ROUND 1 INTERVIEW July 23, 2020



KYLE STANLEY (-5)

KYLE STANLEY: Probably more birdie opportunities on the back nine today. Yeah, just kind of hot early on and, you know, cooled off on the second nine, but overall, pretty happy with the day.

Q. You bat leadoff this morning, first group off. Have you had that role much in your career? Is there any advantage or disadvantage to it?

KYLE STANLEY: You know, Hartford was 6:45 and today 6:50, so a little earlier than I prefer, but once you get out there it's not that bad, just an early wake-up call, not much sleep. It's nice to get out in front and finish early here and go home, get some rest.

Q. How early did you get up and what time did you get to the course?

KYLE STANLEY: I'm a minimum of three hours kind of before my morning time, so I was up around 3:40, 3:45. Went to bed around 11:00.

Q. What time did you get here?

KYLE STANLEY: When did I get here. About an hour before my tee time.

Q. Nice to see your name up there in the lead first thing in the morning?

KYLE STANLEY: Yeah, it's been a while. You know, it's nice to play well. It's kind of been a process here for a while, haven't been getting much out of my game, felt like I've been playing okay, just not necessarily scoring, and the putter's a little bit cold. Made a few adjustments grip-wise, putter-wise this week and my ball-striking has been for the most part pretty good all year. Been driving it well, hitting my irons well, just haven't been really able to get anything going on the greens. Just nice to see some putts go in and get a little confidence there.

Q. Did you see a start like this coming?

KYLE STANLEY: I don't know. I took last week off. I got home Saturday and put my clubs in the office and then grabbed them eight days later, didn't touch them. So kind of got away from it a little bit. Hit the reset button and just kind of do things other than golf. So coming in this week, I was certainly rested and refreshed and ready to go.

Q. Did the brief fog delay allow you to do anything you wouldn't normally?

KYLE STANLEY: Not really. A couple extra minutes on the range, which I guess was nice. It was a bit cool this morning, but warm-up wise, I'm about 45, 50 minutes.

Q. Just looking at your numbers here, I know you had the tie for 3 in Puerto Rico but your scores, the finishes haven't necessarily reflected it, but you've only had one over-par score since we've returned to golf. Have you been feeling pretty solid about your --

KYLE STANLEY: Yeah, that's kind of what I was hinting at. I feel like I've been playing fine, just not necessarily scoring. I think that's more of like a reflection of my ball-striking. I've had a ton of opportunities, just haven't really gotten anything going on the greens. You know, a lot of missed cuts by one and you save a shot here or there on a Thursday or Friday, have a chance to play the weekend and your year could really look totally different. That's been a little unfortunate, but just got to keep your head down, keep working and just trust that good golf's around the corner.