

ROUND 3 INTERVIEW
May 8, 2021

KEITH MITCHELL (-9)



Q. What was working this week?

KEITH MITCHELL: All of it. I just feel like everything's really working. My driver feels great, and around this place you've really got to drive it well, so I'm sure the stats would say that. Really all of it feels good right now. Really just trying to keep the ball in front of me right now and see what we can do tomorrow.

Q. They refer to this as a major championship test. Is it intimidating playing this golf course?

KEITH MITCHELL: It can be when you put yourself out of -- like out of -- really a lot of holes you can be out of position and it turns almost impossible. You've really got to pick and choose where you're really -- to the flags necessarily. They can put them right on the grain changes and put them right on the edges and sometimes your good shot's 25 feet from the hole and some holes you can go for birdie. That's really why it feels that way, because it's not like every hole you can attack. You have to be very precise.

Q. How difficult has it been to handle the struggles you've had recently?

KEITH MITCHELL: I mean, I didn't play very well last year after the restart, just didn't have the energy, didn't have the really just the patience with that short of a season last year, trying to climb the leaderboard. Then felt like my game this year is really starting to blossom and it's just really kind of all starting to shape up right now.

Q. Finished (inaudible) last Sunday and now being the leader, what's that say about this game, about golf?

KEITH MITCHELL: Everything you need to know about it. It can be very lucky and very unlucky all at the same time. Some days you just get all the breaks. Today I definitely got a couple good ones. You have to take the ebbs and flows, there's ups and downs, lucky and unlucky. Last week I got unlucky, this week right now I've had some good breaks. So hopefully it will keep going on Sunday.

Q. You seem to like to play tough golf courses; here, Innisbrook's not an easy golf course, you won at PGA National. Why do you like the tougher golf courses?

KEITH MITCHELL: Really tough golf courses demand every part of your game. I've definitely played poorly on tough golf courses, but my best weeks have been at the tough ones, Bay Hill, Honda, here. You just -- when you hit a bad shot you get penalized and when

you hit a good shot you get rewarded. Some golf courses on the PGA TOUR where you can hit bad shots, get away with it and still try to make birdie. You can't do that here. I think that's a true test of golf. I think it would be -- I don't think golf would be fun if every course was like this. I just feel more comfortable around a tougher course.

Q. Have you ever played with Rory before?

KEITH MITCHELL: Yes, a practice round, if that counts. Not in a tournament, though.

Q. Where was the practice round?

KEITH MITCHELL: Playoffs a couple years ago.