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Second-round tournament quotes

AN INTERVIEW WITH KAREN STUPPLES

MIKE SCANLAN: Karen, welcome to the media center. A great round today. You shot a 67, 5-under. It's been a while since you got that low but you've only played a few tournaments this year, so just talk about your round today and how it feels.

KAREN STUPPLES: You know, it just feels really good to get back playing and to put some birdies on the board and to know that I might be capable of shooting a lot of birdies again. Part of that has been, like the last month, since Danville, I try to improve on some short game things and my wedge play has improved, and I think that's what's made the difference today.

Q. I guess talk about your round today. And, obviously, you got yourself back into the tournament. There is still more play to go but you got to feel good about your position heading into the weekend now?

KAREN STUPPLES: Absolutely. This is the kind of course that you can make up a lot of ground on too, because there are plenty of birdies out there. You can really use the contours of the green to your advantage as well. I feel like I'm hitting the ball well enough to make birdies. I just have to keep the bogeys off the card.

Q. What were some of your good shots today? I know you will go through your card. What really got you going today?

KAREN STUPPLES: Well, I holed a 20 foot putt on the first hole for birdie. That always feels good to get off to a good start. I hit a really good quality drive down the fourth, par-5, and I only had 170 yards to the flag, so I hit a little 5-iron there and made a nice 2-putt for a birdie. So again just two quality shots that made some confidence.

Then I chipped in on 8 for a birdie which was fantastic on the par-3. I was on the front right and I missed the green front right so I completed shortsided myself. I played a bump-and-run shot Scottish style into the bank and up and into the hole. I was really happy about that with a 7-iron.

13, par-5, again I hit a good drive. And I had a rescue 4 right into the green, it landed just short of the flag and just popped over the bank, but I chipped and putted for birdie.

Then I chipped in again on 15 which is kind of nice. 2 chip-ins in one round.

Q. Describe that one.

KAREN STUPPLES: Again, I had missed the green to the right, short right. It was another bump into the bank with a 50-degree wedge and it hopped up and rolled into the hole. The chips feel quite firm, so it's very difficult to get the ball up in the air and getting it to stop, so I took advantage of my experience with the bump-and-run.

I birdied the par-5 after that, 16. I hit a drive and a 3 rescue onto the green and 2-putted. I had about, I would say, about a 20 foot eagle putt there.

Then I had a good save on 18 for par. I had pulled my drive left and was blocked out by the trees. So I pitched back onto the fairway and hit a hundred yard wedge shot to about 8 foot and made that for par.

Q. The 2 chip-ins, you mentioned your wedge game, the 2 chip-ins, is that a product of your extra work on your short game?

KAREN STUPPLES: I think so. It's the one area that I have had in my bag that I really struggled with, getting my feel back. More so with my distance wedges than with anything. But my chipping just recently has kind of been a bit bad. I really needed to have to work on that. I worked my psychologies to my coach this last week few weeks really working on that.

Yesterday I really struggled with that again, but today for some reason, I think a little bit of work after I played, I gained a bit of confidence and that really helped. Plus playing the kind of short that you're comfortable playing too, that they really lended themselves to what I felt comfortable.

Q. That shot you played a lot?

KAREN STUPPLES: Yes, you can't get up in the air.

Q. How is Logan enjoying his weekend in Mobile?

KAREN STUPPLES: He is doing great, he has just got his first tooth, so Mobile has been very good to him. He is making landmarks all over the place. His first tooth arrived yesterday, but he has been good, he hasn't been to fussy with it. We were able to get a good night's sleep again last night.

MIKE SCANLAN: Karen, thanks for coming.

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