



INTERVIEW WITH ADAM SCOTT

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

SUNDAY, 6 DECEMBER 2007

AT THE MEDIA CENTRE, NSW GOLF CLUB

FACILITATOR: Well an absolutely fabulous win and terribly popular?

ADAM SCOTT: I mean, I feel very, very good, Kathie. I don't know, national champion, it feels very good. I'm very proud and what a week. It was tough but, you know, all the hard work pays off, I guess, in the end.

FACILITATOR: It was some time coming, I have to say.

ADAM SCOTT: Yeah. It has been a long time. It has been close down here before, but I never got over the line. I think that makes this even sweeter and it also being the Aussie open, just means that little bit more.

QUESTION: Through the bad times, Adam, this year, did depression set in at all or did you kick the cat when you got back home?

ADAM SCOTT: Yes, I kicked a few cats, but I wouldn't say depressed. I think I might have said in here earlier in the week, I think I remained fairly positive considering most days I was beating my head against the wall out on the golf course. I never stopped believing in myself. I did maybe for a round or a few shots, but I never threw the towel in.

It just took me a while to figure out what I needed to do and that's all. You know, unfortunately I had to go through probably six months of just playing pretty awful but that's how this game is. It is like Stuart as well. He has come back and played really good back here in two

[Unclear] words are denoted in square brackets and time stamps may be used to indicate their location within the audio.

events and he played unlike me this year, so it is tough but you never know when this game is going to give you something great or give you a smack right across the head when you think you have got it figured out.

QUESTION: You have sorted a few things. You are going to be back in the top 50 in the world rankings, the US Masters masters is next year?

ADAM SCOTT: It is important. After the President's Cup I took the view of there is four events that I had played by the end of the year, 4 or 5. Maybe these are what I'm going to peak for and some of the stuff that I think I figured out about preparation I've used, and it seems to be working so hopefully I can use that to good effect at other times of the year as well. These were important events for me, Singapore, Melbourne, Dubai, here, and next week and I could see it coming obviously, but you have got to keep pushing and what a week for it all to come together. It's fantastic.

QUESTION: A couple of short putgts missed on the back 9 there. Was it concentration or a bit of nerves, what was happening up and down the stretch?

ADAM SCOTT: Yes, certainly a couple, a lot of nerves probably toward the end it was closer than it might have looked. Those conditions were very difficult and, like I said, even though I feel that everything is getting better that is not 100 percent comfortable yet and that showed up with a couple of missed putts, but gee, I made a lot of really good putts today and that's what I will be thinking about. That were putts that gave me that big lead so really I think I'm seeing and I'm feeling a lot of positive things throughout my game and that's the important thing. Hopefully next time I can clean it up a little bit and not miss a couple of short putts but it could have been really good.

QUESTION: How did it feel to be handed the trophy by Greg, who has been such a big supporter of yours over the years?

ADAM SCOTT: Yes, Greg and I have a fairly close relationship and, you know, obviously he is a big supporter of mine and I wish I could have played this well for him at the President's Cup. We just got beaten by a better team that week but he is my hero. I have said that all along and he has been so generous to me with so many things and countless bits of advice on the game and just like a lot of other people, this year showing me that he still believes in me and my game and he can see inside that I want it badly, which I can see some people may not see, but he knows me well and he can see that I want it badly and I

work hard for it.

It is pretty nice he has won five of them and it is an incredible. It is hard to hold it all together. A few times today I had to stop my mind from wandering when I was out there about maybe winning this thing, so it was special to be able to share a little moment with him there on the 18th green.

QUESTION: That support Adam, did he give you a little kiss to the side of the head or whisper sweet nothings?

ADAM SCOTT: No, he said it was about bloody time or something.

QUESTION: It wasn't a kiss?

ADAM SCOTT: No, we are not that close.

QUESTION: Adam, you made reference to the great champions on the trophy and you appeared to be looking at some of those names when you were standing there. How much of a sense of history do you have about the Open?

