Well, I always try to do the best I can with every shot. I don't think that I was angry, I was kind of a little miffed -- I wouldn't say that miffed is really angry -- that I didn't hit the putt firmly enough. Because even if I miss it, I don't care, I try to hit the putt that I want to hit, so that was what that was for.

And then I made a great save on the 10th hole. I thought -- you know, I was in between gap wedge, which spun back about 25 feet yesterday, and pitching wedge, and I just hit the pitching wedge a little hard. But my short game's been great, so I just try to be aggressive, you know, try to put a move on and I ended up winning that hole, which I didn't expect, but that's what happens when you hit great chips and you force the other person to try to make putts, so that's what's so great about match play.

Q. Will you look ahead in your bracket when the draw is final and see what could happen, who you might be playing?

CRISTIE KERR: I think at this stage of the game you kind of glance, you know, who's in the next couple matches, you know, to hopefully make it to the second match on Sunday.

I don't put too much emphasis on it because you could be playing -- you could be number 1 and playing number 64 in the field and they could have a great day and take you out, so it doesn't really matter. I think everybody who, again like I said yesterday, goes into tomorrow will be winners today, so that's what's so great about this format.

Q. How difficult is it when you're -- when you make the turn, you are up big, to then keep going? I mean, essentially knowing that the other person has to essentially win every hole the rest of the way just to get to all square?

CRISTIE KERR: Sure, I think that's a very good question because, you know, you would think, oh, it's not that easy, but you still have to keep your foot on the gas and you still have to try and win holes and end it because you never know. You know, I've seen people be 5-down with five to go and then they win in extra holes, so you never want to get to that point. If you can keep getting them down, then you can end it.

MODERATOR: Any more questions?

Q. (Question regarding clubs.)

CRISTIE KERR: Change clubs? No.

Q. On that vein, and this sounds probably stupid, do you ever feel sorry for an opponent when you have someone down like that?

CRISTIE KERR: I mean, I think -- I think you do, but it's my job. You know, it's my career and it's what I do. Yesterday I had to play Amanda and we're very good friends and we hang out a bunch. You know, I felt for her and it's hard when you have to play your friends. But yeah, I mean, ultimately you do want to win your match and it's business and even your friends know that, so there are no hard feelings at the end of the day.

Q. I presume you've won matches by bigger scores?

CRISTIE KERR: Maybe by another hole margin. She had about a 20-footer for par on that one and I had just to lag it down there so I didn't feel like necessary at that stage of the game where I knew I was going to win the match just by lagging it down there, I didn't feel like I wanted to make her putt that.

Q. Are you comfortable in these conditions, or is she less comfortable in these conditions? Because it seemed like once it started raining, you got going and she didn't.

CRISTIE KERR: I can't answer how she feels about playing in the rain and the mud. It doesn't bother me. I've always been kind of a mudder, a grinder, get it done no matter what. It's mind over matter in those kind of conditions and I guess I had the mind for it today.

Q. When you have someone down big like that, can you sense that they are waning? You know, whether it's body language --

CRISTIE KERR: Yeah, for sure, you can definitely see that. You have to try to take advantage of it if you want to win your match. Like I said, you never know what's going to happen so you just try and keep your foot on the gas. I never heard anybody apologize for winning by a big margin. They're happy about it.

MODERATOR: Thank you, Cristie.