

BRANDT SNEDEKER (-8)

Q. I watched that hole-out on 15. I don't know if anybody has more fun at Torrey Pines than you do. What is it about this place that brings out the best in your game?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: I really can't put my finger on it. I just know as a rookie out here is where I kind of got my feet wet on Tour, I had the lead through two rounds. It's always been so good, the fans treat me like a native here and I love playing. This golf course, for whatever reason, sets up really well for me. I kind of know how you're supposed to play it. You've got to think your way around it. Everybody thinks it's this huge golf course and you've got to overpower it, and that's not the case. You've really got to plot your way around this golf course and I did a good job of it today.

Q. Everybody in the golf industry talks about that famous pop stroke of yours. It has to be true because we've seen it work so many times. Can you really feel the differences when you get out there on that poa annua and just being able to sort of muscle it through all of that stuff?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: I do, yeah. It's one of those things, I get on the surface, I feel comfortable. I realize that you're going to hit some good putts that don't go in. I'm probably the only guy that thinks I hit some bad putts that do go in out there occasionally. I just love getting on surfaces that kind of brings out what I love to do in my stroke is be aggressive, hit the golf ball hard, and I did a great job of that today. I made some great putts. A few didn't go in, but all in all I'm excited about how I'm setting up for the weekend.

Q. What do you think the most important things for you are here?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: For me, hit the ball in the fairway. If you don't hit the ball in the fairway here, it's going to be a long day. I'm not a long hitter like some of these guys are out here, so I've got to hit the fairway. Did a great job on the front nine, I kind of survived the back nine, so hopefully on the weekend I can kind of tighten up the driver a little bit. If I do that, I'll have a lot of fun, and make some putts.

Q. So you're saying we will not see you trying to pull off that Jon Rahm shot?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: I don't have that. I wish I did, I wish I had that kind of ability, but I don't.

Q. I know you're a Predators fan; a couple hat tricks out there today to help with the round. Aside from two shots that went left of the par 3s, played a great round of golf.

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Really did. Been kind of fighting with my golf swing, I've gotten really close to almost eliminating that left shot.

But hitting it really solid. Got off to a great start birdieing three of the first five holes and that kind of set the day up for me, let me be aggressive. Had a few good looks the last couple holes and wasn't able to convert, but all in all to shoot anything in the 60s at Torrey, you're doing something right.

So going to build on this for the week, keep hitting some good shots and more importantly have a lot of fun. I love this place, it's been good to me, so always puts a smile on my face when I'm here.

Q. You won here twice, you finished high most of the times you've played here. What is it about this place.

BRANDT SNEDEKER: I think it's the greens, I think it's the people. They kind of adopted me after my rookie year, feel like I'm kind of part Californian when I'm out here. And the greens here, they find out -- they test you in a different way than most greens test you. You find out if you're hitting it good or not. You're going to hit some great putts that don't go in, so you've got to have a good mindset and realize it's part of being on poa annua. I always have, I love it, so hopefully continue to do it over the weekend.

Q. So what happens to you when you come to this place?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Puts a smile on my face. I love being here. I love the challenge that Torrey Pines brings. I love the greens. The fans kind of adopted me here as one of their own because it's kind of where my career got started, my rookie year, 2007. So means a lot of stuff to me, so when I come here I'm always in a good mood, which when you get on poa annua is probably half the battle.

And I came here playing well. Played really good at Hawaii and just wasn't able to kind of get the putter going the way I normally do, so came here with a lot of confidence.

Q. The fog kind of has been rolling in and out the last couple days. Do you feel better equipped to win this after that crazy win you had here in 2016?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: The fog's great, but it doesn't really change conditions that much. I wish it was blowing and nasty. I welcome any conditions. I feel like it tests you mentally and it really challenges you to be patient for 18 holes, which this golf course is very good at making you feel impatient a lot because it beats you up constantly. We'll see how it goes on the weekend. The weather forecast looks great, so find out who's playing the best. The course will identify it pretty quickly.

Q. Are you expecting it to sort of stay where it is like it has five of the last seven times, it's come back from the three hole mark or go deeper given the --

BRANDT SNEDEKER: I think there's a lot of guys up there, even though Palmer kind of pushed himself beyond it, but there's a lot of guys, somebody's going to get hot over the weekend, put two good rounds together. So it's going to be double digits somewhere, just depends on kind of, A, where they put the pins, B, if the greens get firm or not, and we'll see from there.

Q. Just because it's on the water or because it's poa?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: I think because of poa.

Q. How does that happen to a southern guy?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: I think because I played here my rookie year and putted unbelievable my first time ever on poa annua really that I just kind of, I never had a bad feeling about it. I think also poa annua really tests you to hit solid putts over and over and over again if you get the ball rolling. If you're kind of off a little bit, it will really find it out. So if you're rolling it great, the ball's still going to roll good on poa. If you're off a little bit, it won't.

Q. There was no feeling after that rookie year thinking, man, that was a fluke?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yeah, obviously there was. Until you win out here, you think everything's a fluke.

Q. New caddie, how long have you been with Shannon?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: This is the second week trying him out, he's been great. I've known him for 15 years out here on Tour, he's a good guy. Great personality to have on the bag, keeps me loose. That's important when you're under pressure is to have a guy who keeps you loose and make sure you have fun when you're out there.