

SIMMONS BANK OPEN for the SNEDEKER FOUNDATION

ROUND 2 QUOTES
September 13, 2024



PAUL PETERSON (-13)

Q. Paul, another good day today staying atop the leaderboard. What was the vibe today and what were you able to carry from yesterday?

PAUL PETERSON: Another really good vibe with the group. Everybody was playing good again, so we've had some good momentum as a three-ball. We just had a lot of fun out there today.

Q. Is there anything from like -- when you think of like weekends in contention just throughout your career, is there anything that comes to mind as a win or a moment that you're proud of that you kind of still hold with you that you can take with you into this weekend?

PAUL PETERSON: Yeah, both -- all my wins really. It was good to do it in Europe and did it in Asia. Yeah, it's nice to get those feelings back. There's a lot of golf to play. I'm trying to just stay in the moment as much as I can. Like I said, it was easy with those guys, we all enjoyed feeding off each other, so that was really fun.

Q. When you think of like your career, is there a moment like a year you took the biggest step forward? Is it more recently or is it older?

PAUL PETERSON: Actually 2014 was probably the biggest step I took in my career. I had kind of 90 days where I had a new coach and we kind of did 90 days of coaching under his system of a bunch of different coaches.

Went over to Asian Tour Q School and had a really good start to my Asian Tour career. That was the biggest jump I made. It's tough once you make those jumps, everything feels kind of incremental from there. That was the biggest jump. A lot's changed since then, a lot different golf swing, a lot different player, but that was probably my biggest jump.

Q. Have you been a pro golfer like since college?

PAUL PETERSON: I turned pro in 2012. So the only Tour I haven't played on I think is our Latin. So I started Canadian Tour, Asian Tour, DP, played a year in Japan, played Sunshine co-sanctioned. Yeah, I think the only one I haven't done is Latin Tour and maybe the Asian development tour. Other than that, 44 countries, five passports. We've seen a lot of golf.

Q. Have you seen your old like --



PAUL PETERSON: Yeah, it's fun to look back on some of those pictures and stamps and everything. Yeah, it's been a long journey to get here. I wouldn't trade it for the world. It was amazing to travel with my wife in my 20s and see it. We've got a little boy now and it's nice to be able to go home on off weeks and stuff and not feel like I'm traveling 30 hours to get home. That's been a benefit to get home quickly to the family, so that's been great.

Q. How do you think you're able to keep your attitude fresh just through all the countries and all the travel?

PAUL PETERSON: Actually it's something I've been working hard on. I think we brought up yesterday that early in the year was tough and it was very, very low. Last year, too. Kind of felt like I got off to a good start last year and then just seemed like every event was slipping further and further back instead of going towards my goal.

Then got off to a rough start and really changed things around in Knoxville. I've been working hard on the mental side. I have people to thank for that and they know who they are.

Q. Is it like in terms of -- in terms of the mental stuff, is it self talk or is it like physical things you try to do? What type of mental keys --

PAUL PETERSON: Yeah, definitely some of the self talk. I've completely changed my morning routine to have some things incorporated in that.

Social media's completely gone so that's been really refreshing for me. There's a lot of comparisons and I need to find my own way of doing this my best and not look other directions. I feel like the focus has just kind of shifted to myself a little bit more. Setting boundaries with people and doing it on my own a little bit from the mental side.

I mean, I have a great team around me, I don't want to take that away from them, but at the end of the day I have to hit the shots. It's like I've got to do what I think's best at any given moment out there and I feel like I've got a lot of people supporting me, which I feel very grateful for.

Q. Along those lines, it can be very easy with social media with comparisons and looking at what other people are doing and kind of almost having like this comparison struggle. Have you like --

PAUL PETERSON: There's a lot of distraction for all of us really. I mean, there's a big light at the end of this tunnel for 30 guys and it's easy to get caught up in that. I think you've got to take it a day at a time to get there. There's guys who had really good starts to the year and maybe are feeling similarly to how I felt at the end of the year. You're inside that Top 30 and slip out. It's easy to get distracted. Fortunately for me, I'm playing in a good spot where my card's guaranteed for next year. I've got 20 spots to move up, I know that. I'm just doing everything I can to accomplish my goals.



Q. Do you spend any time with Patton Kizzire?

PAUL PETERSON: I do. All those guys, they're great. It's great to play around other great players. That's been a reason that we moved there and that exposure's helped me a lot. Yeah, it's been good.

Q. He's leading in Napa right now.

PAUL PETERSON: Oh, is he? Good, love it. Another SportFive guy, so happy for him, really happy for him.

