



**JORDAN SPIETH ( - 9)**

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**Q. Just a couple thoughts on your round to start us off here?**

**JORDAN SPIETH:** Yeah, just didn't play that well today. Got off to a good start on 1 and then I just, I kind of shot myself in the foot the rest of the next seven holes. Only 1 and 3 were really the only holes that I played -- I was out of position on the other holes so it was tough. To be 1 under through 9 was pretty (inaudible) for where I put myself. And then just didn't -- 11 through 14 got to play a couple under, I played them a couple over. So that's where I lost a lot of ground to Charley, it was that 11 through 14 stretch. Just a couple missed putts, a couple misjudged lies and (inaudible) chipping.

**Q. Not a lot of low scores out there today from anybody?**

**JORDAN SPIETH:** Yeah, I'm surprised. I think the pins were harder. Conditions weren't -- it was northeast instead of north-northeast, which changes a lot of these crosswind holes a little bit. But I was very surprised. I think tomorrow's predicted less wind, so I think we'll go back to some lower scores like we saw the first couple days tomorrow. But they saved some difficult hole locations for the weekend, for sure. I think that made a difference.

**Q. As a pretty good chipper of the golf ball, is this the biggest test you have all year?**

**JORDAN SPIETH:** Yeah, yeah, it's because we're used to perfectly manicured and this is, it's just real sparse around the greens. It becomes like some spots it's almost like chipping off mud. This type of Bermuda and where we're located, it just doesn't grow as full as other spots. I felt like I've actually chipped the ball beautifully the first couple days until today and then was a little off. I was a little protective instead of aggressive and that hurt me. But yeah, I think it's as difficult because us high-maintenance golfers get a course that's not quite perfectly manicured and you get some kind of weird lies around the greens.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**JORDAN SPIETH:** I'm doing pretty much most of the work, getting the numbers and picking clubs and shots. Eric's keeping it really light, just talking football or talking whatever it may be and that's useful. He's done a great job, no complaints. He's stayed out of the way of playing partners. Everyone that we've played with has very much complimented the work he's done and it's been really fun having him on the bag.

**Q. As an Open champion, is that going to be any different feeling (inaudible) Masters champion (inaudible)? Has it been different for you in any way?**

**JORDAN SPIETH:** Yeah, I think The Open has a pretty significant worldwide reach. It's my second favorite tournament in the world behind the Masters, so to win between those and Ryder Cup, which I put them kind of in a different place, those three and the U.S. Open, kind of top four events in my mind that I can win in my lifetime and that I've done that, it's extremely satisfying. So I look at the year as a whole as a huge, tremendous success. Looking forward to playing aggressive and looking at it as capping off this year, which was one of the better years that I'll ever have.

**Q. When did you start letting yourself think about Augusta?**

**JORDAN SPIETH:** It doesn't really start coming to me until after Riviera. Then we start to kind of gear up a little bit and we get into Mexico now and that part of the year, you start looking at how you're gearing up for Augusta.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**JORDAN SPIETH:** No, no, most importantly off the course. I don't want to think that way on the course because I'll get lazy. Stay focused and try and win every tournament I've been playing in, that's been the goal. But off the course I can sit back and say this is house money, you know?

**Q. Jordan, you and Michael have such a nice collaboration. What have you learned by having to take on everything yourself, not having his voice in your ear the last two starts?**

**JORDAN SPIETH:** There are some things that I've learned where I bring Michael in on that aren't necessary and I'm finding that. Short putts or whatever it may be, just doing that on my own is very beneficial. And there are certain cases where you're getting crosswinds and you're trying to figure out where the miss is, it helps to have somebody that's done some of the work, too.

I think caddying is a very underrated job on the PGA TOUR. I've been pretty open in my last five years in telling how important I think Michael is in how I play and it's still very evident, but there's also things that I'm learning that I can do on my own.