

**Zurich Classic of New Orleans**  
**TPC Of Louisiana**  
**Avondale, La**  
**April 27 2005**

**Pre-Tournament round quotes**

**AN INTERVIEW WITH JOE OGILVIE**

THE MODERATOR: I would like to welcome Joe Ogilvie into the media center. You just finished a Pro-Am round, you were in pretty good company with an NFL quarterback and a U.S. Senator.

JOE OGILVIE: Well, I actually lost. But the consolation prize is, he owns Coors Brewery which is good.

THE MODERATOR: You come back to New Orleans to a different course than you played last year?

JOE OGILVIE: Right.

THE MODERATOR: You came close, and Vijay got you and Phil at?

JOE OGILVIE: Yes.

THE MODERATOR: And came close again at Honda.

JOE OGILVIE: Right.

THE MODERATOR: Where you were with Vijay again, he got it that time. Talk about your memories from last year.

JOE OGILVIE: Well, yes, this is kind of where I started off my best season on TOUR. This year I've already eclipsed it. This is kind of the springboard to my whole year and to this year.

So playing with Phil the last round, and playing it well, just not well enough to beat Vijay, I think on the backside. You know it gave me a lot of confidence, not only going forward for the rest of last year but also gave me a lot of confidence going into this year.

So, I think, you know, I looked at New Orleans as certainly the start of almost, almost the start of my career as a good golfer. Or recognized as a pretty good golfer before. Before, I think, I was just a -- I don't know, a smart guy who played golf. Now, I'm more of a better golfer.

Certainly New Orleans, I love it here. I like the new golf course. I think it's very difficult. It's going to be a lot different than English Turn. English Turn you thought 69, 68 was par.

Out here, if you shoot 69, 68 you will be lapping the field I think. Now they may do a couple of different things with the tees. But it's a tough, tough golf course.

I'm going to have to get a new 3-iron and 4-iron after we complete play because I think I'm going to wear out the faces.

I'm really interested to see what we do to the golf course tomorrow. It's very challenging.

Q. Joe, I understand that after the 72-hole last year, that when you went to the scorer's tent, Phil offered some advice?

JOE OGILVIE: Right. Yes, he questioned what I did on 15 which was lay up. A, I hit a 3-wood off the tee and laid up, which was fair enough. It was something that was going through my mind as I was doing it.

At the time that I had a 3-shot lead -- a 4-shot lead -- a 3-shot lead. I had a 3 shot lead. It was a par-5, water was on the right. My miss is right. And I hadn't been fading it very well at all. It was a natural 3-wood for me. I probably could have gotten there still, but it was still one of those things where I didn't want to lose the golf tournament on that hole. Me, not having been there before, that was mentality, Phil said, you got to kind of take charge when you have a 3-shot lead, people are probably going to birdie that hole. Now you got a 2-shot lead.

My argument with Phil was I'll still take a 2-shot lead and nine times out of 10, if I finish par, par, par, at worst I'm in a playoff. And chances are I'm not going to lose very often. Probably 8 out of 10 times I'm still going to win. One out of 10, I'm going to be in a playoff, and the other one happened.

But it was nice. Phil and I get along really well. He is a good buddy of mine. It was nice that he felt comfortable enough to give me some advice.

Q. Joe, you said last year's New Orleans tournament was a turning point for you, what did you take from that?

JOE OGILVIE: Well, playing with Phil and Charles the last day, those guys are very, very highly regarded players. Phil, obviously, his play was second or third best in the world the last two years. And next to Tiger, he is the most popular player on TOUR. Just to play well, and hang with him shot for shot, and even though he shot 66, I shot 68, just being in that environment for the first time, I feel comfortable around him. I think the more when you are a guy like me who hasn't been there, or hadn't been there before. The more you play well with the better players, and the name players, the more you feel comfortable going forward, and I think that's the biggest thing that I took out of last year.

Now, coming to this golf course -- before I'd say I wouldn't really have a good chance on this golf course because it's extremely long. But now I feel like I know where to miss it. I know how to play it a little bit better. I have matured as a player a little bit.

It's just, you know, with the new sponsorship that Zurich has, they're doing a great job for us. We can already see kind of a level notched up a little bit. I think the golf course, although I loved English Turn, the golf course going forward, I think it is going to be better regarded from the player's perspective. You are not going to have to lengthen this golf course. You're not going to have to change it a lot, if at all. I think you are going to see a lot of players put New Orleans on the schedule just because of everything going forward. All of the positive things. Between Zurich, this new golf course, New Orleans from the hospitality standpoint, Louisiana in general from a hospitality standpoint.

The Nationwide's best tournament is in Lafayette. It's incredible. When you come here, no other tournament -- you have food everywhere. It's just great. I have a lot of good vibes from this place, and I think a couple of more players will have good vibes as well. It's a good golf course.

Q. What makes this course harder so much harder?

JOE OGILVIE: Well, it's longer for one. The par-3s at English Turn, I think I hit an 8-iron -- let's see, I hit a -- I can't think. I hit a 6-iron, 8-iron, 6-iron, 8-iron, 4-iron or 5-iron and an 8-iron. Here I'm hitting, 3-iron, 3-iron, 4-iron, 5-wood. Possibly 5-wood, 5-wood, 3-iron, 3-iron. So that in general is probably a half a shot per day harder, maybe a shot a day harder.

