

**WEBB SIMPSON (-16)**

---

**Q. Webb, another solid day for you, 5-under 65, you're right where you want to be heading to tomorrow.**

**WEBB SIMPSON:** Yeah, I played solid today again. Similar to yesterday's back nine, I had a lot of birdie putts that, you know, weren't that far from the hole, but I had to play so much break. The last two holes, 17 I had to play three cups out, 18 I played it about nine feet out. So it's tough around here to put yourself under the hole and have a good putt for birdie. But other than that, I feel like I hung in there well today. Only one dropped shot, kind of a mental error on 14, so overall a good day.

**Q. Seventeen of 18 greens, which is solid here, and I thought even at 10 and 11, those are tough holes and you were able to get pars there, and then you got the birdie at 12 setting up that back nine for you.**

**WEBB SIMPSON:** Yeah, that was big. I hit a poor drive on 10, and 11 I left myself 50, 60 feet for birdie. So, like you said, the birdie on 12 was a bonus and 13's a great number for me. Hit some good shots coming in.

**Q. You said it would take probably 20, 21, that was the number you were looking at.**

**WEBB SIMPSON:** Yeah.

**Q. Your thoughts going into tomorrow with a lot of guys bunched at the top?**

**WEBB SIMPSON:** A lot of guys. I mean, I wouldn't be surprised if somebody shot 8, 9, 10 under, a guy who's within striking distance. Like I said yesterday, I've got to keep the pedal down and if I don't shoot a low one, I'm not going to win. But again, one shot at a time and patience is the key for me tomorrow.

**Q. How would you rate today?**

**WEBB SIMPSON:** Today was an A-minus. I feel like mentally I did really well today except 14. No. 6, a pitching wedge flew on me and it went way too far and I kind of let that influence my lie on 14, but other than that I felt like I played really solid, hit good shots and felt really comfortable out there.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**WEBB SIMPSON:** Yeah. I mean, last week I hit it really poorly in the first round and we

went to the range and I felt like Paul and I just simplified it, tried to be really good at a couple things, and after that I started striking it more consistently and hit a lot of great shots last week, so that kind of increased my confidence. This week's kind of a short to mid iron golf course, which I feel is a strength of mine. So yeah, it's a comfort and it's also nice knowing I'm hitting the ball where I'm looking.

**Q. I know this week you have a lot of friends and family in the area. How do you channel that in a positive way?**

**WEBB SIMPSON:** Yeah, I think I've got to take it and enjoy it and know that they're here supporting me, but when they announce on the first tee and I'm inside the ropes, it's business time and I want to be as focused as I possibly can. Smile when I get to the greens, thank the crowd for their cheers. But yeah, I want it to be just a really focused four hours of golf and after that I'll thank everybody for their support.

**Q. Webb, if we can just get some comments on your round.**

**WEBB SIMPSON:** Yeah, today was a bit like yesterday, I feel like, solid all the way through. Hit a lot of greens. I think I only missed one green in regulation on 14. So I felt like when I hit it in a tough spot off the tee, I was able to kind of put it back where I needed to put it and make some putts. So all in all, kind of a stress-free 5 under. I did what I needed to do, which is staying in contention and within striking distance of Ben.

**Q. I know you won this tournament before, but what would it mean to win another one?**

**WEBB SIMPSON:** It would mean a lot. There's something special about your first win, something special about Greensboro for me. I've been talking about it all week, the support's been fantastic. So there's a lot of reasons I want to win, but got a lot of work to do, especially with how many guys are within a few of the lead.

**Q. What's it going to take to win?**

**WEBB SIMPSON:** It's going to take a low number. It's going to take more birdies, but I've got to remember I can't be too aggressive because I haven't done that all week. I've got to stay within my game plan and strike when I can strike. There's plenty of tough holes out here still and I've got to be careful that I'm not too aggressive.

**Q. When you ran away from the field last year in THE PLAYERS Championship, were you ahead of where you are now or are you basically right there where you were then?**

**WEBB SIMPSON:** I was definitely more ahead then. I had a big cushion, five after two days and seven after three. But you know what's interesting is I never set out to play aggressive at THE PLAYERS, I never tried to create this big lead of seven shots. I just

honestly played my game and made a lot of putts. That's kind of the key tomorrow is don't worry about what Ben or any of the other guys around me are doing. There's plenty of great players at the top, so I've got to focus on me tomorrow.