

JAY WILLIAMSON (-1)

Q. Can you take us through your round today?

JAY WILLIAMSON: Oh, gosh. It was a usual round for myself, lots of great shots, lots of adversity. Actually had a -- haven't had this in a while: I had a whiff. I went under a shot, missed a two-footer all in a span of about 20 minutes and I'm thinking to myself, why am I doing this to myself? Seriously, why do I do this to myself?

But I hung in there and I played the back side really well, hit some great shots and some great putts. If I can just make putts like that, I can actually compete and that's what I did today. Didn't feel great. You know, it's kind of like being on a rollercoaster. Made a lot of birdies, some dumb bogeys, but if I could just -- if I could just be a little bit more confident and a little bit more patient with myself, it would be amazing what maybe I could do.

Q. How do you handle the excitement of being a part of this, playing in your hometown and saying also, I want to play well? Can you mentally separate those two?

JAY WILLIAMSON: Well, that's a good question. I mentally prepared for this for a long time now, especially the last six weeks because I played in the Senior British, played in Calgary, but man, you can't prepare for this other than being out there in the arena when stuff's going bad. You see people in the crowd and they want to talk to you and you're thinking about what was that guy's name. It really is the most -- it is such an emotional rollercoaster out there, especially when you aspire to play well. You know, if I was just out here just screwing around, happy to be here, I don't know if I could ever play like that, but it would probably help me if I could.

Q. How excited are you for the future of this event, for St. Louis -- Boone Valley was 20 years ago -- to have something on the calendar for this town?

JAY WILLIAMSON: Well, Jay Delsing and I, we've been pinching ourself for the last couple years. When Nick Ragone -- I went to a concert with Nick Ragone two-plus years ago pre-COVID and we talked about this and what his aspirations were. I was, well, you're crazy, you can't do it. So I'm walking around out there thinking this is unbelievable that we're here. Norwood is just in spectacular shape, greens are perfect. The guys couldn't be happier. I think that so many people have worked so hard to put this thing on and thank God I'm just part of the circus. You know, I mean, I couldn't be more thankful and appreciative.