

PODS Championship
Innisbrook Golf Resort
Copperhead Course
Tampa Bay, Fl

March 8, 2008

Third-round tournament quotes

AN INTERVIEW WITH GEOFF OGILVY

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Geoff Ogilvy, 69 today. The lowest posted round of the day, third round, and it puts you in good position heading into tomorrow's final round of the PODS Championship, just a couple general thoughts about the round

GEOFF OGILVY: Obviously, it was a pretty good one. It's pretty hard out there. I thought yesterday was tough. But I think today might have been tougher. I hit lots of good shots. I had a couple of poor ones. When I did hit poor ones, I got them up and down except for one case, most of the time.

Yes, I played well. I just tried to hit them in spots where I could get them up and down and not put them in bad spots. Hit into spots where I could hole putts. I actually had a few chances. It's hard to make putts out there, the putts break so much in the crosswind.

I would have been happy with anything around par. So under par is a bonus.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Can you talk about your year to this point? You made your first cut of the year earlier today. You are playing pretty good.

GEOFF OGILVY: Yes, it was a rusty start this year. I had a legitimate off season this year which I never really had. I had a baby on January 2nd, and you don't have them every day. So the clubs were in the closet for quite a long time. And it took a lot longer to get the rust off that I envisioned.

Some guys know how to do it. I didn't do it very well this year. I played quite well at LA, but I was on the wrong side of that draw. I played quite well at the Match Play. I didn't play horrible at the Match Play I played okay but I played Justin Leonard and he was playing great. I would have had to have really played a good game to beat him.

It's been okay since LA. This is the first time it's really shown up. It's nice that it's tough. I mean, you know the rust is coming off when it's tough, and you play well. It's not easy. You can fake your way through it sometimes when it's easy. When it's tough like that, you got to play proper golf, and I played proper golf today. It was nice.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Geoff, can you go through the card your three birdies and one bogey and any good saves you may have had.

GEOFF OGILVY: Every hole you make a par is a good save. It really is a tough day.

I made a great save on the par-3, the fourth. I hit a ball right of the green which is a bad spot to hit in. I got that one up and down. I was really happy with that. I hit it close.

I hit a nice shot on 8 and made birdie.

9, I hit it close but didn't make it. What are you going to do?

10, I hit two good shots, didn't make it. I had a good stretch through the middle there, I played well.

11, I hit almost 2 perfect shots to the right of green, exactly where you have to miss it and got up and down.

12, the bogey was a poor club selection and a really poor execution, just a bat shot. I hit it short right of the bunker. It was way wide and bad and I hit a bad chip shot but a decent putt.

Q. Were you between clubs?

GEOFF OGILVY: A little bit, yes. It was 177 yards, which is a 7-iron on any normal day. But I'm there with a 5-iron thinking it's not enough. 4, I felt like it was going to go over everything. You are going to have those on days like this. You get some shots that no club feels right. That would one in hindsight, maybe, I would have done better with the 4-iron. I would have felt just as bad about that as I did the 5 so it's just one of those things.

I came back and birdied the next. That hole might have been the turn around. That was the hardest hole I ever played yesterday..

Q. What was it yesterday?

GEOFF OGILVY: I hit it on today, I think. 3-iron the first time I played it, when we restarted. And a 4-iron the second time. It was an 8-iron today.

14, I made a massive turn around. I never seen 14 play as long as it did today. I drove it in the rough, so I had to kind of just hack it up there. But it was still driver and two pretty long irons to get there. I never seen 14 play like that.

18 was playing pretty long too. Normally 18 you just wail it up there and hit a wedge or 9-iron or 8-iron. We were all hitting 3-irons and 4-irons in there. It was a tough day. I only had one bogey out there as a good result.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: With did you hit at No. 8, the par-3? How far was your putt?

GEOFF OGILVY: No. 8, I hit a 6-iron and it was six feet maybe.

Q. You touched on this a minute ago, when the wind is like this and it exposes just a fraction of a mistake, what kind of confidence does that give you, the way you were hitting so many shots where you were aiming?

GEOFF OGILVY: It's nice, it is. You don't get to play, thank God, you don't get to play that many days when it's like that. It would be a tough year if every day was like that.

