

Chrysler Championship
The Westin Innisbrook Golf Resort
Copperhead Course
Tampa Bay, Fl

October 29, 2006

Final-round tournament quotes

AN INTERVIEW WITH K.J. CHOI

JOAN vT ALEXANDER: Thank you, K.J., for joining us. Congratulations, 2006 Chrysler Championship champion.

You just went out there strong, made a little eagle on the first hole, did you feel more comfortable then?

K.J. CHOI: I'm very happy today. The second time with the Chrysler Championship. The second time. Last night good sleep. Today started good, started with eagle. I said yesterday finished 18 hole and starting new day is very happy, start birdie and eagle. Today, birdie finish. I'm very impressed today. I'm so happy No. 4 on the PGA TOUR victory at Innisbrook again. Thank you Chrysler sponsor, and thank you for God.

JOAN vT ALEXANDER: Questions, please.

Q. How was this new driver working out for you? You have a new driver

K.J. CHOI: Starting last week on Tuesday, Nike, at the test center, Mizuno come. I hit it very solid, very noisy. Everybody K.J. hitting SUMO, a very good concept. This week some more SQ drivers, very strong and down the middle and over 300 and very straight, and more pressure when you hit it, down the middle. I was so happy that I drive.

Q. The 3-wood on No. 1 I wonder if you could talk about that shot and how that felt to walk off the first green with all of a sudden a 3-shot lead?

K.J. CHOI: I'm driving it, hitting it right to right, wind direction. This week I'm very strong right to right. My driver is really far. I know the first hole the driver aim to the right side of the bush and hit it 100% and down the middle. And good lie uphill a little bit. And I think 245 yards pin. And I said 5-wood. It's a little bit heavy shot to left and travel no good. 3-wood, high shot, okay. It can be over. I'm perfect shot pin-high landing 25 feet and 1-putt.

This week my putt, right putt very slow this week. It depends, sometimes good, sometimes bad.

The starting hole, left-to-right, maybe 34 degree on the right side and maybe aim it and hit it down the middle. Very happy start.

Q. No one really got within two strokes on the last 9, how aware were you that you were in control on the stretch?

K.J. CHOI: I'm starting No. 10 tee box down, a little down wind. Yesterday I hit the driver too far, very close to pin, control sand wedge. Pitching bad control. 3-wood left side first cut. And then over the green in the fly out.

And today swing very comfortable, confidence in swing and good tempo. We are talking about the driver today, a little below tee. More high tee more left. More fast left. A little low tee and hit the fairway through, and the ball is down the middle. Exactly in the middle. The pin is 130 yard, pitching wedge, two feet and make it, birdie.

The slow front 9, my swing, starting No. 10, birdie and it very, very good.

Q. What is it about this course that seems to bring out the best in you? A lot of the guys talk about this is one of the Top-5 golf courses that you play on TOUR. You come down here, you've won twice and you have won by big margins, what is it about the course you like so much?

K.J. CHOI: I think leave 2000 Jacksonville, and I move to Houston. Much my practice area very firm green, very brown, exactly same as the putting green now. Fish Creek, over there in Houston, I putt windy, trees tall and narrow. More chipping and practice over there. And come to 2002, very similar ground, grain and greens, harder green, narrow fairway. Very important putting and driver on this course.

So lots of people, just miss in the fairway. Bad control in the rough, very long. This week my driver is very strong.

2002 again, strong down the middle and it can be not much, miss in the fairway. And then putting very similar in Houston.

I don't know, I feel this course, really every hole I want to be patient, patient on this course. A lot of patience this week. And then a couple tournaments is very -- mind, no patience, score high. This course not score high but par game is very important. The par, next par, birdie, par, you know?

I hit the driver close in this course, is very comfortable, yes.

Q. What were you planning to do next week?

K.J. CHOI: Next week very narrow fairway --

Q. Before you got here this week, what were your plans for next week because you weren't in the field?

K.J. CHOI: My schedule, my son's school two days meeting, Monday and Tuesday.

