

Viking Classic  
Annandale Golf Club  
Madison, MS

September 21, 2008

### Final-round leader quotes

#### AN INTERVIEW WITH WILL MacKENZIE

THE MODERATOR: We would like to welcome the champion of the 2008 Viking Classic Will MacKenzie into the interview room. Will, first of all, congratulations on what was a great week for you. And if we can just get some comments on what's going through your head right now.

WILL MacKENZIE: Yeah, I mean, we came here to win and we won. I mean we got lucky, very fortunate. I played such good golf of the most all week. I attribute it to again some good tempo in my golf swing. I didn't feel good; I told my wife "I'm not hitting it that good". You know how you do hoping she will say, "Oh, you will hit it great don't worry". I didn't feel good about my practice last week, and it slowed my rhythm up a little bit, my golf swing, and I started flushing it. Today I knew it was going to be a gut-wrencher for me. I just wasn't feeling perfect. I had such a great two days in a row, and then it ended with that beautiful 8 on 18 yesterday. And I sort of went out of there with sort of sour grapes in my mouth. And I am just trying to put it in the past. Trying to do it last night, but I was a little frustrated and a little angry. And, you know, I just persevered today. And I felt a little funky early and then towards the middle of my round I started really getting good again. I got my rhythm back and started feeling confident. I was like, who cares, I will just finish in whatever place I was going to finishing in. I was six behind at one point.

Q When you left the 14th green he was at -21 and you were at 16?  
WILL MacKENZIE: I was five behind then.

Q Did you see the score board at that time?  
WILL MacKENZIE: Yeah. I saw when he was at -- didn't he go to 22

and I was at 16?

Q Yeah. That was earlier in the round.

WILL MacKENZIE: I remember seeing 21 and 16 and that is when I was sort of chocking it up. You know, play well down the stretch Will, maybe you can get a couple more birdies and then you will have a solid week. Let's turn it in -- I didn't want to sit there and hang my head because I still had a lot of work to do if I came in third, fourth, fifth, or sixth place. I still had a lot of work to do for the rest of the year. So I wanted to be really positive and, you know, know that if I came in here and finished fifth, which it was looking like I was going to do, somewhere around there, I was going to take a positive from this week, and go into that fall finish, you know, a little bit closer to my ultimate goal, which is retaining a PGA tour card.

THE MODERATOR: So talk a little bit about that. \$648,000 that moves you to 97th on the money list. It has huge implications.

WILL MacKENZIE: I had a break here and \$648,000 is unbelievable. The tour exemption you go to Maui, and I love going to Maui. We will go early. And it's the way to start the year off. It's just, you know, a win that is huge out here. It's all about winning. You know, coming into town at 125 on the money list is great, but I want to keep my card. But ultimately I want to win. I am a winner. I won on the mini tours. I won on the second year on tour. And I believe I can win. And, you know, this is just huge for me to get a win.

Q (Inaudible)?

WILL MacKENZIE: My opinion was never sour on 18. I was not going to let that little blunder yesterday get me down. I mean it was -- it got me down, but I still loved the golf hole, and I love the idea of the golf hole and the idea of you being able to make an eagle on that golf hole or hitting the green in two. There is so much, it might be one of the better finishing hole on the whole PGA Tour. It makes for a dramatic finish, and it turned out to be pretty dramatic today, I guess.

Q Will you talked about you frequented 14, and you are standing on the tee at 15, how mad at yourself were you at that point?

WILL MacKENZIE: I was about to pull a Steve Payne with the volcano. I was about ready to erupt. That 3-putt was pure idiocy. What is 14?

Q A long par 4?

WILL MacKENZIE: I had a dicey shot, that pin you really don't have that much room behind you at the right or you go in the hazard. I had like 198, but I mean I was hitting 198 with my feet together. I was really strong out there. Toward that time around I was pretty fired up, and I was trying to chip that one in there, and I was scared. I was trying to be too chippy with it and lose it right, and I sort of pulled it. And that was a tough putt. It was

going to be really tough to get the speed right. And obviously I didn't. And I hit a good second putt, and it didn't go in. And my head almost got hung there, and I was pretty, pretty frustrated. And then on the next hole. I hit a great iron shot. I was just starting to complain, but I made the putt.

