ROUND 3 INTERVIEW August 15, 2020



WOODY AUSTIN (-1)

Q. Third round, it really came together, 67 score, four birdies. Can you talk us through some of those highlights?

WOODY AUSTIN: Really played good today. Reminded me of a 30-something kid that used to hit it pretty good. So I was struggling the first two days driving off the tee and today I drove it really well. And all my good irons kept going and I hit it really close. I actually to a point, that's probably the worst score I could have shot. I mean, I really played solid today. And my only bogey was a three-putt. So I hit it close, made a couple short ones. Well, I made a couple decent 15-footers on 3 and 8, but I missed a couple. I missed like a 6-footer on 7. I missed a 10-footer on 5. I lipped out on 1, I lipped out on 4. I mean, I had chance after -- and I hit it an inch on 10, so I almost made that one. So I was an inch short there. And then three-putted on -- unfortunately I three-putted on 13 -- or 14, and then made a great putt. Made the best putt I made all day on 16. And then scrambled on 18 to make a par. So other than that, I mean, 18 was really my big trouble spot. I was really in pretty good control most of the day. So it was a really fun, solid round of golf.

Q. Yeah, even with that score, do you still feel like you left some out there?

WOODY AUSTIN: Yeah.

Q. So does that give you excitement for tomorrow?

WOODY AUSTIN: Well, the course is playing so hard, and it's such a good, tough golf course. It's like any good -- like a U.S. Open or whatever. When you have a day like today, you don't want to leave them out there. That's the part -- do I feel excited for tomorrow? Tomorrow is another, different day, and the course is going to play harder. So you just don't want to give up on shots on days where you really played good, because you're going to need those when you hit a few bad shots on this golf course, because this golf course isn't letting you get away with anything, so that's the only disappointment.

Q. So when you go to sleep tonight, you'll be disappointed?

WOODY AUSTIN: Oh, no, no. I'm not disappointed at all. I'm just saying it was one of those -- like I said, it reminded me of a 30-something kid who could really hit it good at times. And I really hit it good today.

Q. The pack is bunched. I mean, nobody's really doing anything. You made a

huge move, so --

WOODY AUSTIN: Right, but that's because it's a good golf course and even par matters. What's wrong with that? I think that's what's been lost in our game for the last 15 years now, 20 years almost, is even par means nothing. Guys can shoot even par hitting it absolutely all over the map because there's no penalties in golf anymore. And for us, this course is all we want from all the way back. And then the fact that the fairways are running -- it's the kind of golf course where the fairways are all tilted in the opposite directions, and it's really hard to even hit the ball in the middle of the fairway and hope it stays in the fairway, because a lot of times the middle of the fairway -- on No. 8 it's in the rough, No. 9 is in the rough. So it's really hard to hit the fairways. And the greens are firm and fast, and there's rough around the greens. So, I mean, it's just a really good test to where you know if you shoot even par, you have done something right. And fortunately I was able to hang in there the first day when I really struggled and shot three over and now I have put a couple good ones together and I'm right where I need to be.

Q. Even the PGA Tour guys haven't seen it this firm?

WOODY AUSTIN: Oh, no.

Q. It's rarely you have a week like this, you know, so --

WOODY AUSTIN: Right. Last year we had a big rain delay, the golf course was kind of under water last year, and 6 under. So coming in, when I played my practice round on Tuesday, I'm like, I don't think 6 under is going to even -- I don't know if you're going to get to 6 under. Jerry has played really well, but, I mean, I'm like, jeez, I'll take 6 under right now. And I was just sitting there saying, I'll take under par, which is where I'm at. And I'll still take under par tomorrow. I will be happy as can be.

Q. Appreciate it, thank you.