

Viking Classic
Annandale Golf Club
Madison, MS

September 20, 2008

Third-round leader quotes

AN INTERVIEW WITH WILL MacKENZIE

THE MODERATOR: All right. Thank you Will for joining us for a few minutes here in the Media Center at the Viking Classic. You had a great run going this afternoon and kind of a disappointing finish. Do you want to talk about that a little bit?

WILL MacKENZIE: The great run or the finish? I have my usual two press people here. Oh, my God, this is funny. I just spaced out, big time. After a long day of lifting and playing and touching the ball I hit a bad shot on 18, I hit a bad second shot, got lucky actually and my ball was sort of like half in the hazard, and half out of the hazard, touching the red line. There was a little clump of old grass, like trimmings. It wasn't even enough; I'm anal about picking up around my ball for some reason. And it wasn't enough to affect my shot. And I swept it out of the way just for -- I just sort of looked at my line and swept it out of the way. And I go -- and I stood up and I didn't think anything of it. And then I thought, did I just touch the inside of the hazard line there?

Oh, golf is a game of you gotta to tell the truth or it will come back and kill you. So I was like, I called the rules officials over and said, I think I touched inside the hazard, what is gonna happen? Two shot penalty. Great. I was already hacking on my home-made bogey, and turned it into a triple. And went from 8-under to 5-under. That is what happened.

THE MODERATOR: So basically you brushed --

WILL MacKENZIE: A little tiny impediment.

THE MODERATOR: It wasn't like bits of grass.

WILL MacKENZIE: It was like bits of grass, like old dead grass. There is a lot of that.

THE MODERATOR: Which is a loose impediment?

WILL MacKENZIE: Yeah.

Q Would you like to talk about how your ball got to that place?

WILL MacKENZIE: I got lucky. I hit a bad -- I started off the tee ball just fine. Thinking I will hit a Bahama out of there, I'd hit a hybrid on the green, make birdie that is what you do out there on 18, no problem. For some reason I made par there yesterday when I had mud on it. But I knew it was lift, clean and play just tried, I did a stop driver swing, and I hit this sort of a lame duck out of the right, and

I was like no big deal 3-shot hole. And I got over there and I had to hit a weird shot under the tree limb, and that awkward little lay-up and I think I laid up on that once ever. If you hit in the fairway you can go for the green. I had an awkward little lay up and, I may have gone through the motions with my caddy not knowing what to do. And had 160 to that little bridge and I tried to hit it so it chip a 6-iron and I hit it too hard. I actually bounced off the rocks, it was going in the hazard, it almost would have been a blessing for me. It would have been one, two in and three out and a good lie because I could have dropped it back on the fairway. I really thought I would have made 8, but it bounced out, and right, right on that red line. and that is when I went looked to my right and brushed it, two shots. And then I was dead. I mean I had a bad, bad lie. And I had to hit it over the green and hit a lame bunker shot, and hit a good play, and it just didn't go in.

Q (Inaudible).

WILL MacKENZIE: Yeah. Like I said, it was lift, clean, and place all day. And that is not something we usually do on this tour. I'm used not touching my ball and all day we were allowed to touch it. And it gets you in the mind-set of touching your ball. I don't know I made a huge mistake. A very costly mistake.

Q Even with the mistake your two shots out of the lead. You hit the ball so well today, how do you feel about tomorrow? You said yesterday you can win again on this tour? How do you feel about tomorrow?

WILL MacKENZIE: I feel good that that is past me, cruddy finish. And I mean, I know I am still hitting it well. I will go out there tomorrow and just try to get in my little comfort zone and hopefully I will be the one that goes low tomorrow.

Q How well did you hit it from the first 17 holes today?

WILL MacKENZIE: I flushed it really nice. I hit it really well. I putted nice though too. You are only as good as you putt.

Q It seemed like you gave yourself a lot of 30-footers.

WILL MacKENZIE: I made it lucky out there. I made a good putt on 1 and then I chipped in on 2 out of a dead zone. I was in a good position and I chipped in out of a bad lie, and then I hit it close a lot, and made some putts. It was a great day. I'm just really bummed.

WILL MacKENZIE:

Q (Inaudible).

WILL MacKENZIE: It probably would, but I'm going to do everything I can tonight to not even let it bother me. It is what it is. It's over with. I can't do anything about it. I will get over it sooner or later. I will be mad for a little while, and I will pick up Maverick and stop thinking about golf. Sometimes playing from behind is good. I definitely wanted to be in the lead. I definitely wanted to be in the lead. I was spacing people out. Every stroke you figure you are going to go low. You have to shoot 20 under to have a chance if conditions are tough tomorrow.

Q (Inaudible).

WILL MacKENZIE: Marc Turnesa? Yeah. I am proud of him. He is a great dude. I lived down in Jupiter with him. I want him to play great.
