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Colonial Country Club
Fort Worth, Texas
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First-round interviews

AN INTERVIEW WITH HARRISON FRAZAR

THE MODERATOR: We thank Harrison Frazar for stopping in after a 4-under 66 today.
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Looking at your stats and stuff, kind of a ho-hum 66, but you are glad to be where you are, two birdies and an eagle. You only hit half of the fairways, 13 and 18 green. Talk a little about that today.

HARRISON FRAZAR: Yes, it was kind of a round that I needed. It was pretty easy. I'm not going to say easy, but peaceful. I felt like I hit it really well. You're not going to hit a lot of fairways and a lot of greens here. But if you keep the golf ball in front of you on this golf course, and don't let it get bouncing too much, you know, away from the center, as long as you keep it somewhere in front of you, you can play the golf course.

I only came close to making a couple of bogeys. Both on 15 and 17, I had to make some good par putts. Other than that, it was a pretty, pretty simple day.

THE MODERATOR: You've made four of seven cuts with two Top -10s so it's a place you seem to like.

HARRISON FRAZAR: Right. The golf course is real similar to what I grew up with. Both the wind and the firmness and the grasses, from where I grew up in Abilene, and the tree line or Royal Oaks where I played since I was 15. I feel very comfortable on the golf course. I feel like I understand it. I know where to play it, you know, and when to take chances and when not to on this golf course.

You know, it's just a matter of playing within yourself and trying to make some putts.

THE MODERATOR: We'll take some questions.

Q. Your tour of coming out, so to speak, was Nelson, Colonial, you have had some success since then, do you think you have ever quite gotten to the magic of that week; is that still kind of the highlight of your career?

HARRISON FRAZAR: Yes, I would say that they probably are the highlight of my career, now looking back. At that point, though were -- I was so green and, you know, inexperienced in golf that I really didn't know what to think about it at the time.

But looking back on it, it was pretty special. It was a great two weeks.

I think I grew a lot. I think that allowed me to grow up as a player a little bit more and take some of the heat off of normal rookie nerves. If those weeks hadn't have happened, who knows where I would be right now? I might have had to have go through the same things that, you know -- this year has been bad, okay. I played poorly. I'm low on the money list. If you look at what my rookie year was going into the Nelson, it was equally as bad.

So I learned there that, you know, it doesn't take much. It just takes a couple of good weeks. That's helping me now. The things that I learned then. I don't think my rookie year, if I would have had those two good weeks, I wouldn't know how to handle this late in the year and playing poorly.

So, I think it's definitely a learning experience and has carried over through the last couple of years.

Q. I think you and Joey Sindelar joke back and forth about being under the influence of golf, you know what happens to your mind, how have you coped with it this year and handling the expectations that you have for yourself?

HARRISON FRAZAR: This year, like I said, it's been bad. I started out where I was just a little bit rusty, but putting some high expectations on myself, so I wasn't getting it done. Then I tried to play a long stretch in there in Florida. I was a little bit frustrated, a little tired during that stretch. I tried to keep trying to fight through myself. I knew that that wasn't the right way to go, but I just kept doing it.

So the best thing for me to do at the time would have been to come home for a week, skip one of those weeks, rest, get to work with Randy and try to start righting the ship. I just kept trying to beat my head in the wall, just trying to do it, just keep going, keep going.

So right now I'm starting to feel like my game is back up on upward curve right now. I was on a bad downward spiral there for a long time. Now it's starting to go back up again. I'm feeling better about my game, better with the putter in my hand.

So I'm just trying to stay optimistic and realize what I did last year, in only about four or five events, there is no reason why I can't do the same thing in four or five out of the next 15. So whether you do it early or late, it doesn't really matter.

Q. Does it ever get easier over time to fight that whole golfing thing of the worse thing to do some times is to try harder, you feel like you got to grind your way through tough times?

HARRISON FRAZAR: Well, everybody is different how they deal with adversity. For me, the best thing I can do is stay rested and fresh. And to feel like I'm doing the right thing to get myself an opportunity to play.

For me personally, if I'm tired and not thinking well, maybe not necessarily hitting it great, a little frustrated, I got zero chance whatsoever to play against these guys that are framing everything properly.

So, for me, I can get away with a lot if I'm rested and fresh. And the interest level is there.

So it's difficult right now for me to stay at home some weeks. But even though I made the mistake in Florida, I feel like I know myself well enough to know that I don't need to be playing more than two or three weeks in a row right now.

Q. The other day we were talking about how you started 7-under at the Nelson, and then that 17 hole stretch, obviously you were able to put that behind you, was there some key to that, or is it going back to what you said earlier just being able to handle the adversity?

HARRISON FRAZAR: What I have to take from last week is the fact that my game is moving on an upward ladder. Yes, it was a disappointing stretch in there in the middle of the golf course. But I have to take it that I played really 54 holes of pretty good golf. But if I would have hung in there during that stretch, it could have been a Top-10. I could have been in contention late into the weekend even. Who knows what's going to happen? I'm trying not to focus on the bad 17, I'm trying to focus on the good 54, 55 that I played.

And, yes, it was disappointing but, you know, I try to realize the positives. Try to focus, get focused back on target, back on routine, what I'm doing now, and just go back to work and keep trying to get just a little bit better.

Q. Do you consider yourself by nature very positive? Do you tend to be more negative enough to fight your way out of negative?

HARRISON FRAZAR: Well, about most things in life I'm probably very positive. Golf, I'm very hard on myself, so I tend to lean more towards the negative side on golf, that's why I have to stay away from it.

If I played too much -- I can take to things very easily. I can take four or five, six days off and come back, and that first day back, second day back, be hitting it every bit as good as I was before. So if I keep doing it and keep doing it, I tend to find problems, tend to find things that need to be, maybe that I think need to be fixed but really don't. So I probably tend toward more the negative side of golf.

I bet if somebody were to ask me about life or kids, or marriage, things like that, I'm probably a very positive person.

(Scorecard.)

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