ROUND 1 INTERVIEW March 29, 2019

KEVIN SUTHERLAND (-7)



Q. Kevin, an incredible day. Just talk about 6 and that eagle you made to start off.

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: Yeah, you know, I hit a good drive there and it was playing straight downwind so I only had a 6-iron to the green. I hit exactly where I wanted to, just kind of took the slope down to the hole about four feet and made that putt. Made a bunch of other putts today. It was nice to roll the ball well and hit good shots.

Q. Outside of 17 it seemed like the greens were treating you pretty well today.

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: Yeah, and at 17 actually the green treated me just fine there, too. I hit a really poor tee shot and actually made a really good two-putt from very far from the hole just to make bogey. That green treated me just as well as all the others.

Q. Obviously you can't win the tournament on the first day but you can lose it. You didn't lose it today, you're up atop the leaderboard, so how does it feel just coming out of day 1 here?

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: I was really happy with how I just played. This whole week I've been kind of not hitting the ball like I want to, but it all came together today, so it's been good. Just keep doing what I was doing. The key is, there's so much golf to play. Who's leading after the first day or second or third doesn't really matter. Someone's going to shoot some good scores tomorrow, so just want to hopefully be one of them.

Q. Did you hear a lot about these fast greens out here? Can you talk about the greens? Are they faster than expected?

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: They are quick. I remember a few years ago they were about this speed, but they're just lightning fast. You need to be aware of what you're doing. I don't care how close you are to the hole, you've just got to be aware. It's easy to have like a four-footer if you're just not paying attention and end up like (inaudible.) You're putting defensive when you have to and if you can keep the ball below the hole, you know, they're just a beautiful surface. Like the last hole I hit a really good putt and it just didn't go in. The surface is so good, you know that it has nothing to do with the green, it's just all you.