ROUND 2 INTERVIEW NOVEMBER 5, 2021

CARLOS ORTIZ (-10)



Q. Well, it was a flurry of birdies to finish, Carlos Ortiz. You were 1 under through 10, how did you kick it into gear?

CARLOS ORTIZ: Actually, I don't mind being 1 under through 10 starting on the back nine. It was a tough stretch of the golf course and I knew if you can somehow keep it together, the front nine's pretty gettable. So I think I did a good job with that and I took advantage of the easy holes, and obviously finishing up with birdie was really nice.

Q. Last we saw you at ZOZO, you had to withdraw with the shoulder injury. How have you been handling that this week here at the World Wide Technology Championship?

CARLOS ORTIZ: It's been okay. A little sore, it's still bothering a little bit. Keep grinding. It's a good golf course to kind of bunt it around, that's what I did today and it worked out perfect.

Q. Carlos, for a normal guy on the PGA TOUR, they're used to teeing it up in the U.S., sometimes they have a hometown event and that's where they feel they have the best crowd support. For you, what's it like to have national support here at one of two PGA TOUR events in Mexico?

CARLOS ORTIZ: That's awesome. I always said I feel like, I don't know how to say, just the vibe that Mexican culture has that as soon as you walk in the hotel or at the airport, the golf course, you just feel this vibe from everyone that makes me have a good week, I guess. I really feed off that and I really enjoy being here. I always said I don't feel like I'm playing a tournament, it feels like I'm on vacation and playing with a couple buddies, especially playing with Abe and Sergio was super fun and I really enjoyed it.

Q. Carlos, just talk a little bit about your round today. Obviously great position heading into the weekend.

CARLOS ORTIZ: Yeah, it's a great round. I feel like I did everything pretty decent. When I missed the green, I think I chipped it pretty close. Putted great most of the day. I made some good putts and I hit it close, so I'm really pleased the way I played. I think I'm in a pretty good position for the weekend.

Q. The stretch of four birdies all in a row there, how important is momentum?

CARLOS ORTIZ: It's great. Anywhere momentum is really important, but on this golf course you just have to see a couple putts roll in and I feel after that it's easier to make them. I did that great today and obviously had a really nice finish with a birdie on nine.

Q. Falling short in a playoff a couple years ago, what did you learn from that that you maybe then applied when you did end up winning at Houston last year?

CARLOS ORTIZ: Make one birdie, one more birdie. I'm just kidding.

Honestly, I haven't -- there's nothing that I learned that week, it's just more that you have to be patient and play the best you can. I think I've done that great this week. I've put two good rounds together and I just have to keep doing that for this weekend.

Q. Being from Mexico and obviously playing here, obviously there's not really a crowd, but can you still kind of feel the buzz and vibe here?

CARLOS ORTIZ: Yeah, 100 percent. And the volunteers and the few people that are out here, the hotel people that help you out, you just feel that vibe every time they see you and they cheer for you. It's just something that, I don't know, it's almost like something that you feel more than they say and I love that feeling. It really pushes me through this week.

Q. Being a PGA TOUR winner now, do you feel like you've got a bit more of a confident sort of feeling heading into the weekend now with another chance to win?

CARLOS ORTIZ: Yeah, I know I can make it happen, so at the end of the day I want to be in contention for the last nine holes of the tournament and that's my goal pretty much. Just have to keep playing some good golf and enjoy myself.