Q. Parent/teacher meetings?

K.J. CHOI: Yes. Next week, tomorrow and Tuesday, meeting after that and go to Atlanta. And hopefully Saturday leaving for China. And now schedule change Sunday night and go to China.

INTERPRETER: He is going to go over to China on the weekend.

Q. He would have gone over to China on the weekend?

INTERPRETER: On Saturday, yes?

Q. Now he has to stick around and go to Atlanta?

K.J. CHOI: That's okay.

Q. Can you talk about how tough it might have been for you when you first came here to the U.S., whether you were lonely or homesick or just trying to learn your way, and

obviously you're trying to learn golf as well, and obviously you've come a long way since then, can you remember back to then and how tough it was?

K.J. CHOI: I think find a golf course of interest, yes.

INTERPRETER: Finding golf courses was really tough for him.

K.J. CHOI: You know, the golf course isn't -- so very difficult. You know outside of 19, there was no interest in the golf course. As I am coming 2000, I'm leaving Jacksonville and my best friend live here in 2000 and one time play here.. another city, another golf course, very, very tough. And then hotel. Many Holiday Inn. Hilton hotel, Hilton Garden Inn. Which one? 2000 unbelievable.

Someone, a volunteer said, you go outside left turn, you go, it's your hotel. That's it. Okay. And I give key and credit card at airport and came out airport, which way? No idea. Every time in my scoring bad, miss cut, Friday night and leave another course and work some at home. But only come to airport at night, 11 o'clock, 11:30, I go to hotel. I can't find it sometimes. Every time told different direction. So 2000, very tough for me.

Q. Where did you usually stay, Hilton or Holiday Inn?

K.J. CHOI: Holiday Inn.

JOAN vT ALEXANDER: You want to go through his card. Eagle on one.

K.J. CHOI: 20 feet first one.

No. 4, 12 feet.

No. 7, 5 feet.

Q. What did you hit on four, what iron?

K.J. CHOI: 6-iron, 189 yard.

JOAN vT ALEXANDER: No. 10.

K.J. CHOI: No. 10, two feet.

No. 18, 12 feet.

JOAN vT ALEXANDER: What did you hit to the green on 18?

K.J. CHOI: 18, 140 yards, uphill windy, a very comfortable 7-iron.

JOAN vT ALEXANDER: Bogey on 3.

K.J. CHOI: Bogey on 3, yes, 187 yards 5-iron. A little bit softer and jump on the edge and fringe and the grain, again a little bit slow, a little more harder -- ten feet over and downgrain, down slice. I can't control the bogey.

JOAN vT ALEXANDER: 5.

K.J. CHOI: 5, left side over bunker and then 6-iron and somebody hit the ball in the hip and then kick right side on the driving range side.

Q. You hit somebody?

K.J. CHOI: Yes. No hit, very good. And then kick on the right side. And then 2, stick in tree, touch is move ball. I hit it 205 yards. 5-iron hit it. It pulled left and chip shot and a bogey.

JOAN vT ALEXANDER: Everybody all set?

Q. What's more exciting to you, Eastlake next week or Kapalua in January.

K.J. CHOI: Both of them. My record 11-under there? It's a very good score, yes.

Q. Did you use the SUMO driver last week?

K.J. CHOI: Yes, last week on the first hole.

Q. What do you think it sounds like?

K.J. CHOI: No ear phone, music, relaxing.

Q. Ernie said, I told you this morning he said it sounds like a tuna can with a shaft on the end of it.

K.J. CHOI: Yes. It doesn't matter, you know. The golf course is working good. I want everything. I'm so happy. It's little noisy the first time. It bother me. Everybody complain. It's 50 yard down side, I hit it and over there 50 yard to other side. K.J. stop it. You go over there. Okay. Now it's very small complaint. And next week, more or less, next year quiet. Hopefully.

JOAN vT ALEXANDER: Thank you, K.J.
