



BO VAN PELT (-8)

Q. Bo, first, we didn't get an opportunity to talk about that hole-in-one yesterday. I was out there watching and I was going to be following you possibly and straddling you with the group in front so I was watching your shot into 8 because you -- did you just make a bogey at 7?

BO VAN PELT: Yeah.

Q. So they called me off and got me to go forward, but keep an eye, so I looked at it and I saw it go in. Congratulations, man. That had to be pretty cool.

BO VAN PELT: Yeah, no, it was great. I was playing well and bummed about bogeying 7, so it was a great bounce-back. It was funny, I mean, half the holes-in-one I ever had have been with a 6-iron, so it was -- that was been my lucky club. It was definitely a good bounce-back.

Q. Talk about that shot a little bit, because that hole played really easy. You helped with the scoring average actually. You played the par 3s incredibly well yesterday, but that number with the softer greens isn't very technical, is it? That would have been a really hard shot with firm greens; it was only 4 or 5 over the edge.

BO VAN PELT: For sure. It was just kind of a smooth 6. I knew the yardage was good and obviously the softness of the greens definitely helped out so you weren't really worried about, hey, I'm not trying to really take on the bunkers, just get it on the green, it's going to stop nicely.

Q. For me, I had a torn labrum and it ended my career. It went to my back and a lot of other stories, but you've been very patient, or did you just find something else to do, now I'm feeling better and I can try it again? Tell us a little bit about all this time off, the surgery and how you've gotten back to this place.

BO VAN PELT: Yeah, I just couldn't play. I tore like 85 percent of my labrum and I just couldn't play. So they went back in and found a bunch of bone spurs, cleaned it out, thought that was going to do it. Then that wasn't doing it, either. My hand started going numb and I thought I was done.

Went back to my original surgeon and he referred me to another guy in Dallas, Greg Pearl at Baylor Scott & White and I got diagnosed with thoracic outlet syndrome. So they said on top of the torn labrum, what I had going on, that's why I kept getting a pinch and pain. He removed my first rib I guess a year and a half ago in February and it just gave me the

opportunity to play.

So literally I didn't start playing 18 holes until probably -- consistently until probably two weeks before Safeway this year, but it was like, hey, look, I guess we'll see if we can get it rolling.

Actually, the COVID, for me having that time off was huge because I really needed to practice and it gave me kind of three months to kind of work on my game. Even though my results haven't been great this first month, the way I've been playing's been a lot better.

Yeah, just kind of sticking with it. It was just hard, I didn't play 18 holes for over three years. Basically, I was trying to relearn every kind of feel that I had less than a year ago. Yeah, it's just been kind of a process. Finally feeling like I'm getting back to where I can compete again.

Q. You just gave me like a hundred questions I want to ask because it's not as simple as you just made it. Literally, if you're a PGA TOUR player -- I'm going to liken it to a bicycle. Well, if you're a professional bicyclist and you do stunts and tricks, you're doing flips and stuff, just getting back on a bike is all you could do at one point. To relearn to play professionally with all that time off is insane how much you've learned and to be able to do it at your age, too, because you're not a young pup anymore.

BO VAN PELT: Yeah. Like I also was losing four years of age, you're going from 40 to 44. I just turned 45 in May. Like my coach Mark Wood and I, I mean, we worked from 2000, 2010 and I really got on a run there, but it was 10 years of working on the same stuff.

So basically to just lose all that, I couldn't go back to the same feels. We want to do the same stuff, but everything felt different, your body's different. Trying to get my body moving again the way it's supposed to.

So yeah, it's like I told my wife and my kids, this is going to be the hardest thing I ever had to do is to try to compete out here at 45 after taking almost four years off. I don't think there's anybody probably ever done it. But I like where my game's going. It's hard to just keep rah-rahing yourself when you're shooting over par, so it's nice to kind of put some red on the board and hopefully this will be some momentum going the right way.