

**Nissan Open
Riviera Country Club
Pacific Palisades, CA
February 18, 2006**

Third-round tournament quotes

AN INTERVIEW WITH CRAIG BARLOW

DAVE LANCER: We have Craig Barlow with us after a 4-under par 67, 10-under par tied for second. Craig, a good showing today, the 17th hole jumped you right back in the middle of things didn't it.

CRAIG BARLOW: It did. I got off to a pretty solid start and then I think I birdied 5, 8, 10 and 11. So I had a nice little stretch going there. And then 13 made bogey on 13, but didn't play it that bad, was just playing tough.

15, hit the worst shot of the day; hooked my tee shot in the trees. Wrong hole to hit a bad tee shot there. That's probably one of our toughest holes of the day, made bogey.

16, I hit a pretty little 7-iron in there, landed shorted of the pin, hit the pin I guess, was 3 feet from the hole, and I didn't hit a very aggressive putt. It bounced around on me a little bit and missed it. And was absolutely mad at myself for not being a little firmer with the putt and hit just the monster tee shot of my life on 17. I definitely was angry about the missed putt on 16, and had 253 to the hole, downwind, perfect 4-wood, hit it just on the front of the green and probably only 18 feet from the hole and chipped it in. Definitely a good redemption from missing the little putt on 16.

Played 18 nicely and just didn't go in. But overall, very happy with the way I played.

Q. Craig, I think the last time you played here you missed the cut was that a couple of years ago? You didn't play last year, did you?

CRAIG BARLOW: I did play last year. I made the cut, but we didn't get to play on the weekend.

Q. Did you figure out something about this course in last couple of years?

CRAIG BARLOW: No. This is probably one of my favorite courses. Definitely one of my favorite on TOUR and one of my favorite overall. So I've always enjoyed coming here. The year Robert Allenby won, I was in the last group that day. I didn't have a great day that day. I think I came in 12 or 13th place. But always enjoyed coming here. With weather permitting, it's definitely one of my favorite tournaments.

Q. Everyone always said winning kind of decides when it's going to happen, you just can't force it. Do you feel like things are turning around for you?

CRAIG BARLOW: Yes, the things that are turning around, I'm thinking better, I'm being more patient. I've been in some positions to win, and I've tried too hard. And being my 9th year out here now, I'm hoping that I'm smart enough to know that I just got to go play golf tomorrow.

I would love to tell you guys that I'm going to win, and I'm going to play great. I'm passed that. I know I got to go do my process tomorrow one shot at a time. As boring as it is to hear, it's true.

Q. Craig, it looked like you and Rory were making some long putts today, can you talk about the conditions of the greens today?

CRAIG BARLOW: I thought the greens were much better today than yesterday. I don't know if the rain last night and this morning, just kind of -- I don't know, they seem like they were rolling smoother today. Maybe I was just rolling the ball better. Who knows?

But I thought the greens putted better today than they did yesterday for sure.

Q. Craig, if I recall you were on the leaderboard at Westchester as well, was that four years ago? Is this a type of course, a classic course, does that kind of fit your game? If there is a place where you are going to break through, would it be a course like this in your opinion?

CRAIG BARLOW: Yes, I would say my strong suits, driving the golf ball, you have to drive the ball good here. Obviously, there has been great champions here. The golf course is a true test.

So, yes, I would like to think that when I'm playing well, I can contend pretty much anywhere. But overall I don't really know what kind of course I'm going to break through on.

Obviously, I have great vibes playing at Riviera. It's one of my favorite courses. You know, Pebble Beach last week is another one of my favorite ones and I always go there and have a decent finish there every year. So maybe it's just the good vibes I get.

Q. Having spent the day with Rory does a 4-shot deficit look doable or a pretty sizeable obstacle?

CRAIG BARLOW: He is playing good. Ironically, I wasn't really watching him today. I knew I had a lot of work to do myself. He is having an unbelievable year. I think he has already had a couple of seconds. Obviously, he is going to be the favorite tomorrow. A 4-shot lead is never too much though. It's a crazy game. The bounces can start going wrong, and the momentum changes. Who knows what's going to happen. He has had an unbelievable year, and he is playing great.

Q. Speaking of a crazy game, what were your thoughts on the range this morning? I'm sure you cooled up in the rain?

CRAIG BARLOW: It was.

Q. Were you shocked at all to finish the way you did?

CRAIG BARLOW: I would have bet a lot of money that we wouldn't have played 18 holes without rain today. I was very happy to see the weather changed. But I had the mentality that it was just going to be a grind today. As long as everybody has to play in it, I'm fine. So if it's tough, let it be tough for everybody. We'll probably get that chance tomorrow as it looks like the same forecast for tomorrow.

Q. Rain and sunshine?

CRAIG BARLOW: I hope it's the sunshine but I looked up on the computer last night, it said 60 percent chance of rain today and tomorrow.

(Scorecard.)

Q. You mentioned trying too hard a couple of times when you have been in position or the final group, does that really mean anything? What exactly did you do?

CRAIG BARLOW: Well, I think the things I've done is I've tried to be too perfect. Mentally not having won out here, I probably put too much, too much expectation on that I have to go out and play perfect golf. You can't live up to that expectation, so I think looking over my career, definitely putting way too much pressure to hit every golf shot perfect and that's crazy.

I'm getting better at just trying to hit every golf shot as good as I can and letting it go.

Tomorrow, tomorrow is going to be another one of those days. It's going to be a process. I'm going to, you know, hopefully, hopefully do all of the things that I've practiced every time I'm in that position.

All I can do is give it my best chance.

DAVE LANCER: Thank you.