

RUSSELL HENLEY (-17)

Q. Russell, nice round. Always seems like you're in the mix here every time I come. What's good about this course for you?

RUSSELL HENLEY: Puts a value on ball control. You can't just bomb it, hit it wherever you want; you've got to hit it in the fairway.

Yeah, a lot of course management, just staying below the hole, being on the right side of the hole to give yourself a chance, and great greens.

Q. Anything better about being one back than being in the lead like you were a couple years ago?

RUSSELL HENLEY: I think so. I mean, I was leading by six in Mexico this last fall, that was tough to sleep. I don't recommend a six-shot lead, still have to get some sleep. I think I'll sleep pretty good tonight.

Q. Some people talk about if they go a long time between winning that it starts to feel like you're seeking your first win again. Did you feel like that last year, I mean like before you won in the fall?

RUSSELL HENLEY: Yeah, yeah, I think so. I mean, for me, you're probably doing a lot of different things in your game, you've worked on different things. You know, it's been years, so you spend a lot of time not holding a trophy.

Yeah, definitely. It doesn't get easier, everybody gets better, it gets harder.

Q. What's that like when you shoot 65, which is phenomenal, and guys still blow by you?

RUSSELL HENLEY: Yeah. I mean, Billy played awesome today. I'm sure Lucas did, too. Billy just hit it so well. I definitely kind of, you know, back-doored that 65 a little bit.

Q. You and I talked like 10 years ago, no reason for you to remember it, but you told me that you had a notification on your phone that said you're the best putter in the world or something like that. Does that still exist?

RUSSELL HENLEY: It doesn't. I think I got mad and deleted it one time.

Yeah, the putting hasn't been super consistent in the last couple years, but my ball-striking's



gotten better. I don't know if the stats, you know, I don't know if hitting it better would make my strokes gained putting a little worse. Yeah, it just hasn't been very consistent, so I feel like this week's been pretty solid inside 10 feet.

Q. Does it take any pressure off -- just curious, you know whoever wins tomorrow is probably going to shoot like 64 again, right? Does it take pressure off that you're not holding a lead? It's just like the mindset just has to be aggressive maybe?

RUSSELL HENLEY: Yeah, you're going to get lapped if you're just playing for par out here.

