

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
May 7, 2021

MATT WALLACE (-6)



Q. Matt, (inaudible) the other week at Valero. Coming into the weekend, it's where you want to be, isn't it? It's the next step, isn't it?

MATT WALLACE: Yep, this is the next step. I've always tried to progress my career in ways where I put myself in sticky spots, you know. And it's tough over here. The PGA TOUR is really tough. The golf courses are amazing, they're big, the players from top to bottom can win, and so it's very difficult to get it done. I'm just playing -- I'm playing really nice now. Ever since Bay Hill I've been on a nice stretch. I'm in a good mental space. Everything I want to achieve on the golf course, I know what I need to do to achieve that and, yeah, we're in a good spot.

Q. It maybe takes a little bit (inaudible) --

MATT WALLACE: Yeah, I think you need to -- I think your golf game needs to travel with you because if you play well, I did it at the PGA Championship at Bethpage, I was playing nicely there and I came in third. Some people say I might look comfortable there, and you do with your game, but it's when you're not quite on is when you need to find yourself being comfortable and actually you feel like you deserve to be here.

Q. What did you learn maybe that's made you a little more comfortable? Is there anything you've kind of figured out being over here?

MATT WALLACE: Do you know what, the main think I think is being in the locker room. You know everybody, you say hello to everyone. I've played with pretty much everyone over here now and it just makes it a lot easier. When you're playing, you tee off on Thursday and Friday, there might be new people, but you know them because you see them around a lot. Yeah, that makes it a lot more comfortable than where I probably was a year or so ago.

Q. You were maybe uncomfortable when you first came over here?

MATT WALLACE: Not uncomfortable, but you're -- I think you're trying to weigh up your game against other people because you don't know how hard it is over here or how difficult it is, or how easy if you might think of it that way as well. So I was trying to compare my game with other people, but my expectations were probably too high, probably thinking I had to play better than I did. But right now I'm playing well enough to compete, so I know my game's good enough now because I've shown it. Just back then I probably didn't know how good I needed to be to actually get the job done. And you don't actually have to be amazing. You don't have to be amazing to get the job done over here. It's just the courses, they demand a little bit more so you need to play a bit better. So that's all I can probably give if I

was to tell myself that a year or so ago.

Q. (Question about his caddy.)

MATT WALLACE: Brilliant. I gave him props today, he was fantastic out on the golf course today. As I finished even up to the last hole, we had a sneaky little two-shot decision whether to play just to the front edge and have a 40-foot up the hill or hit the proper shot and go for it. Those shots are tough because it's a really tough hole. So we went for the one that if I hit it properly, it was going to get close. I hit a good shot, just missed it long right, and then I said to him at the chip, I said, "Where do you think we could stop this?" And I played it a bit further and it came out a bit softer because of the rough and it landed where we wanted, whereas if I had tried to play to where I wanted, I would have been short and left it there. So he's just -- he just gets it, he just absolutely gets it and he gets the situation. He likes to say that he can play some shots that I do, and I know he definitely can, but he gets it. He's out there with the best caddies in the world.