

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
January 24, 2019



BUD CAULEY (-6)

Q. Not a bad way to start, 6-under 66 today. Just a few comments about what was going right.

BUD CAULEY: Yeah, I played pretty solid. I drove the ball well, hit my irons pretty well, holed some putts. Sucks to finish with a bogey on the last, but you get it in that rough and it's pretty penalizing, so just got to keep it in the fairway.

Q. Coming into the week, how had you been feeling about your game? I know you had been working a lot on it.

BUD CAULEY: Yeah, I had been playing well. I played last week and struck the ball really well. Didn't make some putts and it's almost kind of a putting contest last week, so it's tough to compete if you're not holing a lot. I putted well today and continue to hit the ball well, so just try to keep that going.

Q. When you know the difference in the golf courses between the North and the South scoring-wise, does that put any pressure on you when you start your week over there?

BUD CAULEY: Not really. You know, I mean, they've made it tougher through the years, so it's not like it's a cakewalk out there, but you know you have to get off to a good start and it was nice to make a couple birdies early and kind of get my round going.

Q. Bud, are you 100 percent?

BUD CAULEY: Yeah, I feel great.

Q. When did you make that turn to 100 percent?

BUD CAULEY: My body felt good when I was at home, but really just going and playing in Napa and playing pretty well, finishing the event was kind of when I took a breath and was like, we're going to be okay. I went home for a couple weeks, then came back and played well in Vegas. It wasn't really any one moment, but I started to feel good at home, and then to come out and have a little bit of success and play well on Tour was kind of when I relaxed a little bit, I guess.

Q. What was the hardest part about the whole rehab?

BUD CAULEY: It was the ribs. I had six broken ribs and they had to plate four of them, so

it took a while for that to heal, for all the muscle and the tissue to kind of start to, you know, mix with the titanium plates they put on. So that was the biggest concern and my biggest worry when I was trying to get better at home was that.

Q. How painful is that?

BUD CAULEY: It's not fun. The first couple weeks I couldn't -- you know, yawning hurt, laughing hurt, so I just kind of sat in a chair. Then it progressively got better and I was able to do more and more. Now it feels great. Yeah, for the first few weeks it was really painful.

Q. What's been the best part of your return since the accident? What's been the best moments since the accident?

BUD CAULEY: Probably just finishing that first event. I had been playing at home and I felt like I could come out and play, which is obviously why I showed up in Napa. But just to finish the event and kind of get just one golf tournament under my belt was really probably the happiest I've been through all of this.

Q. Is there something you can't do now that you could do before or vice versa?

BUD CAULEY: Not really. Some of the things in my workouts with Colby we've altered a little bit. Laying flat on a bench and doing things like that, whether it's a dumbbell bench press or whatnot, can hurt a little bit just because it really pulls my ribs apart. But golf-wise, I don't feel any restrictions at all.

Q. Are there any psychological scars from that moment?

BUD CAULEY: No. I was really lucky to only have the injuries that I had. Fortunately, I guess you could say, I don't remember any of the accident. I hit my head and got knocked out, so I don't even remember it, which I think it's a nice thing now and I think going forward it will be a nice thing.