

**PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW: WILL WILCOX**  
**Tuesday, July 14, 2015**



**Q. Well, just talk about obviously you went to UAB and it's kind of a home one for you. Talk about having a home game kind of this week on the Tour.**

**WILL WILCOX:** Yeah, it's great. My family's going to be here. Not a lot of family have been able to watch me play other than my mom my sister and my dad, so it will be awesome. I can't wait to see my aunts and uncles and maybe some cousins and friends from my hometown. I lived in Auburn for like six months at one point, so it's definitely home here. I'm really excited to be here.

**Q. What age were you when you lived here?**

**WILL WILCOX:** It was 2006, I was 20. I worked at Brick Oven Pizza Company. I made the dough, \$5.15 an hour.

**Q. So are you going to go see them and eat some while you're here?**

**WILL WILCOX:** Tonight, yeah, I'm going to go straight there, I'm going to bring about 50 tickets and just hand them out.

**Q. And you can about this clinic and just kind of giving back to the kids?**

**WILL WILCOX:** Yeah, I mean, I'm just glad I didn't trip over my words and get all nervous. I mean, I hope I did a good job and they learned something. I've done two or three of these. I've never been mic'd up on one of them, though. Thought it went well. Coach Pearl definitely teed me up for it, he did a great job. They seemed to react really well to it. The kids enjoyed it and listened, and they were attentive and respectful. It was great.

**Q. To be on a platform like this, though, has it set in for you maybe that you are a role model, that you're somebody that these youngsters look up to?**

**WILL WILCOX:** It's great. I mean, I never thought it would come to this. I mean, I just played as hard as I could and now that people are taking notice, it's pretty neat. I'm just trying my best to not look silly out there. I've been fortunate enough to play good this year so people are starting to take notice, which is a dream come true for sure.

**Q. Talk about Coach Pearl being out here, a little more about that.**

**WILL WILCOX:** Yeah, I've got his card, he says he's going to give me some basketball tickets. He's the man. I played golf with his son before, Steven, in Nashville so we have a mutual friend, a guy in town, so that was my in with him. And then he did a great job getting me started and making me sound like I knew what I was talking about.

**Q. What did you think about the kids out here?**

**WILL WILCOX:** They're great. They were very good. Everybody was awesome. To have them all focused, and I don't know if I would have been at that age, so they were great.

**Q. Any words of wisdom for kids who are maybe just starting out the game of golf or considering it?**

**WILL WILCOX:** Yeah, just try it out, see how it goes. It's a great game. I learned all my like table manners and just being nice to people and talking to people on the phone. You know, it all kind of started with golf with me. Now I get better reactions out of customer service people or whatever. Golf's been really great in that way for me. I've learned a lot of life lessons through golf. Hard ones, you know, through golf; you get slapped on the wrist when you're a kid and you act wrong and you learn to not do those things. Then you can teach kids what I learned the hard way and maybe it will be easier for them.

**Q. How much did you play out here like when you lived here or maybe when you were at UAB?**

**WILL WILCOX:** Like this actual golf course? I played Saugahatchee growing up in golf tournaments. So this one's fairly new to me, but the Auburn area golf-wise is not new to me at all. I've been coming down here since I was nine or 10 years old. I was coming to football games before that. Auburn's been a big part of my life. My mom, Kim, played golf here. I just love the area. My mom played four years here and my sister graduated from here, my dad did. Everybody in my family did but me. I wasn't good enough.

**Q. I've got to ask you about the heat this week. I know you're not foreign to this type of atmosphere but what about playing in this type of atmosphere?**

**WILL WILCOX:** Honestly, I've played in way hotter conditions. I played in Malaysia a couple months ago, it was a lot hotter than this when you're that much closer to the Equator. It's not going to phase me at all. I drink a lot of water anyway. I love it. It could get 10, 15 degrees hotter and I would be fine.