

---

**HP CLASSIC OF NEW ORLEANS**  
**English Turn Golf and Country Club**  
**New Orleans, Louisiana**  
**May 2, 2004**

**Third-round leader quotes**

**AN INTERVIEW WITH JUSTIN ROSE**

TODD BUDNICK: Thank you, Justin Rose, 7-under 65, for stopping by. Justin now 14-under for the tournament. It looks like eight birdies and a bogey today, a pretty nice day.

JUSTIN ROSE: Yes, definitely, any time you have eight birdies you are never going to go too far wrong so that was the key.

TODD BUDNICK: It's been a long week obviously, finished go up the third round today, you were able to play the ball up today, did that play a part in the scoring today.

JUSTIN ROSE: You mean fairly light? Yes, I think so. I mean, let's use 18, for example, I mean sometimes, especially around the green you can you improve your angle slightly by having a club length to work with so, obviously, on the fairway, when you got six inches or a club length you can find yourself a decent lie. Occasionally it can make a difference around the greens. You can work yourself to a slightly better angle.

Q. Justin going to the third round it liked like you might be out of it, what was your mindset?

A. Yes, I mean, I wasn't really thinking about necessarily winning the golf tournament going into my third round. I was thinking about doing the right things, playing well, giving myself chances for birdie and ultimately putting well.

But, obviously, yes to shoot 65, you now do begin think well you have you a chance to win the tournament.

Those are not necessarily the right thoughts either. The right thoughts are just to continue doing what you are doing and, you know, stay patient really.

Q. You can't help having some of those thoughts now?

JUSTIN ROSE: No. The name is on the board, the leaders are in sight so, of course, you are going to have those thoughts and feelings which are fantastic.

Q. How about the wind, it seemed like some of players are starting to have problems with it?

JUSTIN ROSE: Yes, it was much tougher today than we seen it really. I think a lot of crosswind. It was a slightly different angle than I think what we have been playing in. Luckily the greens are still soft which makes it definitely playable. But the wind was pretty tricky out there.

Q. But you didn't seem to have any trouble?

JUSTIN ROSE: Luckily not, no. Funny enough, I didn't actually drive the ball that well today. I didn't hit that many fairways but when I missed the fairway I seem to be in a position in either the fairway bunker where I had a decent, or still in a position where I could make birdies.

So I think that's what I need to improve tomorrow is to hit more fairways.

Q. Are you playing as well as you ever have at your age?

JUSTIN ROSE: Not really, I don't think necessarily. I mean I played better this year than I have done this week by far. That's the crazy thing about golf. I hit the ball much better pretty much most of the year but this week I think the difference has been I holed a couple of chips and I putted much better. I just done the scoring bit better. I put the ball in the hole much better this week.

Q. What's your schedule after this?

A. I'm on the flight home as soon as possible after the tournament. I have been here 13 weeks and I go back to London tomorrow.

Q. Did you have to rebook?

JUSTIN ROSE: Yes, we were booked for Sunday so we had to, you know, drag it out to Monday, but hey, play well tomorrow and you won't be worried about that.

Q. Talk about your 13 weeks.

JUSTIN ROSE: All in all it's been fantastic. I really don't feel home sick whatsoever, which is a sign that I have had fun and really enjoyed my time out here. It was always going to be a tough spell for me, obviously, to spend so much time away from home. But my girlfriend has been out with me the last eight weeks. That's made a big difference. Although, because the end is near now, I'm really excited to go home, but at the same time I could easily stay. It's been a comfortable trip.

Q. Would you comeback to the U.S. Open?

JUSTIN ROSE: For the Memorial and the U.S. Open.

Q. Would you consider playing over here full time?

JUSTIN ROSE: Well, I mean I have taken my card this year so in a sense you can class that as full-time. But at the same time I still have my card in Europe and still plan to play my tournaments over there, too.

So for the foreseeable future I would like to balance it as much as possible.

