

MATTHEW WOLFF (-19)

JOHN BUSH: Welcome Matthew Wolff into the interview room following an 8-under par 64. He currently has a three-shot lead.

Matthew, if we can get some comments on just a phenomenal round of golf, nine birdies and an eagle. If we can get some comments, please.

MATTHEW WOLFF: Yeah, it was a great round of golf out there today. I heard an ice cream truck circling the property and seemed like every time I heard that, I had made birdie or made a putt, so I've got to give a lot of credit to that. I think on the fifth hole I made that long one. more birdies, more ice cream, so that was my mindset from that point on and probably going to be the same one tomorrow.

Felt like the putter was really good today. Wasn't really thinking about much over the putt, lining it up, feeling confident in the line and stroking it really nice. I think my irons were the biggest improvement from last week, just being able to control the distances and being able to give myself a lot more looks.

JOHN BUSH: Take us through the eagle on the 14th, please.

MATTHEW WOLFF: Yeah, it was nice having that hole a little downwind because you're just going to come in with a short club. Hit a drive down the left side. Actually got a really good break, landed in the first cut, I think of the rough on the left side, kicked back in the fairway. So one of the best breaks I can say that I got in a long, long time, but happy to have it happen there.

Had about 217 to the hole, 203 to cover the water. The wind was kind of swirling a little bit. I hit 6-iron and just flagged it right over the pin, landed like pretty close, a little up the slope and a little back and then had about a 12- or 15-footer down breaking to the right and really got the speed good and the line matched up perfectly. I think a couple feet out I knew it was in, so it was nice to get the par save on 13, I actually made a putt there as well and then to make the eagle on 14 was a really nice momentum boost to finish the round.

Q. You mentioned a little earlier just about the wind, the windy conditions. Is it a lot different out there today?

MATTHEW WOLFF: Yeah, the afternoon, I had a pretty early tee time -- obviously I had a morning tee time I think the second day, but the first day I had like 12:40, so I hadn't seen the greens as beat up as they were today, but it really didn't affect me. I think that the people that don't putt well on these type of greens are ones that are thinking about the poa annua

and bumpiness and stuff, I just told myself to pick a line, pick a speed and that's all you can control. It was definitely a little harder today. I got a couple bad breaks, but a couple good ones as well, so it was a really good round and just looking to bring that confidence into tomorrow.

JOHN BUSH: Talking about confidence heading into tomorrow, how does a three-stroke lead play into your mindset?

MATTHEW WOLFF: Yeah, a lot of people would say you don't want to give up that lead, but in my mind, as many strokes advantage as you have over the field is better. I don't ever look at something about -- I don't look at the down side of things. That's one thing I think I'd change, but I look at having a three-stroke lead, going out there I think I'll be playing with Ryan Armour. I really enjoy playing with him, he's a super good guy. It's a golf course that sets up really well, I'm hitting really well, putting good, doing everything well. Just going to go out there, have fun and hopefully I hear the ice cream truck a little bit.

Q. Matt, nine birdies, an eagle today on your round. You talked about it before, seemed like you stood over putts and you saw the ball go in the hole it seemed like.

MATTHEW WOLFF: Yeah, I think I have to give credit to the ice cream truck that was circling the property. I'm not joking actually. Like I think on -- what is it -- 5, the par 3, I made the longest putt of the day. It was like a 35 or something like that footer and I heard the ice cream truck and I'm like, I have a good feeling about this. Just had that little like ice cream truck song in my head and I think that helped me just not think about the speed or the line or anything, just keep my head free, which I've been giving a lot of credit to this week.

Q. So those type of things kind of help that if you find something, like device to free yourself up, just to kind of go play without thinking about some of the things?

MATTHEW WOLFF: Yeah, absolutely, I think that's the key to this week for me. I've obviously been working hard on my swing and other parts of my game. I feel like my short game's really coming along. Like I said, I'm hitting my irons a lot better and rotating really well. Yeah, I've really got to give it to a lot of mindset. I feel like there was a lot of times in the past where I had good rounds and I let my head get in the way of I need to close this out or I need to do something, I want to try to make more birdies coming in, and instead I would go the other way, whereas I'm taking it shot by shot, hole by hole and whatever happens, happens.

Q. Can you pinpoint a time, like the moment where you said, "I need to try to change my mindset"?

MATTHEW WOLFF: Beginning of this week. I was talking to Amanda earlier, actually at 3M a year ago I missed the cut at -- or I MDF'd when that was a thing at Travelers, so I missed the cut this week, and then going into next week, I had a lot of expectations coming out of college playing well. I was talking to George, my coach, and a couple other people and I just

told myself at the beginning of the week at 3M, I don't care, whatever happens, happens, don't get mad, don't get frustrated, just play golf, do what you know how to do and just have a good time out there. ended up working out pretty well for me. So I told myself at the beginning of this week to have that same mindset. I just love ice cream.

Q. Last question. Obviously just about a year ago that you won for the very first time at the 3M, kind of this time of year seems like it fits you pretty well. What can you kind of take mentally from that win and kind of take it to tomorrow into the course?

MATTHEW WOLFF: I think the biggest thing is not only the mindset of not really caring or not worrying about outcomes before they even happen, but also I was talking to my assistant coach, Coach Darr at Oklahoma State, before I won 3M and the mindset of winning is winning. I won so much in college, I've already won out here, so I know I can do it. On any level you still have to hit the shots, you still have to make the putts and shoot the scores. I feel like over the last -- I was in college two years ago, or last year was my first year out here, so it's not as, you know, it's not as much of a normal feeling, winning. But I still have those experiences to rely on and look back at, so I'm just going to go out there, have fun and hopefully I can cherish the moment.

Q. Speaking of fun, what's your favorite ice cream?

MATTHEW WOLFF: I mean, I'm just more like vanilla guy, but I don't know, there's a couple popsicles on those ice cream trucks that are pretty dang good. I'm not really sure. I'll be thinking about that tomorrow, though.