

**TROY MERRITT (-14)**

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**Q. To have a hole-in-one out here -- and we've asked everybody that's come through here, there were no fans in the stands here in this event last year -- what does it mean to have that reaction, to have this unfold for the first time in your PGA career?**

**TROY MERRITT:** Yeah, first and foremost, it's awesome to have the fans back out here whooping and hollering the good shots, commiserating with the bad shots and even hearing some of the comments you probably don't want to hear. No, it was fantastic obviously. To give them something to yell about, give Wayne something to yell about up on the tee box was pretty special.

**Q. To have that group of you guys all at the top there that was really jammed and still is, a hole-in-one obviously separates you from everybody, but even Joaquin and so many guys right there, what is it going to take tomorrow to get this thing done?**

**TROY MERRITT:** Yeah, solid play, hopefully a clean card. There's going to be quite a few birdies tomorrow and we've got to make them to keep pace and hopefully slightly ahead of everybody. The mindset will be find that fairway first, give ourselves as many looks as we can and keep all the squares off the card.

**Q. You said this was your first out here?**

**TROY MERRITT:** On the PGA TOUR, yeah.

**Q. When was your last one?**

**TROY MERRITT:** I made one four, five years ago at home with some buddies.

**Q. What is it about this course that suits you, fits you?**

**TROY MERRITT:** I like that it's tree-lined, it's narrow, it makes me focus in a lot more off the tee. I'm hitting a very nice straight ball with the driver right now so I don't have to think about it too much, I don't have to work the ball in the fairway. If we can just manage that and give ourselves some looks around here, I'm reading the greens pretty well, the feel's pretty good, so if we can hole a few tomorrow, I think we'll have a chance.

**Q. What did you figure out with your putting?**

**TROY MERRITT:** I just attribute it back to basketball, you know, as a shooter, when you go through slumps, shooters shoot. Putters got to putt, just keep hitting putts. You've got to

make them on the golf course, not necessarily on the putting green. You've just got to keep that confidence up knowing that they're going to go in at some point and fortunately we hit that corner and they've been going in more often than not.

**Q. You were a pretty prolific winner at Boise State. Does any of that carry over in a situation like tomorrow? Do you think of anything like that?**

**TROY MERRITT:** Yeah, the big thing is when you get out in front, don't go back to the guys behind you, make them come and get you. I know that we're tied right now, so the mindset will be make a few birdies but don't give any away, make them work to come and get us and hopefully it's good enough in the end.

**Q. And did the hole-in-one, was it so chaotic that maybe got you a little bit out of rhythm coming in?**

**TROY MERRITT:** I don't think so. It was just nice to see it go in. We had time to settle down before the next tee shot. I'm not going to say that my adrenaline was pumping or that I was feeling anything, you know, off about my driver swing on 12. I just hit a poor shot. And I hit a poor one on 13, but then got it right back in the groove until that one on 18 that I pulled left. But no, it was just I had time to recover, I just hit a poor shot on 12.