ADAM SCOTT: I appreciate the history of the game very much and when I was young the Open was still regarded so highly among the greats of the game of golf, when I was 8, 9, 10 really getting into watching golf. The list of the players down here on a world standard was incredible and so I have a very good understanding. You look further back. It is even more amazing so it is something I'm very proud to be a part of that group for a lot of reasons, but I think there are only probably a few trophies in the world outside a major that would have a list of guys look like this.

QUESTION: Adam, you have still got the PGA next week. I think you have now won in every continent except perhaps Antarctica and South America. Four months away you have the Masters, another Mackenzie course. I guess now with this Australian victory the Masters and the majors have to become more paramount in your goals?

ADAM SCOTT: I haven't looked that far ahead but hopefully I get back inside the top 50 and that's all taken care of by the end of the year. I mean, I am trying to build my game back to be a better player than I was before. I think it is going to take some time. There are obviously still things I can work on, areas where I feel I can get better but, like I said, this year has given me a new outlook on some things, which was tough to accept at the time but I think I'm putting them into practice and, like I said, hope actually I can use some of the preparation that I have done here for these weeks leading into some big events next year

and peak my game like I haven't peaked in the past.

QUESTION: How important were the putts on specifically 2 then also on 3 after the first to get you back in the group?

ADAM SCOTT: Yes, it was a great start even for the first. I mean, I was just fooled a little by the green, talked myself into it being super quick downhill and left it way short. I left a good adjustment on two and really let myself go with it and wasn't tentative at all right in the middle. Number 3 was a tough putt and so many of the greens are so exposed with the winds coming across and it is hard to make good solid strokes, especially when the putter is not feeling 100 percent in the hands. They were a really good way to start the day and then there is the calming down and get going. It certainly helped. I struck the ball fairly well today as well which was tough to do in that wind.

QUESTION: Adam, at the start of the week did you allow yourself to think what a winning score could be around here? I know conditions could dictate that? Did you think at all about what a score might be?

ADAM SCOTT: No, honestly I didn't. I wouldn't have thought - what did I finish 15? I wouldn't have thought we would be there either. It was still a fairly high level of golf I think overall. Stuart's first two rounds were incredible and unfortunately it is a four day race not a two day race and he would have killed everyone if it was that. You know, to shoot 15 under, to shoot par today, I think was a pretty good score. I know there were some better scores but given the circumstances it was pretty good. It could have been a couple better and a couple could have been worse. It was tough conditions. I think Stuart and I played at a fairly high level this week.

QUESTION: Coming up the 18th to the applause of the crowd, what was going through your head?

ADAM SCOTT: Well, I just wanted to kind of finish the job. As much as enjoyable as that was, four shots in front, I wanted to shoot par. I didn't want to shoot over par today, and to hit a nice pitch up there, that pin was in a fairly precarious position. I'm sure some people were over the back and short quite easily. I hit a really nice pitch and again that's something that looks very positive to me. I have worked hard on my pitching too, so to finish it off in style was kind of nice. I did try to take in a little bit of the applause and not just brush it off.

QUESTION: The putt on the 15th, was that the most

important putt of the day and possibly the year for you?

ADAM SCOTT: Definitely. There were a lot of putts today that were probably most important of the year. I think when it comes down to it at the end of the day, the last few holes, that was huge because I was starting to leak a little oil on 13 and 14 and you have to stop the damage as quick as you can and that was a very nice putt to make there and I think that kept me four up with three to go but still, I mean, 16 there is trouble everywhere waiting to happen out there. It is not over but certainly made me a lot more comfortable.

QUESTION: You said you allowed your mind to wander a couple of times. Was the first time on the 10th when you rolled in that long putt?

ADAM SCOTT: It might have been, but I remember standing in the 12th fairway thinking I had everything pretty much under control. After the 10th and 11th I birdied another hole and then I think I was 7 up. I thought 7 up with 7 to go and hit two nice shots just in front of the green and thought I might birdie that one and thought I might handle it from here. It is a crazy game but by the time I got to the shot I pretty much put that thought out of my mind and tried to get on with it because really the hard stuff was hard to come.

