



TIGER WOODS (- 4)

Q. Tiger, you've got to at least be pleased you brought it back there a little bit, hit seven straight at the end after a tough start?

TIGER WOODS: Yeah, it was a rough start. Whatever I did right ended up in a bad spot and whatever I did wrong was really wrong. I just couldn't get it turned around, it kept going the wrong way. I hit that shot at 3, which was 278 hole, and I flew it about 290 into the wind with a cut. I did not have that shot and ended up against the collar, which is a bad spot and made bogey there. Same thing at 7, I carried it too far. I was trying to hit it 300 or so and I carried it about 320 and ended up in a bad spot that I had no shot.

Q. In the big picture of things, is it okay at this point to face a little adversity and try to battle through it?

TIGER WOODS: Well, that's just golf, we're always going to face adversity. It was frustrating that I couldn't get it turned around on the easier holes. I played -- I birdied 14 -- I played four par 5s and I hadn't made a birdie yet. That's not very good.

Q. What do you feel now that you weren't feeling on Thursday?

TIGER WOODS: Probably a little more dehydrated. No, being a smartass. I feel good. I feel like I've got some experience in. I was telling Sandsy out there, it's nice to be part of the fight again. Get out there and fighting against the golf course, fighting against the guys, that's fun. I just haven't done it a whole lot in the last few years.

Q. Is it a lot to ask after the layoff you had to put four rounds in the 60s together even though that's your goal, know what I'm saying? Do you temper however ticked off you are today about not playing --

TIGER WOODS: Well, I forget what the line was to even make it four days. That kind of question, times have changed a little bit.

Q. Even though that wasn't the score you wanted today, was it sort of a mental test, the mental side has come back?

TIGER WOODS: I liked it. I like to be able to fight out there. Unfortunately I just couldn't get it turned around. At 6 I should have played for the flyer and if I don't catch it I'm 30 feet short of the hole. If I catch it I'm near pin high and I didn't do it. I just thought I could get it up there next to the hole and I caught a flyer and I'm over the green in the rough. Little things like that, those are little mistakes that could snowball a round, which it did.

Q. Tiger, maybe not physically but can you compare this week, just the ebbs and flows, to this event last year?

TIGER WOODS: What do you mean?

Q. Just sort of getting off to a really good start and then kind of losing a little bit of momentum on the weekend?

TIGER WOODS: Yeah, that's just the way it goes sometimes. I'm not the only one who's struggling at times out here. Unfortunately, I just wasn't able to turn the round around. Hideki today, I think he made 50 birdies and 50 bogeys. (Laughs.) I just couldn't get birdies like he it.

Q. Tiger, when you're over par, 5 over after 10, and you haven't played for so long, what do you draw upon confidence wise, motivation wise to finish the day well?

TIGER WOODS: I was trying to get back to even par for the day, that was my goal. I finished three short of my goal but I was headed in the right direction. I wish I could have capitalized on 15 and a couple other putts I had in there. Missed a putt there at 13 as well. I had a chance to probably get to even par for the day.

Q. Tiger, at three-quarters through this thing now, what's your level of encouragement, what was your mindset?

TIGER WOODS: I'm very happy, very happy that I've hit the ball as well as I have, the feel of my putter, overall shaping of shots and just trying to put together a round. I haven't -- as I told you guys at the beginning of the week, I haven't had a scorecard in my hand in a while. When you're out there for this duration of time, it's very different out here like this and try to post a number, miss the ball in the correct spots than it is at home.

Q. Going on that about how different it is, is that more like mental fatigue?

TIGER WOODS: I wouldn't say mental fatigue, I think it's just more that there's so much more at stake. If you miss a shot at home, it's no big deal. Here, it can snowball a round. If you go out there at home and make nine birdies and five bogeys, who cares, but it matters out here. That's the difference is just posting a number.

Q. Putting everything out?

TIGER WOODS: Exactly, 100 percent.

Q. When you've got another starting point, how do you measure progress?

TIGER WOODS: What do you mean?

Q. You talk about progressing. Do you measure it beyond anything other than a score?

TIGER WOODS: No, I think overall I'm very happy with what's going on this week. There were a lot of questions that I had, I'm sure you guys have had, and I feel like I've come out on a good side this week.

Q. Did you have more questions than the public, us and the public?

TIGER WOODS: No, I had less. I knew how I was playing at home, I knew how I was hitting shots, I knew what was going on. Obviously the very intelligent people out there didn't know.