

U.S. Open Championship 2017

Thursday, June 15, 2017

Roberto Diaz

Flash Interview



Q. Thoughts on your round today.

ROBERTO DIAZ: I thought it was a very good round, although I was pretty nervous at the beginning. I held it together pretty good.

And then I hit a couple really good shots on 4, driver and the second shot were very good and I think that's where my round started to get better and better. And I ended up the round pretty strongly at the end.

Q. When did you get here?

ROBERTO DIAZ: I got here Sunday.

Q. So how close were you looking at the weather forecast?

ROBERTO DIAZ: Not very. I mean, I got to start looking at the weather probably on Wednesday morning, Tuesday night. Sunday and Monday I didn't look because it changes, it varies a lot. So maybe Tuesday night, Wednesday morning, and then closely on Wednesday afternoon.

Q. You prepared yesterday as if the forecast looks good, there's a really good chance I'm getting in or what was your mindset yesterday?

ROBERTO DIAZ: No, I thought Phil was going to come. I always did. I think he was going to somehow pull it off. But I didn't want to put my hopes up and then see my hopes go down. But I was preparing not to play, too. I prepared the whole week to play. But I was prepared not to play.

Q. At what point this week did you feel that it was probable that you would play?

ROBERTO DIAZ: I think Tuesday night it was at 50 percent. And I saw Scottie walking Wednesday and I figured he was a for sure that he was going to come. So when I saw his caddie, I thought he was definitely coming. So I mean my hopes were down, for sure.

Q. How many practice holes did you play?

ROBERTO DIAZ: I played nine on Monday, 18 on Tuesday. I think I played five and a half yesterday, we got the storm.

Q. Did you feel like you could play well today?

ROBERTO DIAZ: Yeah, I mean this course, obviously it's very long and I'm not a big hitter. But I think you have to be pretty accurate, too, the greens being as soft as they played today I thought I had a chance

because I could hit long irons and stuff into the greens. So, yeah, I thought that if I could come I would play well.

Q. When did you get the official word this morning?

ROBERTO DIAZ: Around 7:00 in the morning.

Q. Did you go back to sleep?

ROBERTO DIAZ: I went back to sleep until like 9:30, and then I worked out and got to the course around 12:00.

Q. When did the nerves start?

ROBERTO DIAZ: As soon as I walked to the first tee.

Q. Obviously you were excited when you get the official word?

ROBERTO DIAZ: Yeah, I was very excited, yeah.

Q. Where would you classify this experience today?

ROBERTO DIAZ: No. 1 in my career, for sure. Playing with Steve Stricker was amazing. Hometown hero, the crowds were unbelievable, the first tee was amazing. Yeah, I think it was a good -- really good experience.

Q. You get a phone call at 7:00 from the USGA?

ROBERTO DIAZ: No, I was here. I got here at 6:15 in the morning.

Q. You said you went back to sleep.

ROBERTO DIAZ: I went here, got the news at 7:00 and went back to bed.

Q. You were able to go back to bed and go back to sleep after you got the news?

ROBERTO DIAZ: Yes.

Q. Were you eating breakfast or warming on the range at 6:15?

ROBERTO DIAZ: Eating breakfast.