

Q. Another solid day by Webb Simpson. How would you compare today's round to your opening round?

WEBB SIMPSON: Today was kind of the best of both worlds. The back nine was really solid tee to green, shooting 4 under, and then after I birdied No. 11 I just started making a few loose swings, a few loose shots, but I held it together nicely. Besides No. I guess 13, I managed my game well.

Q. You played well here before, now you're headed to the weekend obviously in contention. There's a lot of money on the line. How do you approach that mentally and emotionally with everything up for grabs?

WEBB SIMPSON: I feel like each week we're dealing with something, whether it's a major championship or a tournament you love and this week happens to be the FedExCup and playing for a lot of money. So I think over time you learn to put those things aside and focus on what you're trying to do, remind yourself that what we're playing for should have nothing to do with how I hit the golf shot.

Q. Is that difficult to do?

WEBB SIMPSON: It is difficult, it is difficult, but I think like anything out here, experience helps. Once you've played for this amount of money and the stakes are this high, the TOUR Championship, you get used to what it feels like and my focus this weekend will be to play golf and not play (inaudible.)

Q. How would you assess your position right now ahead of round three?

WEBB SIMPSON: Feels great to be tied for the lead. We still have halfway to go, but through two days to be on top of the leaderboard is a great feeling. The leaderboard's going to be bunched, I'm sure, so I do have to kind of reset and go out tomorrow and play another good solid round.

Q. What's going to be crucial in separating yourself from Paul Casey, speaking about how he thought at one point you and he were going to maybe forge clear of the rest of the pack. What do you think about that?

WEBB SIMPSON: Yeah, I mean I had it going there for a while pretty nicely, but this golf course is tough. If you're not in the fairway, it's tough to hit it on the green and I missed a few fairways on the back nine and it cost me. I was sitting there struggling the last few holes

trying to make pars when the front nine seemed like it was easy.

Q. I know you talked about it yesterday but I was wondering what was the reason behind not really doing a practice round, just kind of walking the course?

WEBB SIMPSON: I mean, I played nine holes, but we play so much golf that you start trying to weigh your options, is it better for me to rest, rest my body and walk around and chip and putt or is it better for me to hit the shots and see the holes. We do that quite a bit. At major championships you have a plan in mind to see the course a number of times, but it's such a long week that you've got to take advantage of rest. I feel comfortable here, I've been here enough, so I was able to do that.

Q. I was going to ask, how much does that play into it, the fact that you've obviously been here before?

WEBB SIMPSON: Yeah, this is a golf course where off the tee there's no tricks. We know where to hit it, you've got to hit it in the fairway. Courses that are, you know, that have more doglegs or carries over bunkers might be a little harder to do that, but this course is straightforward and right in front of you.

Q. You talked a little bit about yesterday just appreciation of being back here after all those years in a row. When you're constantly at that level of being here, is it easy to get complacent or just used to it, and does that change your outlook when it's all of a sudden not there?

WEBB SIMPSON: Yeah, I think so. I mean sitting at home last year watching the guys play after the third event -- actually last year I don't know if I made it -- I don't know where I made it last year, but anytime you don't advance you feel the sting of it.

But the important thing that I did was I didn't second guess anything I was doing, I just continued to reevaluate my plan and make sure I was doing the right stuff. But yeah, I think moving forward, no matter if I make it the next 10 years or don't make it again, I'm going to realize that being here is special and I'm thankful for that.

Q. Was there anything affecting your game in previous years that you fixed or you shifted for this year?

WEBB SIMPSON: No. I mean, the way golf is, it goes in waves. Sometimes you go through a stretch where you're hitting it nice and short game's bad and vice versa. So I think the most important thing I had to do was kind of weather the storm and stay patient somehow and find positives even in the bad play.

Q. You had a putter change at the beginning of last year, it took you a while to kind of get through that and work through that. Was it more mental, physical, both?

WEBB SIMPSON: Yeah, when you putt with something for 11 years and overnight you're forced to try something different, it's going to take a while. So it was just I had to relearn a skill in the game that I played for 20 years of my life, so that was tough.