

**PODS Championship
Innisbrook Golf Resort
Copperhead Course
Tampa Bay, Fl**

March 9, 2008

Final-round tournament quotes

AN INTERVIEW WITH STEWART CINK

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Stewart, tough day for every one out there and you end up second for the second consecutive event. Just a couple of general thoughts about the course conditions today, and then we'll go to questions.

STEWART CINK: Well, the wind was down, but the course still played fairly tough. The greens have firmed up, and they dried out quite a bit. They were quite a bit faster today. It was a tough golf course really all week after the first round, and I think the scores definitely reflect that.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: We will open it up to questions.

Q. Can you talk about what happened on 14 and how that effected the rest of the round?

STEWART CINK: Well, you know, I don't think it affected the rest of the round. I really had driven the ball very well all day and I hit a bad drive there, a little left, and where it ended up I had little control over. It was unfortunate that that happened at the moment, but it happens.

Actually, I was pretty proud of myself the way I handled that and to go on and just salvage a 6 out of that even was something to grab on to.

Then I hit a beautiful shot on the next hole and missed the putt. That really bothered me a little bit. I gave myself an opportunity and I didn't make it.

The same thing happened on 11 where I gave myself an opportunity.

I hit a beautiful drive there and didn't capitalize. Then I 3-putted 13. I was in between clubs off the tee. I played too conservatively and left myself a long putt. It was always going to be a tough 2-putt.

And then, you know, everybody saw it. I hit a bad drive on 16 that

really was the nail in the coffin. It all just sort of disappeared so quickly. I almost felt like I didn't have any control. I'm a little bit shell shocked and a little bit angry all at the same time.

Q. What was the club that you turned around?

STEWART CINK: I think it ended up being a 6-iron or 8-iron. I don't even know what it was.

Q. Did it shoot straight up?

STEWART CINK: I'm not sure. The ball did -- I don't know how. It wasn't the loft on the over turned club that got it up there. I think I might have topped it and hit a root in front of the ball or something. I hit a root and it popped up. It popped right up into the tree and dropped straight down. It only went forward about 10 yards.

Q. You don't know what club?

STEWART CINK: I think it might have been an 8-iron. I think it was an 8-iron. Just say it was an 8-iron.

Q. You are four shots ahead quickly after two holes, was that difficult at all knowing that you've got so many holes ahead of you, does it increase your expectations, does it make you settle in? Does it change the way you play I guess?

STEWART CINK: It could. I don't really think it changed the way I played. I felt like I wanted to build on the lead that I had today and I felt like getting off to a start like that that I was doing what I wanted to do and I just kept on pressing. But with the course like this, you know, you don't have to be too far off and suddenly you find yourself struggling like crazy. I think what I was guilty of out there today was, I started trying to control it a little bit and I think I just started -- I wouldn't say I was steering it, but I was just trying to be precise to the point where, you know, like I told my caddy on 17, I said that it's amazing how the harder you try -- with a did I say? The harder you try, the less things go your way. And if you can just let it happen, and let it happen, it will happen. So easy to sit here and say that.

Q. Your record when leading after 54 holes is not real good. How much of that can you write off as coincidence and how much do you say it's the pressure of the day?

STEWART CINK: I think it's not coincidence. I just haven't played very good rounds. I tend to be less aggressive on my putting. I don't know. It's like I'm a little bitten tentative. I got a little bitten tentative on my putts a couple of times. I missed a lot of my putts from being a little tentative. You don't have room to be that way when you've got the best players in the world lined up behind you ready to pounce on my mistakes. I got to keep on -- get myself in the situation and just got to get a little more

comfortable.

I'm very comfortable where I am, and playing well, but I just got to get more comfortable grabbing on to the lead on Sundays and just, you know, holding onto it.

Q. Is this the first time you've realized you've been tentative?

STEWART CINK: No, two weeks ago in the finals against Tiger, I was a little bit tentative, and I was a little bit angry with myself. And I had some, you know, a heart to heart, I guess with myself, in a way looking in the mirror, so to speak, after that tournament. And I told myself that I was not going to do that anymore. That I was going to stay on the task.

I did a job of that today for the most part. I wasn't able to convert when I had a chance to convert, to jump through the hoop. The putts, like the 5, 6 footers are the ones that really build your confidence if you make them and really deflate you if you miss them. Unfortunately today I missed more than I made.

Q. A tournament like this that you had control, you had to feel like you were in pretty good shape, how do you guard against this building becoming a source of frustration?

STEWART CINK: It's already a source of frustration. I've already lost that bat legal. I'm frustrated. I'm extremely frustrated after this because I felt like I played well enough to win. I just let myself down a little bit here and there. It's not like I'm going to stop playing or anything. I'm not throwing in the towel. What happened to me, or what I allowed to happen out there, is going to make me a better player I hope in the future. I definitely got some soul searching to do, and I definitely have to learn a few lessons.

Q. I saw Sean bogey 18, is this the type of course that you feel you can be aggressive down the stretch, make things happen, and likewise there are courses that make you get into a defensive mode because of the difficulty?

STEWART CINK: Yes. I understand what you are asking. Yes, this type of course you tend to be a little bit more -- your strategy needs to be a little more conservative. I don't think you can ever been defensive and be successful. But your strategy has to be a little more conservative on certain holes that are just brutal holes. Where the pin was on 13 today, back in that corner from 200 yards, Brandt Snedeker, in my group, hit one of the best iron shots I've ever seen back there, hit it about 8 feet. It wasn't my job to do that job. Because where I was in the tournament, I hit what I thought was the right shot to hit there, hit towards the center of the green and the right club. But because of that green, the way it is shaped, I ended up with an 80-footer. I don't know how many feet it was. It felt like it was 80 feet.

You are not always going to get those down there where you can just brush it in. That's an example of how this type of course forces you -- I got to decide if you want to take a risk and play a

certain type of shot, or if you want to play conservatively. I think today I played certain times a little too conservatively maybe. But at the same time when I had an opportunity I just didn't really convert. That's what really is frustrating.

Q. Where were you when he birdied the 15th, were you still on 14, I'm sure you heard the cheer?

STEWART CINK: Yes, because I think -- I'm not exactly sure. But I think we were down in the lay-up area on 14. I didn't see that. I heard it. I thought it was Billy Mayfair. I didn't know if it was Sean or Billy. My first thought was that Billy Mayfair made a putt.

Q. You mentioned 11, which was a missed opportunity, obviously, then 12, I guess at that point, is any part of you worried?

STEWART CINK: I wouldn't say worried. I was just kicking myself. I hit a 4-iron into 11. For the second straight day I hit a 4-iron in there. Yesterday I made birdie. Today I didn't. I didn't hit horrible shots. I hit it just left of the green, and I chipped it about five or six feet passed. Not horrible shots. But the putt was just not that good. I pulled it and I didn't hit it hard enough. It just wasn't have a very good putt. It was a little tentative.

And then 12, from 30, 40 feet I almost made it, and grazed the edge.

13, we've been through it. I didn't feel like I made any real mistakes to make the bogey on that hole.

But then when the ball was up against the tree on 14 I was starting to wonder, is this my day. It was really the first -- I missed the fairway on 10. It was the second fairway I missed all day. You know, I was not happy to see the ball sitting there by that tree at all with no option to go left handed. I wasn't ever worried. I was a little bit shocked and frustrated because I put myself in that position by not continuing my goal, which was to build on the lead, and gave myself a chance to build. I just didn't build it. I wouldn't say it was worry. It was more frustration. I was angry with myself for not -- I was angry with myself for allowing myself to get in that situation.

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