

LECOM Suncoast Classic

ROUND 3 INTERVIEW

April 22, 2023

SCOTT GUTSCHEWSKI (-18)



Q. Fantastic round with a 62 today. Just some highlights from the round and then maybe touch on some of the scrambling and being there the last five, six holes.

SCOTT GUTSCHEWSKI: Yeah, I got off to a nice start, made a nice putt on 1, nice up-and-down on 2 and then hit a really nice 5-iron into 3. Yeah, I mean, the first three are kind of the toughest out here and I was 2 under through them. Like gosh, that's a good start.

Made a couple more birdies. Missed a short one on 8, but then made a nice long eagle putt on 9. Yeah, then three-putted 10 for par, hit it really close on 11 and 12. Then just kind of -- I was kind of in between clubs on 13 and I kind of chunked it. Obviously long and left's the miss because it just rolls off the hill, but just hit a bad shot. We got really lucky that it was sitting up in the water, figured take a rip at it and it worked out OK.

Yeah, then made a nice birdie on the next hole, kind of a scrambling birdie. Hit a really bad tee shot, but you can get away with some bad stuff out here in some spots. Yeah, then just kind of made some nice par putts coming in.

Q. Eighteen I heard was a pretty good save as well.

SCOTT GUTSCHEWSKI: Eighteen, yeah, I hit it in the bunker. I had a 6-iron in. I hit a pretty good shot, just kind of wind dragged it a little more than I thought it would. I knew that bunker wasn't -- I knew the bunker was better than right. So I think one of the years I missed the cut here I spent a little time on the right on that pin, so I knew not to be right. So the bunker shot wasn't too bad. Hit a pretty decent one up there to about five, six feet and made the putt.

Q. And on 13, like when's the last time you remember playing a shot similar to that?

SCOTT GUTSCHEWSKI: Yeah, you know, I'm sure I've tried to hit it out of water with varying degrees of success. Yeah, that's nothing you really practice. It wasn't really in the water, it was just kind of sitting on top of the water like a Jesus ball I guess, like right on the line.

No, it was just kind of -- it's hard to explain, but it wasn't really like submerged, right? It was like in a little puddle and it was just muddy and water there. I barely got my shoes dirty, my pants got a little dirty. Yeah, it wasn't -- I'm sure a lot of guys have hit better shots from a lot worse.



Q. And you hit that to four feet, like that's --

SCOTT GUTSCHEWSKI: Yeah, no, I'm not saying it wasn't a great shot, I'm just saying it wasn't -- it's not like it was half submerged or anything. It was just kind of like playing it off of mud, I guess.

Q. What was your goal coming into today and how has maybe just goals for the weekend changed after a round like that today?

SCOTT GUTSCHEWSKI: Well, it's the type of course where you can't really -- you can't really protect, you've just got to keep making birdies. It kind of reminds me of the course we used to play in Omaha where, gosh, if you hit some -- if you hit a couple good shots, you could have three or four eagle putts in the first 10 holes out here. That means even though you don't always make birdie on those holes, you kind of feel like you should. They're kind of like -- you kind of have some par 3-and-a-halves and par 4-and-a-halves where 4 feels like you're just kind of staying on pace and 5 feels like you're giving one back. You have a lot of those, so you like to take advantage of those as much as you can, but not be too hard on yourself when you don't get them.

Yeah, I think it's not like you're playing reckless, but keeping the ball in play and giving yourself lots of opportunities. The more opportunities you have, if you make some putts you're going to make more.

Q. It's great to shoot -- I mean, to get off to all those birdies, but those last four, five par saves, I mean, that's what keeps a round going and you might be just as proud of those as maybe all the birdies?

SCOTT GUTSCHEWSKI: Sure, sure, yeah. No. 13 kind of started it off there, right, like out of the water. The wind started blowing a little bit and there's some spots where if you land the ball in the wrong spot with the wrong club, it can kind of get away from you going into the greens.

So I wouldn't say I missed it in the easiest spots, but the greens are quick and you kind of want to hit them a little bit uphill, but they're still pretty quick uphill. Yeah, I mean, it's always nice to -- whether your four- to eight-footers are par or bogey or birdie or eagle, it's nice to make them because when you get to that six- to 10-foot range, those are 50/50 putts. But weeks that we make a little more than that and weeks we make a few less, yeah, I mean, so to get a few of those is always nice.

Q. What are you most looking forward to tomorrow?

SCOTT GUTSCHEWSKI: Just going out and playing, playing golf. I love golf, right?