When you hit a proper shot, it goes where it should go. It goes a little bit shorter into the wind, but it's predictable. Whereas if you slightly miss it, it just gets so hit by a wind like that that you can really look like an idiot really quick.

If you a balloon a 5-iron or something it might normally get 200 yards for you. It might go 135 if it gets up in the air. That's a 65 yard difference. It's all about if you hit it properly. That doesn't happen. If you slightly miss it, it really gets hit hard. I guess it's testament that I must be actually hitting it quite decent because the ball mostly is going in the vicinity of where I am aiming it.

Q. Did you feel that way yesterday when you finished at 1-under?

GEOFF OGILVY: I was pretty happy with 1-under. I missed a couple on the last five or six holes, not short ones, but 10-footers that I thought were kind of makeable in the last five or six holes yesterday. So I was a little bit annoyed because I didn't know it was going to keep getting tougher and tougher.

But when I sat down afterward yesterday, I was pretty happy when I woke up this morning and I saw what they were actually restarting in. I thought 1-under would actually going to look pretty good. Anything under par after 72 holes was going to be decent. You can just tell that this morning. I feel for those guys that restarted on the fifth hole. They had to play 30 something holes in that. That's unbelievable.

Q. Over the course of the year you guys see all kinds of weather conditions, I understand, but maybe when the year is over, and you look back and go, hey, remember that bad round, this bad day, could this be one of the ones you will look back on?

GEOFF OGILVY: I don't know. I definitely will look at Tampa 2008 and think that was pretty tough. Especially Saturday. Yesterday was a tough day. Yes, I mean it's tough.

The last two years this Florida TOUR has turned in the Battle of attrition. It used to be come to Florida and make some birdies. Honda is just a tough golf course. I mean it's just really, really, really tough. And this one is a tough golf course too. We have had some tough weather here.

Next week the rough has been getting longer, and the fairways are getting narrower. And Doral has been windy forever. Doral is probably the easiest one. It used to be the hardest one. Now it's probably the easiest one. It's amazing. There aren't any easy golf tournaments out here anymore, I don't think.

I will remember this day, I guess, but it will be in the Top-10 this year. It will be in the Top-10 this year. It won't be Saturday at Hilton Head last year, everybody will remember that for 20 years.

Q. Considering the conditions today, and the way you said you've been playing in the past, where does this round rank?

GEOFF OGILVY: It's a good round. It is a good round. I don't know. If I win the tournament it will rank pretty high. You tend to rank them high when you attach some short sort of positive emotion to it. I will let you know tomorrow.

Q. Geoff, you mentioned about a minute ago, the Florida swing, and the reputation of coming here and making birdies. And it's harder to do when they take 72's and turn them into 70's, which is essentially what they've done at Honda and Bay Hill; any thoughts on that?

Is it necessary? Does it look good when it's 6-under instead of 14-under?

GEOFF OGILVY: I don't know. Everyone has a different opinion on that. Some people walk away thinking, geez, that course must be great because the pros can't make any birdies on it. Other people walk away saying, well, that course must be boring to play because the pros can't make any birdies on it. Everyone seems to be pretty split on the idea whether hard is good. I don't know.

The club members love to see us have high scores, the members of these clubs, on their own course.

But then maybe they watch another tournament, and want people to make birdies on someone else's course. There is a bit of emotion attached to the scores that pros shoot around their golf courses. There is a time and place for everything.

There would be birdies all over the place for good shots if it was a normal Tampa week. Just a 10 mile an hour wind and 82 degrees. No one would run away and shoot 20-under par. There would be some good birdies and bogeys and all sorts of stuff.

This one was a bit unlucky. It's set up perfectly. Just a couple freak cold fronts.

Q. Do you like this track?

GEOFF OGILVY: Yes, it's a good course.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Any other questions for Geoff?

Q. Child details, I haven't caught up to you.

GEOFF OGILVY: Jasper Michael. He was medium side and he is already big. He wasn't sleeping too well. He is working it out slowly. It's good. Double the fun. He is 16, 17 months.

Q. When was your first child born?

GEOFF OGILVY: October, 2006.

Q. U.S. Open?

GEOFF OGILVY: Yes. She was there at the U.S. Open. She was just in utero. She is 16 months old now. He is 9 weeks on Monday.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Anything else? Thank you, Geoff. Good luck tomorrow.

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