Q. Other than home sickness, what's the toughest thing being over here?

JUSTIN ROSE: There is really not too much that is difficult over here. There is no jet lag. The traveling is so much easier. The hotels are pretty similar every week. The golf tournaments are first class, so there is nothing tough about those, other than the standard.

So really I mean it's just the fact of maybe just the slight loneliness, not seeing family, friends, things like that, as much as you'd like, that's the obvious downside.

TODD BUDNICK: Just go through you card, Justin.

No. 2.

JUSTIN ROSE: I hit it in the left-hand bunker, good lie, 7-iron onto the green, 20 feet, 2 putts.

And then 4, hit it in the right rough. My view was obscured by a palm tree, so I was trying to bend it around, got a bit of a flier, went over the back in the water, but I managed to make bogey there.

Driver wedge to the next to about eight feet.

Next hole, driver, 3-iron and then hit a lob wedge to three feet.

TODD BUDNICK: 11.

JUSTIN ROSE: Driver, 3-wood, I was 20 yards short of the green and up-and-downed it about a 2-foot putt there.

13, was a 2-iron, sand wedge to six feet.

15, driver, 6-iron to the edge of the green, 2 putts.

16, I hit in the right-hand bunker again, I hit it onto the green probably to about 40 feet and holed a long one there. That was a bonus.

18, 3-wood in the right-hand rough where I had a decent lie. Hit an 8-iron onto the edge of the green and chipped in. So not too many putts which was good.

TODD BUDNICK: How far was the chip?

JUSTIN ROSE: It was only about 15 feet from the hole.

Q. Do you think you could make it when you saw it, when you got up close to it?

A. Yes, it was a makeable one for sure. Slightly right to left, yes.

Q. When you chipped it in the British Open, I think a guy on TV said that you were 17, I think, right, but you didn't know what was going on. Did you know what was going on or are you just in la-la land?

JUSTIN ROSE: Back then?

Q. Back then, yes?

JUSTIN ROSE: Yes, I think I was probably in la-la land, if I am to be honest with you. I have said before just sort of, you know, blissfully unaware of the level I was playing at really.

So, you know, it's kind of a good mindset if you can create that every week.

Q. When did you become aware?

JUSTIN ROSE: The next day, probably.

Q. No, I mean overall, when did it started to become serious for you rather than just a lark?

JUSTIN ROSE: Well, I mean it's never a lark, you do kind of -- I guess sometimes, I mean, the more serious it gets, the more fun it becomes too. If you can think of it that way. The more competitive it gets, the more fun it gets for me. I very rarely play social golf now because I just don't enjoy social golf. I enjoy the heat of battle which is obviously what 90 percent of the guys -- probably more, 99 percent of the guys out here feels. So that's what makes us, you know, determined competitors.

Q. Considering where you were at the Masters, how much did you learn from that?

JUSTIN ROSE: I learned a lot for sure. I learned that, my game is in good shape, and I learned that my game is, you know, potentially good enough to win those tournaments. One day, whenever it may be. Maybe sooner than I thought. But, yes, all in all it was a learning curve. I don't feel overly down about it. I mean I did have a chance to win, but at the same time I was still a long way away from winning it. Two more rounds to go, you hardly have it in the bag. I just felt like actually I took a lot of positives out of the week rather than negatives.

Q. Do you think you have to move over here permanently for your game to take off?

JUSTIN ROSE: No.

Q. Not really?

JUSTIN ROSE: No, I feel like I'm spending a lot of time here as it is. Obviously my Coach, David Leadbetter, is over here and the more time I spend here makes it easier for me to see him, so yes.

The other reason why, not just because I have taken my card, that I want to spend 13 weeks here, but because I want to spend a block of time with David to, as you say, get my game going.

Hopefully, I will get to a stage or a level where you can be a world player as is Ernie. I quite like the look of his schedule.

Q. How many in Europe, how many here?

JUSTIN ROSE: It's pretty much 50/50 this year. This year is a learning curve for me again, I will see how the travel takes its toll and things like that, and maybe adjust next year. We'll just see.

TODD BUDNICK: Thank you, Justin.

- - -