

THE ASCENDENT presented by blue

ROUND 3 QUOTES

July 12, 2024



MATT McCARTY (-19)

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**Q. Eight-under 64, how's the game feeling today?**

**MATT McCARTY:** It was good, yeah. Hit it really well, so I mean, yeah, kind of clicking on all cylinders today. The last two days have been pretty similar, so it was fun.

**Q. What's been going right this week?**

**MATT McCARTY:** I mean, just kind of putting it all together. I've been playing good golf like last month, last couple months. It's nice to kind of put some good rounds together, and consecutively as well. Yeah, just building off some up and downs this season and feel like I've kind of been learning a lot and growing, too. Been good.

**Q. What's one thing specifically that you feel like you kind of learned that's helped this week?**

**MATT McCARTY:** I mean, I think like the biggest thing is just keep the pedal down. Like today, like obviously kind of starting in the lead I think my first time after 36 out here, so just feeling like, you know, really haven't, but feeling like you haven't accomplished anything yet and having to go get it out here on the weekends, like it's the biggest thing, for sure.

**Q. How big was it, that chip-in on 15?**

**MATT McCARTY:** Yeah, I mean, I couldn't see it, like I didn't see where it landed. I hit it good, I knew it had some spin, but it was getting a little crispy, so it was nice. I knew I hit it really good, but it was nice to get the reaction. I wish I would have seen it, but yeah, it was good, it was big.

**Q. There's chip-ins and then there's chip-ins. That is not an easy --**

**MATT McCARTY:** Yeah, that's a really good up-and-down for that to go in. Big bonus, especially after playing well on the front nine but not really getting anything going like, you know, the last few holes before that just to kind of get that, it's always nice, so yeah.

**Q. Were you checking the leaderboards out there at all?**

**MATT McCARTY:** I mean, a little bit. I've been trying not to as much lately. I always know like what I'm at. I don't know how some guys can just play golf and not like, you know, kind



of follow what they're doing. Yeah, I mean, peeking around, I got off to a good start and I saw like one back on heading to 8. I knew kind of I had to keep the pedal down out there today, for sure.

**Q. Your scores, well, I think you got the 54-hole scoring record for this event, but what's gone particularly well for you out here this week?**

**MATT McCARTY:** I feel like I'm just playing the golf course really well. Like last couple years out here like I haven't -- I haven't made a cut yet and probably haven't really shot anything under par, to be honest.

So felt like I've grown a lot over the last couple years. Two years ago out here I was completely different than I am now, but just really like staying within myself. With everybody hitting it 400, 450 yards out here, I'm not going to overpower this place obviously, so really kind of stick with my game plan, staying true to what I do.

And even I would say like long courses, like the course maybe doesn't set up the course for my game with accuracy and not hitting it the farthest, but I know like if I play good golf, my good golf's good enough anywhere. Just kind of staying within myself and just really trusting my game plan.

**Q. Having not made a cut at all at this event, what was the game plan coming in?**

**MATT McCARTY:** I just wanted some redemption, tomorrow to kind of have an opportunity for the ultimate aspect of that redemption. But yeah, I mean, it's a good golf course. It's tough, you've got to hit a lot of good iron shots, you've got to hit a lot of good shots everywhere, putt and chip well around these greens. It's tough. Yeah, I mean, just obviously job's not finished, but just kind of try to do the same thing tomorrow and stay patient out there.

**Q. When's the last time you led into the final round?**

**MATT McCARTY:** I don't know. I mean, not out here. I was leading my first win as a pro was at the Wyoming Open in Cheyenne just north of here. I led going into the last round out there, so that might be the last time, yeah, three years ago. I guess something about the mountains maybe doing it. Yeah, it's been a fun couple days and really looking forward to tomorrow.

**Q. How do you sleep on a lead?**

**MATT McCARTY:** I don't know. I haven't done it yet, so we'll see. That delay helped. I'm tired, for sure. I've got no problem sleeping, I can sleep fine.

**Q. As a pro, anything besides the Wyoming Open win as far as victories?**



**MATT McCARTY:** Just a couple like mini tour stuff. Yeah, kind of been knocking on the door a few times this year, so looking forward to the opportunity. And every experience out here kind of builds on itself. Tomorrow will be a new one, so just try to enjoy the day, have fun and if it happens, great. If not, I've been playing some good golf and we've still got a lot of weeks left, but put myself in a really good spot, so looking forward to it.

