



**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: MIKE GOODES**  
**Friday, August 22, 2014**

**DAVE SENKO:** Mike, 8-under 65, 4-under on the front and 4-under on the back. Maybe just some general thoughts on your day. Got off to a great start on No. 1.

**MIKE GOODES:** Yeah, made a bunker shot on No. 1 so that's kind of a bonus to make eagle. Then I turned around on 2 and hit it to about three feet and missed it, so I felt like I gave the bunker shot right back. You know, that's golf.

Obviously I had to play pretty good but it was a couple up-and-downs that really saved my round early. On the fourth hole I missed from the middle -- hit a great drive in the middle of the fairway, pulled trying to hit a little bitty 9-iron, left of the green on the side of the green and rough and grain going away, nothing good. I hit a pretty good chip about probably 12, 15 feet and made it for par. That's one of those putts you look back or saves as you look back and it keeps the flow going.

Got it up and down a couple other times out of bunkers. No. 9 I hit a good looking shot in the bank and it came back and got it up and down. Good bunker shot on 12, just missed the green just right, hit a good bunker shot. Both of those were short putts, maybe three, three and a half feet.

Other than that I played pretty darn good. Drove the ball really good, made some decent putts. I hit NO. in two, I hit a really good drive and it was playing a little downwind and hit 6-iron and I had about 15, 17 feet for eagle and missed it. And on 18 I hit it in two and had it about 15, 17 feet behind the hole and missed it. I didn't make everything but I did make some putts, so it was a good round.

**DAVE SENKO:** No. 1, you said driver. What was your second?

**MIKE GOODES:** I was hitting 4-iron and I leaked it in the right-hand bunker.

**DAVE SENKO:** How far?

**MIKE GOODES:** That's probably 40 feet, something like that, 35, 40 feet.

**DAVE SENKO:** And No. 7 you made a birdie?

**MIKE GOODES:** No. 7 I hit it three feet.

**DAVE SENKO:** With?

**MIKE GOODES:** I hit a 9-iron.

**DAVE SENKO:** And you said 6-iron at No. and 15 feet, two putt?

**MIKE GOODES:** Two putt for birdie.

**DAVE SENKO:** No. 11?

**MIKE GOODES:** No. 11, I hit it about probably eight feet and made it. Then 15 I was probably about 10 feet, and then 17 I was probably about 12 feet.

**DAVE SENKO:** What did you hit there?

**MIKE GOODES:** I hit 5-iron.

**DAVE SENKO:** And then 18?

**MIKE GOODES:** And then 18 I hit driver, 3-wood and two-putted.

**DAVE SENKO:** How far was it?

**MIKE GOODES:** Probably 15, 16 feet.

**DAVE SENKO:** Okay. So you actually were 5-under on the par 5s today.

**MIKE GOODES:** Yeah, yeah, that helped.

**Q. When did you decide you were going to turn pro when you became 50?**

**MIKE GOODES:** I had kind of decided I would give the tour school a chance, which didn't necessarily mean you're going to turn pro because you can go through tour school as an amateur. If you don't get your tour card, you just stay as an amateur.

But the year I was turning 50 they took all the tour school spots and put them in Monday qualifiers for two years, for 2007 and 2008, and I turned 50 in December of 2006. So I came really close to not doing it because I wasn't sure it made sense for me to lose my amateur status as being a career amateur, and I loved playing amateur golf, I had a lot of friends, to go chase Monday qualifiers. But actually my business partner and my wife kind of pushed me over the edge to try it, which has been a real blessing ever since. I never said I'm just going to turn pro and let the chips fall because it was a great opportunity. The only thing it cost you was going to tour school but that changed.

**Q. So you were doing Monday qualifying for a while?**

**MIKE GOODES:** All of 2007 and all of 2008, yeah.

**Q. And you won in 2009?**

**MIKE GOODES:** Yeah.

**Q. It's been five years. What would it mean to get another one?**

**MIKE GOODES:** I'm craving it, I'm dying to win, but that doesn't necessarily mean you will, but I would love to win again. It would mean a lot, like everybody. Except Bernhard, I think he's done enough. I love Bernhard.

**Q. 64, that's a good score on this course.**

**MIKE GOODES:** Yeah, I thought it was. This is a great golf course. This isn't a course like in Minnesota where you shoot 64 to keep pace. I know the scores are pretty good today it looked like, but still, this is a great golf course and it's not that easy to make a ton of birdies and I feel very fortunate.

**DAVE SENKO:** What did you do on 14 today?

**MIKE GOODES:** What I've done the last two and a half years now, I hit it right, hit 3-wood out in the fairway and almost made birdie. The first three, four years I came, I went for the green every time unless it was some bad weather. I don't even remember. I can easily get there, it's not a matter of distance, it's just that you get so many awkward shots and lies and stuff. My caddie and I talked about it before we played last year and decided to take a lot of stress out of our life.

**Q. On 8 is that as far as you can hit a driver? I mean, you were way past your playing partners on 8.**

**MIKE GOODES:** You know, I hit a really good drive and I'm sure I caught a really good hard spot.

**Q. 337 I think is what they measured.**

**MIKE GOODES:** Is that right? Well, I don't hit it 337, I'm not Rory. But yeah, everything turned out good there. Then I had a perfect little slightly uphill lie hitting into the green, which makes it so much easier than having a slightly downhill lie and hitting something a little hotter so I was very fortunate there. I hit two good shots and would have liked to have made the putt.

