

**STEVE STRICKER (-5)**

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**Q. Steve, just for starters, how did that save feel at the last?**

**STEVE STRICKER:** Yeah, that was big. I hate to make a bogey, the only bogey of the day on the last hole, so I was grinding to make sure I get that one in there. I didn't want to make a bogey today, so it was a good way to finish, good save. It was a good round today, too. Had some opportunities that I took advantage of and scrambled when I had to and did a lot of good things.

**Q. How did today feel different than yesterday for you?**

**STEVE STRICKER:** I think I just got a little momentum going today, and again, not making any bogeys. Like yesterday I made a couple birdies and I make a bogey, then make a birdie, make a bogey, never really got any momentum, but today when you don't make a bogey going around here, you get that momentum and you keep it. And like I said, that was a big save on the last.

**Q. So many guys at the top.**

**STEVE STRICKER:** Yeah.

**Q. Do you even look at the leaderboard this early? But I mean there's like, God, 15 guys within three strokes or something.**

**STEVE STRICKER:** Yeah. You knew where the lead was, I knew it was at 7 at one point and then dropped back to 6, so I was just trying to get as many as I could just to get close to the lead. Today was an important day. After shooting even yesterday, I couldn't afford another mediocre round, an even round or anything like that, so it was important to come out and get a good one and I did.

**Q. Is this about as benign as Firestone gets?**

**STEVE STRICKER:** Yeah, the last two days really. The weather was beautiful. It's warm and it was probably a good thing the sun wasn't out because it would have been really hot. Yeah, no wind, the course is in great condition, the rough is playable and it's fun to play.

**Q. Nice seeing Justin out here?**

**STEVE STRICKER:** Yeah, it is nice to see Justin out here. We've been friends for a long time, but we've seen him throughout the years, he's been doing TV and all that, but it's nice

to see him playing again. He's committed to play, so it's good to see and it's good for our tour, it's good for the Champions Tour to have him out here.

**Q. Do you almost encourage him to -- I mean, I know he's got an NBC commitment, but do you almost hopes he comes out a few more times?**

**STEVE STRICKER:** Exactly, yeah. He said he's not going to be able to play until September again, but anytime we get him out here, a guy of that caliber and playing career that he had, it's always a feather in this Tour's cap. So to have him out here to start his Champions Tour career at Firestone is a pretty cool spot to start.