And then you got the par-5s at English Turn. You had one that was easily reachable. No. 2 was easily reachable. You hit a lot of wedges at English Turn. Here you got maybe two or three wedges. English Turn you had maybe eight wedges. Those are scoring clubs for us. I've got a 3 or 4-iron in my bag maybe eight times. So it's a difficult golf course. But it's very playable. I mean, you've got some bale out shots. You've got some places where you can hit it and get it up and down from. But not very many people outside of Kelly Gibson know the golf course very well and Steve Elkington. It's going to take some time.

I think potentially you will see better scores Saturday and Sunday than you will on Thursday and Friday because I think it will take a couple of more days for guys to figure out where they are going to miss the golf ball. When we've got 3 and 4-irons in your hand, you're going to miss it bottom line. If you've got six of them a day, you are only going to hit the green maybe three times, maybe two. So it's going to be a lot of, to a certain extent, a war of attrition, the first couple of days.

We'll see, of course, these guys are so good they might shoot 25-under. But I won't be.

Q. You talked earlier about your interest to see how different players play this course, any holes in particular that you think will make or break?

JOE OGILVIE: Well, I think there is just a lot. We will start with 4, 5, 6, 7. 4, 5 and 6 are pretty darn tough right in a row. Well, actually, 3, 4, 5, 6. The par-3s, if you can play the par-3s -- if anyone plays the par-3s even par this week, they are going to be in the top, you know, 10 at worse, I think. The par-3s are really difficult. Especially 3 and 9. Those are very, very difficult holes. If you get any wind whatsoever, then they become monster holes. Although you do have some bale out, they are still difficult. You are going to see a lot of bogeys on those holes. Possibly you will see two or three of these holes being among the hardest on the PGA TOUR at the end of the year, especially if you get any wind whatsoever.

Q. Elks says the hardest shot will be the tee ball on 17?

JOE OGILVIE: Which is the par-3.

Q. Yes.

JOE OGILVIE: 2, 9, 17 and the other one is -- was it 12? 10, 11. Is 12 the other par-3? I don't know. I forget.

Yes, I can definitely see that. It's a tough hole. But the par-3s in general are tough. I like this course because you can move it right-to-left and you can move it left-to-right. It's certainly one where you are going to be able to move your golf ball, which is very nice. We don't see that very often anymore.

The fairways are rolling pretty fast. Hopefully they will get faster as the week rolls on. The greens are perfect. I think the course is going to be pretty good.

Q. What was it that you always heard players didn't like English Turn, maybe you did, but what were some of the things that you think made guys not like it?

JOE OGILVIE: That's a good question. I mean certainly guys are going to like certain golf courses and other guys are not going to like certain golf courses.

I finished second last year, I liked English Turn. If you can keep the ball in the fairway, and you were good with your wedges, it was a good golf course to play. Maybe that was it. A lot of guys don't like courses that you have to shoot 22-under par on. And that could have been some of the reason.

It didn't drain very well. Or did it? I don't know. I liked it. I will have to search for things that I didn't like about it. Some guys don't like Jack Nicklaus's courses. And if they see Jack Nicklaus on the course, they say, I don't like the golf course regardless of whether they played it or not. A lot of guys will not like this golf course because it says TPC on it. Because as soon as they see TPC, they say it's bad golf course. But they don't give it a fair shake. We are a microcosm of basically everybody else. Sometimes we don't give a thing a chance before, you know, we actually see it.

I don't know. I liked English Turn. I think it was pretty good. Perhaps with the modern ball, with the golf of balls and drivers now, it probably was just a little bit outdated even though it's only 15 years old.

Q. What did you shoot today?

JOE OGILVIE: I shot 1-over. But I hit the ball like 12-over.

Q. What score do you see holding up here?

JOE OGILVIE: My caddy and I were talking about it. I don't see too much better -- I don't see a whole lot better than 10-under. So I think somewhere 8 to 13-under. It seems like Honda was 13-under, Houston was 13-under. I think this is tougher than both of those. You know, you can reach the par-5s, but the whole field can't reach two of the par-5s, depending on what they do with the tees.

If they play where we play today, I don't see much better than 8-under winning. But, you know, some of these guys will probably shoot 8-under on the first day. It's going to take a really, really good effort. We didn't have any wind today. If you add wind on this golf course, it is going to be pretty good to shoot even par.

Q. The par-3s will tell the difference you think, Joe?

JOE OGILVIE: Yes, I think so. If I can play the par-3s 2-over for the tournament, I think I've done probably better than 90 percent of the guys. Now with that being said, we played it from all the way back today. I don't know if they will play it all the way back on every par-3 on every day. Because playing the tees back on 9, and playing the pin back on 9, it's 258, 259, which is pretty darn long, which is almost a reachable par-4.

THE MODERATOR: Anymore questions? Joe, thanks for coming in.

- - -

