



PATRICK REED (-8)

Q. I'm guessing you heard about President Bush?

PATRICK REED: I did.

Q. Being a Houston guy, did you have a chance to meet him?

PATRICK REED: Yes, we did, actually. I got to meet both Bushes and they were -- they're amazing people. Yeah, it's very sad to hear. All our condolences are going out to their family and everything. It's an unfortunate time, but with what he's done throughout his entire life for our country and for everyone in Houston as well, he's going to be dearly missed.

Q. Can you just talk about meeting him, when was that, what was it like?

PATRICK REED: Actually, I met him at a golf tournament. Shocking, right? Yes, I was playing and all of a sudden I kind of turned around right when I finished and he was there. I walked over and said hello, took off my hat, kind of talked to him for a little bit, talked a little about Houston and how he's been doing.

You know, seemed like it wasn't a long time ago when we were able to talk to him. Unfortunately, you have the tragedy like that, but at the same time with how much he's touched people in our country and around the world and also in Houston, it's a sad day.

Q. He was a big part of the Ryder Cup, too. He went to a lot of the Ryder Cups, obviously before your time. I'm sure you probably saw that on TV.

PATRICK REED: Yeah, anytime you have a president who loves golf. I mean, it seems like all the presidents love golf, they're always hanging around the golf tournaments, Presidents Cup, Ryder Cups, events close to their home, or a lot of them seemed to go to Bay Hill, Arnie's place. You see them at the Memorial. For them to come out and support, support the game of golf means a lot to our sport and also just means a lot to us being able to see them out there and getting to talk to them.

Q. Would you describe him as an avid golf fan?

PATRICK REED: Oh, he's more than just an avid golf fan, he's beyond that. He absolutely loved the game. You know, to have the support from presidents and have them come as much as they do and how often they're out there, it means a lot. To lose a guy and to lose a person like President Bush, it's sad because how much he's touched all of us.

Q. Nice finish today.

PATRICK REED: Yeah, you know, I felt like I hit the ball well on the first day. Felt like I played left-handed yesterday and felt like I was hitting the ball like I did the first day. I didn't do anything special, just hit the ball in the fairway, hit some good iron shots, and made a couple putts. Two bogeys on the back nine, poor golf swing on 12, which is a hole you can't really miss left on, but I was lucky enough to be able to -- had a good look for par, slid by the edge.

And then 16 was just playing tough. My driver's not quite carrying as far as it's supposed to right now and that bunker's not quite carryable, so I had to hit hybrid, try to cut a hybrid from left on 16. Anytime you're trying to hit hybrid to a back right flag on that hole it's going to be a struggle. The good thing, I was able to kind of capitalize by hitting some solid golf shots toward the end and making a putt on the last.

Q. When you have a day like yesterday that creeps in out of nowhere, does that kind of dent your confidence coming into a day like today when you had previously been swinging it pretty well, or do you get into the rhythm pretty quickly?

PATRICK REED: You know, I don't know what happened yesterday honestly. My coach and I, right after we got done we didn't even go to the range, we just kind of went back to the house and sat down and talked to try to figure out what kind of happened yesterday. The warmup was good. I mean, I hit the ball great on the range yesterday morning, I chipped well, I felt like I was putting solid. Got to the golf course and something happened that just, the ball just didn't want to go where I wanted it to go and the ball didn't want to go in the hole. Seemed to want to go in the hole after the fact, but it didn't want to go in the hole for birdie or anything.

You know, it's just kind of one of those days. You're going to have those throughout your career, and throughout the year you're going to have one of those days that just kind of creeps on you. The biggest thing is just kind of have short-term memory and move on. I was able to do that, especially after sitting down and talking to my coach. We came out today and just kind of got on the range, got in a warmup and just kind of reset everything and started over.

Yeah, I hit it worse on the range than I did yesterday. I go to the golf course and, I mean, I missed the first hole left of the green, but I sit there perfect drive, perfect iron shot, just misjudged the wind.

Then almost dunked it on 2, hit two great golf shots on 3, just happened to kick right and go in the bunker. Got that up and down for birdie.

I hit two perfect shots on 4, and then at that point I knew that the swing was back where it was supposed to be. Yesterday was just kind of one of those fluke days.

Q. When you look at guys struggling around the greens today specifically, I know it's been all week, what are the challenges to chipping around these greens?

PATRICK REED: I think the biggest thing is the change of grain. There's always these little subtle slopes on these greens, but then all of a sudden you get such a change of grain. It happens so quickly that if you don't hit your spot absolutely perfectly and don't make perfect contact, you're not going to have that much control.

Seems like there's a lot -- like where they had the pins today and, you know, kind of where they had the pins yesterday, there's a lot of pins where you're uphill into the grain but downwind, or you're downhill, down grain, into the wind. It's just, you know, that makes it just a little bit more challenging to try to figure out how to get really close.

Like my birdie on 14, into the wind, uphill, into the grain. I nipped it, thought it was going to be perfect, and if it didn't hit the flag I'm probably in the back bunker. Luckily it hits the flag and goes in for a birdie and I'm sitting there going, you know, I nipped that, I hit that pretty good, I thought if anything it was going to be short. And if there's no hole there and you're just playing to like a spot on the green, it's probably 12 feet by.

Q. (No microphone.)

PATRICK REED: I mean, I think everybody's kind of looking forward to an offseason. It's been a long year, but at the same time I want to finish the year off right. I want to go out and play some good golf tomorrow and have a good taste in my mouth when I go back home. If you think about it, Kessler knows down to the day, it's 26 days, and I'm pretty sure if you ask him he might know down to the minute and the hour how much time he has off after tomorrow.

Yeah, it's just kind of one of those things. You only have 26 days, so it's not like you go home and shut down for a while. The type of guy I am, I'll shut it down for like two or three days and I'll be back out practicing.

Q. Where do you want to wear the green jacket over this break (inaudible)?

PATRICK REED: I might. I'll wear it a couple times. Probably take Justine out to a really nice dinner and pop out the jacket and stuff. I wear it every once in a while. The biggest thing is it's always kind of -- it's always in sight of anything I do, whether it's kind of get up and get ready, whether I come home, get ready for bed, I'm always able to see it. Just kind of use it as a steppingstone and motivation to go out and try to get another one.

Q. Have you sat down and thought about the menu for the Champions Dinner for next year?

PATRICK REED: I mean, it will probably be some kind of Texas thing. We'll see.