ROUND 1 INTERVIEW August 17, 2018



WOODY AUSTIN (-6)

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Q. Great start to the tournament. Looked like a good ball-striking round, you hit 17 greens.

WOODY AUSTIN: No, it was simple, it was very simple. I didn't -- I put the only pressure on myself on one hole, three-putted one hole, it was my only bogey. But yeah, I think I had four tap-ins and then I made about an eight-footer and a 12-footer.

Q. And you add it up and you shoot 66?

WOODY AUSTIN: Yeah. It really was simple, it really was.

Q. And last year you finished T-3 here, I believe. What about this golf course fits your eye? Seems like you played well the last couple years.

WOODY AUSTIN: Yeah. Well, I think it's one of the few golf courses that we play where you really have to drive it straight. I mean, there's a lot of courses where you might have to drive it somewhat straight. There's rough, but there's no trees. Here, if you drive it in the rough, you're usually in some trees, whereas most places we play, yeah, there might be some rough, but there's no trees.

So I think that's important for -- you know, to really shoot a good score here, you can't get away with too many bad drives. You can here and there, but predominantly when you hit it in the rough, like the only green I missed was No. 6, I hit it a little left and I had the trees in my way. I clipped the tree on the way going towards the green, so I had to get it up and down from 40 yards. But other than that, you just have to drive it straight.

Q. And then the season's winding down. What do you need to do to make that last push for the Schwab Cup Playoffs?

WOODY AUSTIN: I have to putt better. Like I said, today was simple and I made one 12-footer. I've got to learn how to make something from 20 feet on a regular basis. These guys out here shoot low scores no matter what. I can't think that I'm going to outplay them for 54 holes from tee to green without making something. Like I said, I had a great day today, but it's hard to fathom that I'm going to shoot 18, 17 under and not make it from outside 12 feet. I can't think that I'm going to hit it that close every day, so I've got to start figuring something out. I've been playing really good for a while, but just can't get it in the hole.