



SCOTT STALLINGS (-9)

Q. Scott, 9 under par today on the Plantation course. How would you assess your round?

SCOTT STALLINGS: It was solid. I had it, I think I was 8 under through 12 and had some good looks on 13, 14, 15 and a good look on 17 and didn't hit it in the fairway, didn't hit it in the spot to give it a chance to go for the green in two on 18, but I guess fortunately, unfortunately I had a good look at birdie, I guess. But excited to take advantage of the day that we had. We've definitely played here enough, you don't have very many days like this, so to go out there and kind of keep the pedal down and give myself lots of opportunities to make birdies, it was a good start to the event.

Q. I was going to say, when you came out today and you saw the conditions, you saw the weather, did you believe you had to be aggressive and take advantage of this?

SCOTT STALLINGS: Absolutely. Everyone knows how volatile the weather can be. It can kind of change at a moment's notice. The golf courses play totally different just with a little bit of subtle wind change. Anything we're going to have the rest of the week is more than we had today. Just happy to get out there and get under par early and try to stay on top of it for the rest of the day.

Q. You went low in the final round in Bermuda, you come out here and go low in great conditions. What's it say about where your game is right now as far as being able to do it in bad conditions and great conditions?

SCOTT STALLINGS: We had a great week of prep kind of all around. The guys that I work with from the body side to the equipment side to the, you know, just strategy and planning, it was a cool kind of team effort to kind of -- you can not necessarily come to the last day of school. That's kind of what it event feels like sometimes. It's an unbelievable place to end the calendar year and everyone is super hospitable, but a little bit of it is kind of like, all right, go out there and see.

My guys kind of held me accountable early on Tuesday, came here and worked with a game plan, and to be in this position that we're in now, obviously we have three more days and anything can happen, but we're off to a good start and I was happy they kind of came, showed up on Tuesday with a little bit kind of kick me in the butt and said, all right, we have one more to finish it out, let's make sure we're doing the stuff we need to do to be where we are today.

Q. One last question: The fall's really become a little heightened over the last maybe

four, five, six years, it's important to really get off to a great start in the FedExCup. Do you feel that the fall is where you really have to go out and play well and set yourself up for to get in the next calendar year?

SCOTT STALLINGS: Yeah, it's a lot easier to make your schedule, kind of give yourself a little bit of a jump start. People's schedules are all over the place. You've kind of got to pick your spots as far as when you're going to take time off. But a great start to the fall, kind of make that early transition in January, February and March a lot easier. A little bit playing with house money I guess and the opportunity to go out there and be aggressive and try to assure yourself further and further and closer and closer to Atlanta.

Q. What did you feel like was working well?

SCOTT STALLINGS: I think just a little bit understanding, started working with Hunter Stewart kind of middle way of through the season and he kind of did a performance review with short game, putting, kind of game plan strategy.

He told me, it's like, man, you do the same thing too often. Kind of like I didn't have enough volatility off my baseline as far as like I always kind of hit it like this, I kind of putted like this.

And the way that our game is now, you have to take advantage of the weeks where things are going and you're rewarded off high finishes. So when you have opportunities to have days like today, you need to take advantage of them.

So a little bit of it's strategy, a little bit of it's game planning and, you know, we knew we were going to have an opportunity to be aggressive today and we had a game plan to go do it, and all my guys had a great week of prep.

And all the players kind of think this is sort of like the last day of school; everyone's ready for summer, it's been a long year. This is a great facility and a great event and my guys did a good job of keeping me accountable this week to make sure I was ready to work.

Q. You've played here enough times, you know what's coming tomorrow with the forecast. How do you balance out doing what you did today (inaudible)?

SCOTT STALLINGS: I played here enough, I've kind of seen everything and kind of know that anytime you see a north wind here, anything is possible.

I would expect the golf course is going to be prepared slightly different. Go out there and everyone has to deal with it, but it won't be anything that anyone who's played here significantly -- as many times as we have would kind of catch us off guard.

Q. You expected this type of scoring today?

SCOTT STALLINGS: Absolutely. I was honestly surprised someone didn't shoot lower. Like

to be honest, I was surprised someone didn't shoot in the 50s. Like where the pins were and as pure as the greens are on both sides, like I mean, you just did what you were supposed to off the tee and man, it was a fun day out there.

Q. The eagle at 8?

SCOTT STALLINGS: I hit a driver, 4-iron, landed just past the pin, rolled in the fringe and made it from just off the fringe. Obviously a bonus. It was a good putt, but it was a bonus that went in.

Q. Any surprise that the lowest score is really at Seaside versus Plantation?

SCOTT STALLINGS: No. Seaside's not an overly long golf course and you get a chance to play it like today, holes like 14 and some of the more demanding second shots with some of the marsh where it comes into play and different things like that become fairly benign just because of the shorter shots you have into it. The greens are receptive and super pure. You give guys a bunch of looks from 10 feet, they're going to make them.

Q. Do you remember the hardest round you played on these golf courses?

SCOTT STALLINGS: Last year on Saturday I had my worst career strokes gained putting round when that wind started blowing a little bit out of the north and the greens got a little crispy. I had some post-traumatic stress. I saw this running trail that I did, I was furious after I got done with my round on Saturday. Kind of got lost running and I ended up running almost a half a marathon basically just because I'm an idiot and I got lost. I was driving around to dinner, I was like, I remember this.

I mean, there's been some rounds, I mean, hitting like woods into 18, and then I've also played rounds where I've hit 3-wood over the cart path just kind of based on the wind direction and everything that goes into it.