Q How far was your putt on 15?

WILL MacKENZIE: How many feet would you say?

Q Does it say there?

WILL MacKENZIE: No, it doesn't say. It was probably 12 or 15 feet at least. It was a dicey little downhill, downgrain, dusty green putt, and I, for some reason, read it right.

Q (Inaudible).

WILL MacKENZIE: What did I say, 12 or 15 feet?

Q The double bogey was what opened the door?

WILL MacKENZIE: Yes, ma'am. You know it was terrible for him. I felt awful. I said earlier Marc and I grew up playing mini tour golf together. There was a time today I really wanted him to win the tournament. You know, I was so far behind, and I didn't have a chance anymore. It was like it would be great for Marc to win this golf tournament. You know, get his first win sort of just like me. This is his first year on tour and we live down in Jupiter, Florida. And you know he is a really, really, really great guy, and he played his heart out today and that is what happens in golf. You just have to think bad things happen like that. It happened to me yesterday and it happened to Marc yesterday.

Q Did he putt very well?

WILL MacKENZIE: Marc? Oh yeah he putted beautifully.

Q Can you discuss the final playoff hole?

WILL MacKENZIE: I forgot what I even had yardage. I think I had the same thing, like 240 hole, maybe 245. It was like I was so pumped up there I could hit that hybrid over the green. I had to really smooth it. And it's tough to smooth a shot when you have water left and water front, you really can't move that pin. I just figured I was going to put the pressure on them because I knew they didn't really have the fire power to get there in two. I knew they could. But if they didn't hit perfect drives, Brian Gay and Marc, they probably weren't going to go for it in two. I didn't had a perfect drive, I was going to go for it, especially with ball in hand. I knew Brian was just going to hit a drive off the tee, and hit a 7-iron and hit a wedge up there about 8 feet and make it. I mean, he is like money with the wedge. He is one of the best wedge players on tour and putters. So I was like, shoot, I don't want to get in a wedge contest with Brian, maybe he will make par one time and I will just keep 2-putting. Or if I hit it over the green or maybe I can get it up-and-down. All of those scenarios are running

through my head. You just couldn't go at the pin. There was no way if I would had tried to hit one and sort of cut a little hybrid in there, I might may have double golfed it into the water. I just had to be smart, hit at the little Viking sign in the middle of that green, and maybe I could pull one in there. That is what I was thinking. Maybe I would mishit and pull one over there close and make equal. But I was being smart and, you know, just letting him know I'm going to hit this green in two, you all are going to have to get it up-and-down for birdie. I was going to 2-putt. There was no chance I was going to make one of those for eagle, I was 50 or 60 feet.

Q That first putt on the 2nd?

WILL MacKENZIE: Both of them were long breaking putt. I hit pretty good speed putts. I wanted them closer obviously. When Marc missed his putt on the second playoff hole, and I went to hit my putt, I was pretty scared. I was trembling a little bit. I was just like, you know what, you have done it before. You have made these putts before. Go through your routine and do it. Just do it. Don't think about it too much. Just go do it.

Q How far away was it, 59 feet on the first one and 63 on the second? How far was the final birdie putt? 3 feet or a couple of feet?

WILL MacKENZIE: Probably 3 feet.

WILL MacKENZIE: 3 feet 9-inches.

Q You can do that in your sleep on the practice green.

WILL MacKENZIE: 3.9 you might want to look at my stats for 3.9 it is 96%. When you are all amped up. I wanted it to be 1 foot 9 inches. I just couldn't get the putt high enough.

Q There is nothing this game doesn't have a lot of justice to it. You talk about Marc, he led almost the whole tournament and made one bad swing. You felt like you earned this thing this week. You played really good?

WILL MacKENZIE: I think I may have played the best golf this week. You know Marc made great saves out there today. And I made some good saves early as well. This game is fair. Simple as that. You know my two-stroke penalty yesterday, you know, it will come back. Marc, something great is going to happen to Marc. You know, he showed it today. He is a champion. He is going to win out here. It's a tough deal.

THE MODERATOR: Anything else? All right. Congratulations Will MacKenzie.

WILL MacKENZIE: Thanks.