QUESTION: You said earlier that you didn't think some people might realise how badly you wanted this. Why do you think that is?

ADAM SCOTT: I am a fairly easy going kind of character. I just cruise along and I pointed that out, talking to you guys this year, that I cruised along for nine years and thought everything was rosy. I thought I would cruise along and keep winning tournaments like I was and one of them would be a major and that happened, but sometimes you have to get down and dirty, get your hands dirty a little bit, and put in that extra efforts. I don't necessarily show that on the outside. That's not my nature.

I find it very hard to get myself - if I find myself up too much on the course I can't bring myself back down to play at a decent level, so I kind of keep everything fairly controlled, but that's what I have been told, people don't see that.

QUESTION: You are going to Coolum when?

ADAM SCOTT: I'm going tomorrow to Coolum.

QUESTION: Have you had a look at the new layout?

ADAM SCOTT: No, I haven't.

QUESTION: Did you go there last week and try to have a look at it?

ADAM SCOTT: Yes, I played Coolum last week.

QUESTION: What happened?

ADAM SCOTT: I didn't see any holes.

QUESTION: Did they let you?

ADAM SCOTT: No, they were closed. I think they were getting them ready for play. I will check them Tuesday.

QUESTION: Adam, there have been quite a few people this year ready to jump on the band wagon and say what's wrong with Adam Scott? Anything you would like to say to them now you have the trophy in your hand?

ADAM SCOTT: It is fair enough. It was a pretty disastrous year really, but I thought I was fairly honest with my assessment of things at times throughout the year and I told people I was working hard, and I have worked bloody hard and I have put my head down and tried to play the best I can on my home soil and usually I just let my clubs do the talking, so if there are still doubters out there that's okay I will see what else I can do.

QUESTION: Have you heard from your girlfriend, Anna?

ADAM SCOTT: No.

QUESTION: Any text messages?

ADAM SCOTT: No, I haven't got a phone. That's a good thing no phone.

QUESTION: I guess much has been made probably by us guys about the lack of winning here. You must have thought you still had all the time in the world to get that monkey off your back?

ADAM SCOTT: I kept saying that too, for the last 5 or 6 years after I had a couple of close calls. Like I said I kept cruising along thinking it will happen. Sometimes it doesn't just happen. I think the best athletes in the world go out and get it. A lot of people say let it happen, it will happen. The best athletes in the world aren't that patient. They go out and make it happen. That's why they are of the best. They have the ability to

do that.

I had to look down at some point this year and be really honest with myself and say how much do you want this because sure, I mean, it was getting close to slipping away a little bit, so I had to straighten things out and work hard and get results.

QUESTION: Given Australia's love of a battler do you think you have probably won over a new range of Aussie sports fans?

ADAM SCOTT: Hopefully. I mean, we travel the world all year and only get three weeks a year to show our stuff down here. There is a lot more to this game than three weeks in Australia, you know. A lot goes on and I haven't played my absolute best down here. I haven't played badly but certainly not up to the standard that I have been setting overseas, but we are proud Australians travelling the world and when we come back we want to feel the support like we felt in Melbourne and like we felt here this week. It was fantastic. I thought I had a lot of the support from the public and hopefully it helps the message get across that I'm playing my arse off out there and not just throwing in the towel.

It is great. It was good to see the people coming out and that was what was nice today, that some people came out on a pretty blustery day and dragged themselves around in the wind and wanted to see a couple of Australia's best players battle it out, so that felt good. It is nice obviously and the best support is home support.

QUESTION: Very quickly, where does it sit compared to other victories in the US and around the world?

ADAM SCOTT: It is right up there after a major. An Aussie Open for an Australian, that's what you want on the shelf, for a lot of reasons but, you know, this is something that I won't treat lightly and, like I said, I'm really proud and honoured to be on this trophy.

QUESTION: And a great birthday present for Tony Navaro, I would suggest. Thank you everybody.

END OF TRANSCRIPT.