

Chick-fil-A Charity Championship hosted by Nancy Lopez
Eagle's Landing Country Club
Stockbridge, Ga.
May 12, 2005
First-round interviews

AN INTERVIEW WITH KARRIE WEBB

Karrie Webb, 33-34=67 (-5)

Scorecard: Hole 2, 495-yard par 5: birdie – 19-degree rescue club short, chip to one foot

Hole 3, 393-yard par 4: birdie – 9-iron to 12 feet

Hole 4, 162-yard par 3: birdie – 8-iron to 10 feet

Hole 5, 355-yard par 4: bogey – 6-iron left, chip to 20 feet, two-putt

Hole 8, 163-yard par 3: birdie – 8-iron to one foot

Hole 10, 383-yard par 4: birdie – 9-iron to 15 feet

Hole 11, 182-yard par 3: bogey – 4-iron, chip to 15 feet, two-putt

Hole 14, 349-yard par 4: birdie – sand wedge to 12 feet

Hole 18, 466-yard par 5: birdie – 22-degree rescue club, got up and down with 15-foot putt

Q. Is this the shortest you have ever seen the golf course?

KARRIE WEBB: In places it is. Some of the fairways are a bit wet. For the most part, it's as dry as we've seen it for the last four or five years. So far any way. The greens are really firm this year, which, again, we haven't seen the greens firm here. So, I think, that's the only thing that keeps the scores reasonably, or not ridiculously low so far. You have to think about it a little bit where you want to land the ball. None of these greens you want to have putts from above the hole, if you can help it. So it makes that a little bit more tricky.

We will just see the weather we get for the rest of the week and see how the course plays from there.

Q. The tournament is two weeks later this year. Do you think that is a reason why the course playing faster this year?

KARRIE WEBB: Yes, well, I just hope for this tournament sake that it's better weather. It already feels three weeks later as far as how warm it is outside. As long as the sun is out, I don't think anybody will complain.

Q. Do you come in thinking that you have to keep up with Annika at the beginning of the week?

KARRIE WEBB: Yes, I think especially on tournaments like this, I think whoever is up there, you got -- this is a course where you know you got to shoot 4 or 5-under every day. Obviously, with Annika up there, she is probably going to play reasonably well the next three rounds. She is pretty much always in the mix.

Q. Is your goal to get back to number one? To get back to that level?

KARRIE WEBB: To go back to the level of playing the way I was, you know, this is a goal of mine. If that leads to being No. 1 in the world again, that's great. But it's not what, you know, I have a bull's eye on as a goal. I think just working hard and producing good golf will lead to that. I can't control what anyone else does. There is a lot of players that are playing the best golf of their careers right now. And if Annika wasn't around, they would get a lot more credit than they get, which I'm not taking away anything from Annika, because she deserves more credit than she gets.

But there is a lot of players out there that are playing really good golf right now and are still in the background a little bit.

So, again, to answer your question, you know, I can't control what she does or what anybody else does. So as long as I feel I'm playing good golf, I will be happy with that.

Q. Are you in striking distance of getting there?

KARRIE WEBB: Yes, I feel pretty close. As far as my swing goes, I think it just gets better every week, and I feel a lot more comfortable with it every week. It's just a matter now of putting three or four good rounds together all in one week and, you know, I just got to be very patient. It's been hard to be patient because I know that I am close. I've got to be patient and not try too hard to make it happen.

Q. When you were number one, what was your mindset? Was it just as clear as can be and if so, what happened then? Did Annika just take over?

KARRIE WEBB: I don't know. It's a tough question to answer because I think if I could remember, or if I ever had a sense that I should think about why I play so well right now, that would be something that I could grasp onto now to help me to get back there. But I don't really. I know that golf was much easier back then. Even if I thought I had worries, I didn't have any worries compared to some of the things that I think of mentally now. I think it's just more of a -- I hate to say this -- a veteran thing. But just that you have been out here long enough, and you have seen enough things happen, sometimes you have to find that out when you are young. I love watching the young players play, they just go and smash it. They don't worry about where the ball is going to end up, they just get up there and smash it.

Q. So less complex minds play better golf?

KARRIE WEBB: For the most part I think so. To me, I think it's just a matter of seeing good stuff happen. I'll get back into that zone where all I think about it, and all I can see is, I'm going to hit the shot close, and I am going to make the putt, and I will go from there.

Q. Do you have to have fun to be playing well and scoring well?

KARRIE WEBB: Sense of fun. Fun is a hard word I think to describe tournament golf. I think you want to enjoy yourself. I am enjoying the process. But I don't play golf for fun. To me, when people play golf, they go out and have a few beers and can shoot 80. As long as they got that slight buzz from having a couple of beers.

I'm a very competitive person so golf gives me that. And I enjoy the rewards of the hard work that I have. And I think I've got to appreciate it more than what I did when I played well a few years ago and I guess that's where I'm at.

Q. Do you work with a sport psychologist?

KARRIE WEBB: No.

Q. Have you ever considered it?

Yes and no. I think I know what they are going to tell me. So I have got to just -- you can be told so much. You still got to be able to do it on the golf course.

Q. How was the course today?

KARRIE WEBB: Well, it wasn't as dry as it was yesterday. A few of the fairways were a little more damp. But we had heavy dew this morning. So I think it will probably play a little firmer this afternoon. It played pretty well. The greens are pretty firm. And I only see them getting firmer this afternoon. So, I think, that's the only thing that is holding people back from going really well.

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