

FINAL ROUND INTERVIEW: PAUL GOYDOS
Sunday, August 30, 2015



PHIL STAMBAUGH: Okay, Paul, you and Jeff had a bit of a duel down the back nine. Just sort of talk about it. You finish second this week.

PAUL GOYDOS: Third best finish of my career on this tour.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Just sort of talk about the final round 68.

PAUL GOYDOS: I got off to a good start, birdied the first couple holes, hit some good shots, made a 12-footer and six-footer, which was a nice way to start the round out. I made two more birdies I want to say on 5 and 6. Again, you know, a six-footer and a 12-footer, which now you're going pretty good. Kind of three-whiffed No. 7 for bogey from the fringe, but came back and actually hit it over the green on 8 and hit a great little pitch down to about a foot and a half and made that for birdie. So I turned at 4-under feeling good. Really tee to green, I really, you know, played about as well as I played all year.

The back nine, 10 I missed a short one. 11, I had a 20-footer. I two-putted 12 for birdie. A good par on 13 after a wayward tee shot. Had a good look on 14 for birdie and missed that. When I say miss, you know, pretty mediocre putts, too. 15, obviously didn't hit the tee shot I was hoping to. My miss when I'm struggling or playing bad, I kind of hang back and I hung back on that one, flipped it over into the lake, which is really not what you're trying to do there. But hit a good third shot and good fourth shot and good fifth shot and made a good bogey. It happens.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: What did you hit?

PAUL GOYDOS: 5-iron, pitching wedge to about three feet and made that. 16, it's drivable today. I pushed my tee shot five yards. I was trying to just skirt the tree and hit it right in the middle of the tree. It bounced over there, which looked like a bad break really to the right, but it caught as good a lie as you could dream. I had one foot on the cart path. I had such a good lie, didn't think about getting a drop. Made a really good little pitch in there about five feet and hit an extremely mediocre five-footer that didn't go in. 17, I hit as good an 8-iron I could hit to about 12 feet and missed it. 18, I hit a good tee shot, a good wedge, went farther than I thought, ended up with a 15-footer and just a marvelously poor putt there, too. So the putter -- it's funny, Billy Ray asked me, What happened to the tee shot on 15? My response was I think it was the eight putts I missed on the other holes that was the problem. It's funny how we do well on the wrong thing. I make a bad swing, I make a ton of bad swings. The reality is I just didn't make enough putts this week to be competitive with Jeff.

Q. Is that automatic driver for you on 15?

PAUL GOYDOS: Not automatic, but I hit my driver straighter than my 3-wood. The problem

with driver is maybe it's a little narrow right, I'm not worried about the left as much as maybe hitting it right center and having it roll into the right rough. I had not hit a 3-wood off the tee I don't think all week on any hole, and as a matter of fact, I think I only hit two 3-woods all week. I thought about it briefly. The other thing is for me to be successful in the long run, and this is a long run situation, I need to drive my ball well to be successful. That's one of those situations where I need to drive my golf ball, and I'll learn from this week. My strength, if I'm playing well generally -- wasn't the case this week, this week I hit my iron really well -- generally I drive it good and I putt pretty well. That's generally my formula to success. You know, the reality is I drove it pretty well all week and that one wasn't so well. I would much rather blow it, miss it left than miss it right. Right's a bail and that's lack of confidence in not doing what you need to do. To me, sometimes right can be lack of conviction. I didn't have lack of conviction on 15, I had lack of talent for lack of a better word. I made a bad swing.

Q. I was out there most of the day. You weren't just hitting fairways, you were dead center. Everything you hit was just pure. Can you just talk about how well you struck the ball?

PAUL GOYDOS: Yeah, all week I missed six greens all week. I don't think I broke 30 putts all week. Again, this is a very abnormal week. I've been struggling a little bit driving the ball for the last month. Really, almost since Florida, a week here and a week there I drove it pretty good. I just kept tinkering and working on adjusting things here and there. Really got comfortable the first day. I didn't miss a green and just kept getting more comfortable, more comfortable with my setup. Like I said, you kind of get into that -- I don't get it very often, but I kind of got into that, for lack of a better word, the zone where I just felt like the ball was going exactly where I was looking every time. Hopefully, I can take a look at it on tape and figure out why. Yeah, I would say tee to green is as good as any week I've had on this tour, probably in my top two or three in my career.

Q. In an instance, 68's 68, it's a good score, but do you think that's probably as high as you could have shot today?

PAUL GOYDOS: Maybe. I did make a few putts early in the round. The reality -- I told Billy Ray, too -- sometimes you see it with Sergio Garcia. I meant this as a positive. You start hitting it really good, but you end up with a lot of 10- to 25-footers and you don't make anything. You don't get that sensation of making putts. Maybe the first round, instead of hitting 18 greens, I hit 15 greens and three really good up-and-downs where I make eight-footers for par, where you get some momentum going with the putter, maybe that would almost be better. Sometimes that greens-in-regulation stat, again, I wouldn't call it the case today because you hit a lot of greens, sometimes maybe you weren't aggressive enough with your iron play, miss it on the short side or whatnot. So yes, it's nice to hit it good. Again, there is a downside and I think you see this a little bit with Sergio. He hits it so good that he's always 20 feet and he's always two putting and it looks like he's not putting very well. The reality is he's just hitting it so good it makes it look that way, and I think that's a little bit how I played this week.

Q. Got to be a little frustrated right now just because of the putter.

PAUL GOYDOS: Right.

Q. At what point does that frustration give way to I had a really good week?

PAUL GOYDOS: No, I had a good week. What are you going to do? There's plenty of positives to take away. It's the best I've hit it in a while. I thought I did a lot of good things. If you would have told me -- you're always trying to win, but I didn't think I had a -- I shot over par at the pro-am, so I was still struggling a little bit. Last week I struggled a little bit tee to green. To get comfortable and make some good swings or positives, I've got three weeks to kind of keep doing my work and get ready for one of my favorite places in the world to play golf, Pebble Beach.