

ZACH JOHNSON (-9)

Q. Zach, how different is this golf course in this wind?

ZACH JOHNSON: Well, yesterday it was actually a little gustier I thought than today. It's a test when the wind's humming because there's so much elevation change. You compound that with the altitude and things of that nature, you've really just got to pay attention to your trajectory.

Obviously solid shots usually get rewarded. But the distances and trusting the distance given all those elements -- the heat, the altitude, the wind, et cetera -- that part's difficult. There's a lot of math, and I was told there's no math.

It can be trying, but hey, that's what golf's about.

Q. Speaking of math, right now you're currently 2 back, which out here I don't think is a (inaudible)?

ZACH JOHNSON: Sure.

Q. You put yourself in a good position in your second event, won your first one. Everything's rolling the right way it looks like.

ZACH JOHNSON: Yeah, I like the way we kind of are plotting through. I only have one practice round, so I wish I could have seen the golf course one more time. All that being said, there's a lot of control out there. If I get the putter hot early, you never know. But it's bunched, there's a lot of guys that are proven right around that number. So I'm going to have to go out and put up a low one tomorrow I think to even have a chance.

Q. Having fun out here?

ZACH JOHNSON: That would be an understatement.

Q. What's been the most challenging part about the first couple rounds?

ZACH JOHNSON: I think it's the combination of figuring out how far the ball's going to go before you even bring in the wind. So the altitude, the elevation, shot to shot downhill typically, and trusting those numbers before you execute. You've got a shot that's 220 yards but that's only playing 195, then you throw in the wind and you're like, it's just a lot of math, so you've got to trust those numbers.

Q. What is your mental approach for a final round?

ZACH JOHNSON: Well, I mean, given my last I would say -- I hit the ball nice the last 15, 16 holes. I'm just going to keep doing what I'm doing. The more opportunity I can create on the greens, the better. So I play the hole backward. I've got to keep playing the holes backwards. I've got to find out where the pin is, put myself in a position in the fairway and then I can be aggressive.

Q. As far as the bringing awareness to colorectal cancer that goes into this, what have you made of that over the last couple days?

ZACH JOHNSON: Well, I don't know if this is a unique tournament out here, it's only my second one, but if I'm going to say, I think it's ultra special. I think you have the relational side of this tour, this event. Certainly what Exact Sciences and Cologuard have done, it's impressive and it's special. It puts things in perspective awfully quick.

Golf's great entertainment, a lot of fun, et cetera, but there's bigger things in life. I mean, you asked me that, I'm literally texting with my honoree as we speak. That's what it's about. I mean, I just met her, but she's an lowan and so am I, and I think that's pretty cool, too. She's the warrior and she's the hero. I'm just honored to be a part of it.

Q. In that equation of wind, elevation, all that, is heat part of it as well --

ZACH JOHNSON: Oh, for sure.

Q. -- because it flies a little further?

ZACH JOHNSON: Google AI that at 2,700 feet, it's like 4 or 5 percent, then you compound that with heat and it's like 7 to 9 percent every shot. Yeah, you've got to figure that in. A lot of math.