ROUND 2 QUICK QUOTES July 14, 2023

STEWART CINK (-6)



Q. Stewart, another solid round of golf today. Just biggest takeaways from Round 2?

STEWART CINK: Yeah, yesterday I had gone on a little bit of a tear on my second nine and started pouring a few birdies in. Today, no tear.

So I didn't play a lot different, but there was just never really much of a spark. It was an OK round, but it was kind of at the floor of where it could have been.

I'm pretty excited about the weekend. I love playing here, it's fun to play, and competing in a tournament like this is a blast.

Q. That's one thing you mentioned in pre-tournament media, this is only your second start out here, but are you comfortable? You're here with your friends. Just what does it mean to be back out here with these guys?

STEWART CINK: I think it's just being comfortable playing the courses, and I know I've got a good game plan and I know what to do. So does everybody out here, it's just a question of if you can do what you know you can do and at the right time. That's the big key. That's what's so fun about it is like putting yourself through that kind of test and seeing how you come out of the other side.

This weekend will be another chance to go through that little bit of an examination sort of within yourself. I know I have what it takes to play great here and I'd like to put together some really special rounds over the weekend. This is a great place to do it.

Q. Does this place allow for those runs? I mean, you went on one yesterday, a mini one I'd say, but can you go five, six in a row out here?

STEWART CINK: Yeah, you can, because the golf course is playing pretty short. It's not a short course, but it's really firm in the fairway and if you keep it in play, you've got a lot of short irons into these holes now, especially compared to what I was used to from playing here back 10, 15, 20 years ago.

If it doesn't rain, the course will continue to yield birdies if you keep it in play. But playing out of the rough is not -- does not usually lead to a lot of close birdies. The rough's not that deep this year, but it's still just hard to get it really close out of the rough. You lose a lot of distance because your ball doesn't roll in the rough, it rolls in the fairway. So if you -- it's one of the most rewarding courses I've ever seen in my life for hitting the ball in the fairway because you get an extra 20, 30 yards of roll on a lot of holes.



Q. Do you think the weekend, if they get the rain that they're talking about, that will make the fairways a little more accessible? Harrison Frazar said the fairways bounce, tough to keep it in play, tough to keep it in the fairway. Do you think the rain will help? Do you look forward to some rain on the course?

STEWART CINK: I like it how it is, but I do think if -- any course if it rains, the fairways get bigger, it also gets a little bit longer. The way this course is, I don't think rain will have a huge effect on it, on the scoring. The greens are still fairly receptive out there. I just don't think -- I just don't think a rainstorm or a big rain event would alter the course drastically. It will make it -- it will change the way you have to play some of the holes, but it really I don't think will change the scoring all that much.

Q. Does it worry you that you're going out so early tomorrow morning? Does that bother you after finishing late tonight?

STEWART CINK: No, I don't feel like we played late. You've got to remember, I'm used to playing late-early where you tee off at 2:00 one day. Today we teed after at 11:13, that didn't feel very late.

The one thing that does bother me in one way, we've got a very good friend playing in the World Series of Poker in Las Vegas. He's in the final 15 and you've got to stay up really late to watch poker. Early tee times and staying up late to watch poker do not work well together. I'm afraid we're probably going to have to miss our friend Daniel Weinman run at the final table and catch up with it tomorrow.

Q. Is that tonight, the final?

STEWART CINK: No, not the final, but they're down to 15 and they'll be down to the final table sometime over the weekend.

Q. Has he ever gotten to the final table?

STEWART CINK: I don't know. He's a new friend and I'm new to poker.

Q. You are?

STEWART CINK: Yeah. Well, I'm not in poker, but he's my only connection to poker that I've ever had, so I'm trying to learn and catch up. But we're behind him and he's having a really good run. They started with 10,000 competitors and he's down to the top-15.

Q. Can you see yourself doing that in the future?

STEWART CINK: No. No, I've got golf first, then barbecue is my next passion. I can see myself doing that. Poker would be about 50th down the list, I can never see myself doing



poker.

Q. What's your favorite barbecue recipe? Smoking, I would imagine, right?

STEWART CINK: Yeah.

Q. What do you like to smoke?

STEWART CINK: Brisket is my favorite meat to smoke because it's my biggest challenge and you can make burn-ins or slices, you've got to do both. You've got to know your way around the smoker and the cut of beef to be able to cook good quality brisket.

Q. You're not a Traeger guy, are you?

STEWART CINK: I do like the Traeger, yeah.

Q. You do the pellets then?

STEWART CINK: Yes, I do, and I also do wood and I also do charcoal. I don't have anything against any of the wood fuels.

Q. So you own three?

STEWART CINK: At least.

Q. At least?

STEWART CINK: At least three.

Q. Thongchai cooked for us. Are you going to cook for us, too?

STEWART CINK: I could. Yeah, I haven't invited yet, but I'd be happy to.

Q. Schwab Cup, bring your smoker.

STEWART CINK: I would love to cook something for you guys.

Q. One last question. You said the other day that there's the excited Stewart Cink, there's the nervous Stewart Cink, there's the scared -- there's all these different versions of Stewart Cink. Which one will we see tomorrow?

STEWART CINK: You'll see them all. That's the nature of tournament golf, it brings out all those personalities within you and you've got to kind of stay in front of knowing which one's up to bat at the moment.



So when you get in contention, that's one of the great things about why we all love it is because it gives you an opportunity to learn more about yourself in the situation. You know, if you shoot a bunch of 76s out here, you don't ever get to experience it because you really don't have that adrenaline and there's nothing to really be all that nervous about over the weekend, but put yourself in the mix and you definitely get a chance to experience all the versions of yourself.

