

ROUND 3 INTERVIEW
November 3, 2019



COLIN MONTGOMERIE (-14)

Q. I heard you say when you woke up this morning you really weren't thinking --

COLIN MONTGOMERIE: As I said to John, when you wake up five behind, you look at who's ahead of you and if there's a rookie five ahead or there's only one person between you and ahead, there's an opportunity if that person has a poorer day, but not when you think of Jimenez, Langer, Goosen and then all the top American players as well. There's a number of good players ahead. It was a good leaderboard, and actually this course was always going to have a good leaderboard. It's a good golf course, good leaderboard, they tend to go together.

No, I didn't think of winning, to be honest. But after -- to be 4 under after five, as I said to John there, 4 under after five and got myself in a position, okay, well, there's half a chance here. Four under after five, yeah, it was good.

Q. When you chipped in on 11, can you talk about your confidence level at that point in winning this thing?

COLIN MONTGOMERIE: Eleven was key. Ten, when I chipped in at 10 was a very good chip, but kept me going. Eleven, hang on, I'm suddenly leading. You know, from third, fourth, suddenly boom, I'm leading now. So there's a whole different feeling.

And also the chip at the back of 12 was a very big chip as well. I went big with my tee shot. The chip at 12 was very good, as good as the two that went in. And then the putt at 16 was super and the putt here, you know.

You know, you're in playoff and everything, but you saw Bernhard could go right there. There isn't much room here. And I fade the ball, so I'm aiming that, you know, just anywhere left and you're still going to do it, it's still going to be done. This is one of the great fining holes, so super really. And how often does that happen with Bernhard? I felt for him in that bunker there. It was on the upslope there. The down-slope, was awful. But being -- look how deep that is, it's a big hole, but unfortunate for Bernhard.

But hey, this is my first playoff win and I'm thrilled to have it here, yes. And we go to the final now obviously with added confidence, yes, yes.

Q. When you saw his ball end up in the bunker, did you aim just a little more right to make sure you were safe?

COLIN MONTGOMERIE: A little bit left, sorry. Oh, yes, I wasn't going for the pin because I

knew how difficult that up-and-down was. And if he's getting up and down there, I've still got a putt to win, you know. After that so-called mistake, and I don't have to tell him, he knows that, he would have done the same thing, believe me. There's one place you don't go is there, there's plenty of room left. You can get up and down from the left.

Q. How satisfying is it to get back in the winner's circle?

COLIN MONTGOMERIE: It is, yeah. I spent a couple of years not winning really. I won on the Staysure Tour, but it's -- this is a whole -- this is a different ballgame and it's fantastic to win out here. It's very difficult to win out here. I said that last week. I was leading last week after 10 holes and Miguel Jimenez plays a remarkable back nine and that's it. Someone's going to do it. I've said that to the family, and of course now it's me that's done it, so fantastic. And it's given me an opportunity to go forward next week, so we'll see how it goes.

Q. How about that reaction on 18 when that putt went in?

COLIN MONTGOMERIE: Fantastic, superb, because it's a nice amphitheatre, you know. Super. It looked good about 10-foot out, it looked good. It broke. As I said to John, it breaks about right to left about where you're standing, right? It goes right to left, then it starts coming in back in left to right. And the pace was perfect. As long as the pace was good, I had a chance.

Q. Of all the courses in the world, do you feel really comfortable on this course or was it --

COLIN MONTGOMERIE: Always have felt comfortable on this course. I was two ahead playing with Tiger a couple of times there and of course he beat me, but I always felt comfortable on this course. It's a driver's golf course and you've got to put the ball in play. I drove the ball extremely well this week and I drove the ball well last week. If I can hit the fairways next week as well, you never know. But it's been great, third last week and then first here. It's been a great playoff series already. Whatever happens next week, I can go and really enjoy it. Yeah, looking forward to it.

Q. What about this course makes you feel so comfortable?

COLIN MONTGOMERIE: It's funny. I was playing yesterday, this is very much like a course I had great success on in Europe, a place called Valderrama, right, where we played the Ryder Cup in '97. Very similar feel, very similar look, the rollingness, the tightness of the -- and I loved it there and I love it here, yeah, yeah.