

**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW**  
**March 1, 2018**

**LOUIS OOSTHUIZEN (-7)**



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**Q. It seemed from our perspective all the way through your bag you're dead solid. Are there certain aspects of your game that you thought stood out today?**

**LOUIS OOSTHUIZEN:** I'm very confident with my driver at the moment. Had a night little cut going with it, nice just aiming it a little left and just swing away. I've been swinging it pretty good the last three, four weeks. Felt I played really well last week, just got caught in the Bear Trap a little bit. Yeah, I'm hitting it well and just need to do the same tomorrow. You know, the greens can be a little bumpy at the end of the day, but I hit a few really close.

**Q. The other challenge is the fact that we are so high above sea level, nearly 8,000 feet. You and the rest of the field trying to figure out the right distance. Do you feel like you and your caddie have that nailed right now, or is it still a work in progress?**

**LOUIS OOSTHUIZEN:** It is still a work in progress. You can get one with a short iron and it just blows your mind how far it goes, and then the next hole you come up short. So it's all about the ball flight you put on it. You can't really not think, you have to really think and work it out before you hit.

**Q. 64, just tell us how pleased you are with that performance and what was the key to it.**

**LOUIS OOSTHUIZEN:** Yeah, just really playing solid. I drove it pretty well. I've got a lot of confidence in my driver and just teeing it up on a lot of holes and making good swings. I've been hitting it the last three, four weeks really good, two of those weeks just practicing back at Palm Beach. Last week felt like I played really well, just got caught up a little bit in the Bear Trap on Sunday. Still swinging it really good. It's all on the greens here and leaving yourself with decent chances.

**Q. On a golf course at altitude, so much math to do. How nice is it to be bogey free?**

**LOUIS OOSTHUIZEN:** Yeah, it is. You know, looked like we were going to bogey the sixth hole there, the par 5. Had a little gap wedge for my third and pitched it over the green. So you can have those things and made a good up-and-down for par, but all in all, just a good solid round.

**Q. What's been the strategy with dealing with altitude? We hear that you've been playing around with ball flight, trying to keep it down. What's the desired effect?**

**LOUIS OOSTHUIZEN:** Yeah, you know, it's a little tricky because keeping it down, you get that nicer first bounce, so it's a lot of sort of math that we're doing to exactly where to hit it, and I think I'm hitting it good enough that we're sort of pitching it where my caddie wants me to. The days you're not swinging it good, it gets really tough. But yeah, it's a lot of math to work out.

**Q. When you came over here I was already to go for the big, "Oh, well, playing at altitude, you've won so many times doing that, big advantage." You're telling me you actually haven't done that much, but you do have a huge amount of experience playing at altitude. How much does that count when you come to a challenge like this?**

**LOUIS OOSTHUIZEN:** Yeah, you know, whenever we played up in Johannesburg or Sun City, it's altitude and you know the ball's going further. Here, it's actually going a little further. But I've played in it before and it helps knowing what the ball does.