

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
October 11, 2024

BILLY ANDRADE (-7)



Q. You opened up well at Sioux Falls also. Back starting to loosen up?

BILLY ANDRADE: Yeah, I got some treatment when I went home after I withdrew from Pebble Beach and it's much better. So I got some injections in there in the joint. And it's still not 100 percent, but obviously I can still swing.

Everybody out here, when you're injured, you just can't perform, you can't play at the highest level. You know, today was obviously a great day. Hit the ball nicely and made some nice putz and didn't have any issues with my back, so I'm pretty excited about that.

Q. How nice is it to get around pain free and play as well as you did?

BILLY ANDRADE: Yeah, these greens out here have gotten very, very quick, very firm and it can make you look like an idiot sometimes. But I got lucky and had a good feel with my putter today, putted fantastic and couldn't be more thrilled for my start.

Q. Can you talk about that putt on 10 coming up short on the green on No. 10, you were coming uphill?

BILLY ANDRADE: Yeah, I had an uphill putt. I was on the front of the green and I hit a hell of a putt and it snuck in the right side, so it was great to make a birdie there. Going up the hill into the grain, I had to hit it and I was fortunate enough that I hit it just hard enough.

Q. About 15, 20 feet?

BILLY ANDRADE: It was probably 25.

Q. And then talk about 18, that sandy. You were trying to get that to get past the bunker there?

BILLY ANDRADE: Yeah, I kind of hit a fat 7-iron. I didn't hit a perfect shot and came up short there. Thought it might catch -- might get on the front part of the green. Had a pretty basic bunker shot and I hit it to about 10 feet there and made a nice putt to finish the day.

Q. No bogeys.

BILLY ANDRADE: No bogeys.

Q. How fulfilling is that regardless of the amateur golfer, the pro golfer, just to go

bogey free?

BILLY ANDRADE: Yeah, we all strive to do that every time we go play and usually it doesn't happen, but I was fortunate enough to do that today, so I was very happy with that.