

RYAN GERARD (-8)

Q. Ryan, we're seeing a lot of each other this week, that means you're obviously playing well. Good round today, 5-under 67. Just a few comments about kind of picking back up where you left off?

RYAN GERARD: Yeah, thank you so much.

Just really felt like I hit it nicely this morning. Made a few key five-, six-footers for par on the front nine and everything else was kick-in range and just tried to keep it going on the back. It got pretty windy out there and I hung on pretty well, made a couple nice up-and-downs and left a few shots out there on the back. It's playing hard, the wind's kicking up, the greens are getting pretty firm. And it Paspalum, so it's always difficult to play on. Feel like we're in a good spot and just got to keep chugging along and we'll be good to go this weekend.

Q. Taking you back about 10 days, you've been on a long ride, a lot of momentum I'm guessing. Can you draw inspiration from everything you've done in the last week and a half?

RYAN GERARD: Yeah, I feel like the last week and a half has been just a rollercoaster. I mean, just not really knowing what I'm getting into, playing well, quick turnaround, flying, it's been really cool. So I think I'm just -- I know I'm just lucky to be here and I know I'm playing well. I think I just take those two things in stride and just go have fun with it this weekend. I mean, if I keep playing well, I'll be just fine.

Q. One of the things that we talked about earlier with the story idea was that you just kind of let things unfold as they're intended to. Has that always been kind of your mindset, because it's obviously working well for you so far?

RYAN GERARD: Yeah, I'd say it is to a certain degree. I think when you really care about something, you sometimes make it harder on yourself than it needs to be. Sometimes I just have to take a step back and kind of try and see a bigger picture, try and really enjoy the little things about it. I mean, I'm playing in a PGA TOUR event this week, I'm staying in a hotel on the beach, like there are a few things that are just really, really cool and the golf is just a bonus. It doesn't define me. I want to be a great player, but the golf doesn't define me as a person. I think since I've started to kind of realize that, it's gotten a lot easier for me to just free up on the course. I still definitely want it really badly, so I'm putting in the effort and I'm really grinding out there. I think the combination of all those things have just put me in a good spot. When you're hitting it well, good things happen.

Q. Last question, conditions today, what's the course like, what are these afternoon

guys looking at?

RYAN GERARD: It's windy right now. I don't know, I thought it was supposed to get slightly less windy kind of as the day goes on, so we'll see. The greens are getting pretty firm in spots. The Paspalum is a little bit of a coarser grass, so when it gets kind of dry, you can get a couple funky bounces.

But I think for the most part like it's not easy, it's not a walk in the park. Carson's making it look real easy out there, but they've got to hit quality shots. If you don't hit a quality shot, you're going to find yourself in a bad spot. So I think if you're in the afternoon today, you've just got to go out there and just try and hit it in the middle of the face and if you don't, make sure your short game's really working.