

INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: FRED COUPLES
Thursday, June 27, 2013



Q. How'd you play?

FRED COUPLES: Okay.

Q. Was it tricky controlling wedge shots out here, Fred, because of the greens? Were there back pins that were tough to get to?

FRED COUPLES: Yeah, I mean, obviously any pin way in the back was harder than anything in the front where you could throw it by it. The greens are at a perfect pace for how wet they were and they weren't out-of-control fast, whereas last year it was dry, as you know, and those pins were hard because you had to bounce them in there. This time you had to kind of fly it and stop it, but the course was good. It was wet, as everyone's going to tell you, but I think we got away with it and I had a good round, I'm in a good spot.

Q. With the weather making everything so soft, do you feel that helped you maybe be more aggressive attacking the pin?

FRED COUPLES: No. If you hit the fairway and had an 8-iron or 9-iron in there and a good yardage, you could attack the pin. Nothing funny was going to happen unless you hit one with too much spin and then it would spin away from the flag, but I didn't do that many times. You know, it played long and it played, I think, easier than when it's hard and fast. I don't think we're going to get that this week, I think it will play like this almost every day.

But the rough's brutal. I did a good job keeping it out of the rough. A couple times I put it in the rough. You're not going to get a good lie, and getting it on the green is going to happen only on the short holes. If you're 180 in this rough or 170, there's no way you can get it on the green, it's too thick.

Q. Fred, you had a 63 last year, I believe, the second round. The way the course is playing with the weather that's predicted, do you think there might be another 63 out there?

FRED COUPLES: Yeah, I think last year we played it hard and fast and then most everyone played it now soft, so that's going to help. Tomorrow we play early, so those tee times will help good scores, too. A 63 is going to be a very special round; it was for me, I played really well last year. But I think now that you know how soft it is, unless we get more rain tonight and then the ball really starts spinning everywhere, but I think someone can shoot 63.

Q. You may have answered it with the rough thing, but this course is never a

walk in the park in fair conditions and the weather sure didn't help. In the current condition, what would you say was the biggest, I guess, challenge for you out there today?

FRED COUPLES: Well, I think because you got to play lift, clean and place, the bigger challenge was getting it in the fairway. When you did that, the holes played easier because you clean your ball up and you basically put it on a tee. Obviously the hindrance was playing out of the rough. The greens were a good pace and I'm sure a lot of guys made a lot of birdies, but you could make a lot of mistakes pretty easily if you drove it in the rough.