**Q. Did you have a lot of family out there today?**

**MIKE GOODES:** I've got actually a couple that I grew up with from my hometown in

Reidsville, North Carolina. Their daughter's out here and they kind of planned a trip to visit their daughter with the tournament being part of it too, so it's fun. It was Gene Sauers' birthday today. I can't believe they couldn't get anybody to sing Happy Birthday.

**Q. 14-under par between you guys.**

**MIKE GOODES:** Yeah. He played great, Gene's playing really good. It's not a surprise.

**Q. You went to North Carolina but didn't play college golf?**

**MIKE GOODES:** Yeah. I went actually on a scholarship but I kind of didn't make it to the golf course often enough. Better days.

**Q. That's another story.**

**MIKE GOODES:** That's another story that I would just as soon leave untold.

**Q. What's the difference between a high quality amateur tournament and these tournaments? Is it a little more intense here, or because they're over 50 it's similar to amateurs?**

**MIKE GOODES:** No, I don't think it has any similarity. The players are so much better. You've got almost 81 players that are really good, and if so many of them -- I mean, a good mid-am tournament that I would play in, the Crump Cups and things like that, I mean you figure you only had 10 people maybe could win. You've got 75 probably that can win here. The fields here since I've been playing, and I think Dave and Phil will agree with this, since '07 and '08 the depth of the field is so much stronger. The difference between 1st and 10th isn't a whole lot of difference, but it used to be if somebody shot 14-under to win and you shot a 5-under, you'd finish 18th. Now you'd finish 44th. It's so strong, so deep. They're packed in. You look every day, these scores, we're not playing any different courses than we did back then, maybe a few harder courses and the scores are ridiculous. I shot 18-under in Minnesota and finished 6th in three rounds, par 72.

**Q. What's the motivation to be a professional? Is it to challenge yourself, the money?**

**MIKE GOODES:** Yeah, well, the money's great but it's such -- I was very fortunate to have a business that I made a living also, and I still have it. I mean, first of all, I love competing like most people, like everybody out here but most people love to compete. And to be able to play against Fred Couples and Bernhard Langer and Fred Funk and Mark O'Meara and sometimes beat them and a lot of times lose to them but still compete with them, people tell me all the time, You're living the dream,

and it's the truth, it is a dream. It's a fantasy almost to get to come places like this and the way people treat us to come and play in a tournament and every town's the same way and you've got a thousand plus volunteers that help put on a tournament out of the goodness of their heart to help raise money for charities in the local area. The whole scheme of it is unbelievable. To be a small part of it is a true thrill. When you don't play good it's not a lot of fun, but if you take a step back and you look at what you're involved in, it's incredible.

**Q. And then to be on the top of the leaderboard in one of those days?**

**MIKE GOODES:** Yeah, every once in a while to get to come in here and talk to guys like y'all, every tournament I go, God, I hope I get to go to the media center.

**Q. When's the last time you've led a tournament, can you remember?**

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** Round one 2013 Insperity Championship.

**Q. Do you like being the leader?**

**MIKE GOODES:** I like to be it on Sunday night, absolutely, I love it. But that's not saying I'm going to be the leader at the end of the day either. But it doesn't matter, this is great, it's a great start, and tomorrow if I play good that's a great second-round start. Nothing matters but where you finish on Sunday afternoon. But you know I think I speak for almost every player out here, all you want, you hope you play good enough to come in in the last handful of holes and have a chance. That's what your goal is. There's a lot of people like Bernhard and Couples and these guys that do it almost every tournament, which is amazing to me, but anytime to have a chance coming in the last few holes is so exciting, it's such a thrill and that's what you dream and pray for every week, every tournament.

**Q. Now look again, 81 players and how many realistically could win this?**

**MIKE GOODES:** I would say in the 70s. I can't think of many that I wouldn't give a chance to. Y'all follow this better than I do.

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** You probably never would have thought John Riegger would have won last year.

**MIKE GOODES:** There's a lot of really good players.

**Q. I don't see a lot of guys who are 60.**

**MIKE GOODES:** Well, not a lot of guys over 60 win, that's true.

**DAVE SENKO:** Not many more playing.

**MIKE GOODES:** But there's not a whole lot over 60 playing, is it? Gilder, Irwin. Hale's not here. Gil Morgan's here. I respect them all. They're really a lot of great players. I did the Monday qualifiers for a long time and we would have 50 people that could shoot 65 every Monday. Not that they're going to shoot 65 every Monday, but every one of them had the capability of shooting 65. That's a heck of a field. We had a lot of tour winners in our Monday qualifiers. It would be a heck of a field for any normal tournament, but you remember.

**DAVE SENKO:** Yeah.

**MIKE GOODES:** Back then we would have seven to nine spots. You could lose two spots to Top 10s.

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** You had a major champion in the Monday qualifier this week.

**MIKE GOODES:** Steve Jones, absolutely. How about that? He's in almost every week. He doesn't get many sponsors exemptions, which really blows my mind.

**DAVE SENKO:** Won seven times.

**MIKE GOODES:** Yeah. I played with a guy today, Bill Glasson won seven times, great player.

**DAVE SENKO:** Thank you, Mike.

**MIKE GOODES:** Thank you all.