



INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: PAULA CREAMER
Thursday, May 19, 2011

MODERATOR: We would like to welcome Paula Creamer into the interview room. First off, congratulations on your win today --

PAULA CREAMER: Thank you.

MODERATOR: -- beating Aree Song 5 & 4. Can you just take us through your match a little bit and kind of how things went out there today?

PAULA CREAMER: Well, I won the first hole. Actually, I won the first three holes, then I lost the fourth hole, then we tied 5 and I made a good up-and-down on 6, and then I won 7, 8, 9, 10. And from there on -- I mean, all day I hit the ball really well, I only missed a couple greens out there. These greens are fairly big but, you know, they're putting pin placements out there where you've kind of got to shape your shot in there and if you miss it a little bit, you are in a bunker or whatnot.

But overall I played very steady, a lot of pars. I made a bunch of birdies, too, which is what you need in match play. You know, it all kind of depends on how the match is going, if you need to force things or you can just kind of play with pars. But when you have those opportunities for birdie, you definitely need to make them.

MODERATOR: When you get off to a hot start like that in match play, how much of a difference does that make getting off to an early lead and winning the first three holes?

PAULA CREAMER: Yeah, that's the best way you want to do it. You want to get in the lead as soon as you can. I've always liked to do that. I mean, sometimes, you know, you're 3-down through 3 and you've got to fight your way back, but it is something that you look at. You want to kind of start off strong.

MODERATOR: Questions?

Q. I just want to double check. You play Karrie next, is that correct?

PAULA CREAMER: Yeah, I don't know who's winning that match.

Q. If you do play Karrie in the next match, match of that magnitude in the second round and if you do end up playing her, what -- how do you deal with someone like that who's had a hot start this year, a veteran?

PAULA CREAMER: Well, I'm just going to have to come out and play good golf. Playing Webby is going to be a great match. She's playing really well and today I kind of -- I played well also, so that's a good thing. With my confidence and I'm hitting my irons really well, if I can go in there and shoot some darts early on, who knows what's going to happen. But, you know, that would be -- it's okay if you have hard matches here or there, you're going to have them throughout the tournament.

Q. Surprise you any (inaudible.)

PAULA CREAMER: No, I really admire Webby. I think that she's -- she's a great golfer, she's very nice. You know, when I first came out here, she's definitely kind of taken me under her wing in a sense but in a tougher way, not as -- more as a competitor, feisty kind of relationship that we have. We can give each other grief back and forth. Same thing with Juli. And I really have appreciated kind of how she's talked with me over the years and helped me get to where I am. She's a great, great person for the game of golf and she's done a lot, number one player in the world and all of that, and to see her playing great again I think is wonderful. She's kind of the Se Ri of Australia and I think that's neat when you can have so much influence in your country for a sport.

Q. Yesterday you said you were a mudder. Was today a muddy course, or how was it?

PAULA CREAMER: It was -- there's a couple bad holes out there. I only took casual water once today. They did a great job of squeegeeing it. You saw number 2 where we were standing in the fairway and they were squeegeeing it for us out there. The staff and superintendent did a good job of draining the water out. But there's no rule. You can fly it to the pin, that kind of thing, but you are hitting longer clubs in, 5-, 7-woods and some 6-irons where you have to be very accurate with it. But it was -- it wasn't quite, you know, the muddiest golf course I've ever played, that's for sure, but it was wet.

Q. (Inaudible.)

PAULA CREAMER: It's an everyday, it's an ongoing thing. We have a very, very good relationship, Webby and I, and it's -- I think we have a lot of respect for each other, what we've done. I felt like I had to definitely earn my respect from her and I like that. She challenges me, she gives me grief, tells me -- talks about my pink balls,

stuff like that, and it's fun. That's what -- those are the people that I really like to be around, that can take it but also they can give it pretty well.

Q. (Inaudible.)

PAULA CREAMER: No, goodness, gosh. It's pink, my goodness.

Q. Anything out of bounds?

PAULA CREAMER: I'm sorry?

Q. Anything out of bounds in the give-and-take?

PAULA CREAMER: Yeah, it's pretty good. Like I say, we have a very, very -- there she is even. Look at Webby. No, I do -- like I said earlier, I think it's great when you can have that, especially in sports. You see in men's, you know, sports all the time and there's no reason why you can't have that out here and that's the fun part. We can play against each other, but at the end of the day, we go eat dinner or whatnot.

Q. Cristie was in here a little while ago and she, I guess, switched clubs, switched putters right before this event. I don't know if you've ever done that right on the eve of an event. How difficult is that to do, just to totally change what's in your bag?

PAULA CREAMER: I changed my putter last night, so it's not that hard, but, you know, I think -- I don't know about irons. I'm not much of a person who switches equipment much. I like to kind of tune it in in the off season, and then when I get out here, I don't have to worry about any of that, but sometimes you do have to figure things out. Like with my putter, I played nine holes with it yesterday and I went and put it in the bag today, so it just depends. It's not an out-of-the-ordinary kind of thing, but it's not something everybody does every night.

MODERATOR: Any more questions? Thank you very much, Paula.

PAULA CREAMER: Thank you.