

PAUL CASEY (-4)

Q. Paul, great way to finish with birdies at 17 and 18. That's always really nice.

PAUL CASEY: Anytime you make any birdies around East Lake is a good thing. The scores didn't show it, this is the most benign conditions I've seen here in a while. Normally there's a bit of wind, greens may be a little slower which is why I think you see scores so good. But it's tough out there, always is with East Lake. You've got to position your ball in the right place and I did a lot of that today.

Q. And again your game is in such good shape right now, Paul. You're knocking on the door, your scoring average in the FedExCup Playoffs is second only to Tiger. Pretty incredible stuff.

PAUL CASEY: Thank you, but look at the players that got ahead of me. It's a tall order from 10th place to try and get this thing done this week. I'm going to need a lot of guys to make some errors, which as Pat Perez said yesterday, it's probably unlikely but we're going to give it a damn good try.

Q. I mean right now everything's working for you, you're driving the ball really well, your iron play, you guys have dialed it in close?

PAUL CASEY: Yeah, my proximity to the hole has always something that's pretty strong with me. Really from kind of May onwards, since I guess Colonial my putting's been pretty good and that's -- you've got to putt well if you want to compete. I'm really happy, I really am. I'm the third oldest guy here this week. I was second but I think it's third behind Pat and Charley Hoffman. I don't feel it, though. Might have been outdriven a few times or every time by Brooks Koepka today, but I still feel good about the game and there's no reason why I can't give this week a great opportunity to win this.

Q. Paul, you shot 4 under par today. You started off your round with a birdie. You're only one of two birdies on that first hole. What is making that hole so tough today?

PAUL CASEY: Because it used to be the 10th and it was always a tough hole. It's one of the most underrated holes out here. Probably won't get a lot of attention this week because it is the opening hole. Tough fairway to find, it's long, it's a blind second shot where you can't see the ball to the flag at least. It's difficult and you want to get the ball started well around here because East Lake is a course which you just get on the wrong side of things, it's so difficult to recover. So starting off on the first with something better than a par is pretty good. Something that gives you a leg up on everybody else.

Q. You have sort of made yourself comfortable here in the Playoffs in the past. What is it that kind of made you come into your own?

PAUL CASEY: I love this golf course at East Lake, it's a classic, it's maybe one of the finest we play all year. In a weird way it's a shame it's only 30 guys, you would love the entire PGA Tour to get to play this great track. It's a golf course that rewards good ball striking, you've got to hit a lot of fairways, you've got to position the ball ideally below the hole and good touch putting, which is something that's all kind of in my wheelhouse. We're not too far away from Augusta and it's a similar sort of style of golf and a requirement that you have to have around here to play this golf course well and it's something I have and I love these Playoffs, it's cool.