

**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW: HAROLD VARNER III**  
**May 5, 2016**



**Q. Harold, you post a 72 today. You mentioned Tuesday you were going to block out the distractions and focus on playing golf and 72's a pretty respectable number on day one.**

**HAROLD VARNER III:** Yeah, it played tough today. I made a lot of putts which made it a lot easier. It's playing pretty easy right now I think, or easier. It's not as windy. Then the rain came. I think I played pretty well, I just didn't shoot myself in the foot like last time I was here. And I felt like I'm playing well so I just need to keep doing what I'm supposed to do.

**Q. Seemed like it's a by-product of your recent successes where you have a better understanding of what's going on day by day and what you need to do?**

**HAROLD VARNER III:** Yeah, exactly. It's a little harder here though, people yelling at you. I have some crazy friends and everyone wants a piece and sometimes it's hard. I don't think they really understand sometimes.

**Q. To put a number up tomorrow to get yourself in place for the weekend, what do you have got to do for tomorrow?**

**HAROLD VARNER III:** I think anything in the 60s would be obviously ideal. You're going to move up with that. The course is playing super long and I felt like I've got a good opportunity tomorrow.

**Q. You talked this week kind of about having to tune some of those guys out, like learning from last year. Were you able to do that today and just kind of focus?**

**HAROLD VARNER III:** No. I mean a few of them I saw and obviously spoke to, but it's hard to like when there's a lot of people around them, you talk to one person, they think you talked to them, so it's just hard. And especially when I was signing my scorecard, I had to do something afterwards and they're like, Can I get a picture? I'm like, I've just got to handle this real quick. It's just tough and I'll deal with it. I just need to play good golf and everything will take care of itself, that's what I think.

**Q. A year ago we were covering you at Wakefield at the Rex Open?**

**HAROLD VARNER III:** That was awesome.

**Q. Here we are a year later in the PGA. What's the last year been like for you?**

**HAROLD VARNER III:** I've made a lot more money, I've been able to help a lot more people and I have a lot of new friends, so it's good. I feel like I'm still Harold and that's what

I want to be and that's what I'm going to be. Sometimes I need to do a better job of focusing and that's sometimes you don't -- you can't be nice to everybody. I just need to get that through my head and it's just taking a lot longer than I would like.