

Q. Back-to-back 66s, Paul how would you compare today's effort to what you did on day number one?

PAUL CASEY: Pretty similar. I made my scoring on different nines but much of the same. Hit a lot of quality golf shots, lot of fairways, gave myself a large number of opportunities. This is one of the best prepared golf courses we've seen in a while. It's no surprise guys are making a lot of birdies and I'm lucky to actually do the same as everybody else.

Q. Started the week 59th in the FedExCup standings. You told me yesterday you don't focus on that, you don't worry about it. What do you focus on as you try to move up this leaderboard, and you've done a great job so far?

PAUL CASEY: Trying to catch Kevin Chappell. You know, plain and simple. I mean, Justin Rose is right behind me, I saw he was starting to make some birdies, claps going on, roars ahead. I was playing with John today, he was going bonanzas. Trying to keep a clean scorecard in case he was going to shoot something in the 50s. It just seemed like everybody was taking opportunities and making birdies. So pretty easy not to focus on the FedExCup situation and try and chase the guys at the top.

Q. Your second consecutive round of 66. A birdie here at the third. This tee shot, how well do you feel you're swinging?

PAUL CASEY: Really well. Dennis Paulson was out there doing some radio today just commented he thinks it looks as good as it ever looked. 8-iron here at the third. It feels great. I said that to some guys yesterday, I feel like I'm getting to a stage where I'm hitting it as good as I've ever hit it.

Q. We're going to look at a putt at the sixth. Yesterday you told us the greens surprised you, they were slow in practice and then very quick yesterday. what were they like today?

PAUL CASEY: Really, really good. Incredibly fast when we started. They slowed up a little bit as the afternoon sort of got on. That was a very, very straight putt. It couldn't be much easier. It was one of those you kind of have to make, and luckily I did.

Q. When I see Paul Casey shooting 66-66 a month away from Ryder Cup, I think why is Paul Casey not going to be in the Ryder Cup. Have there been any moments where you think maybe I made the wrong decision?

PAUL CASEY: You know I would love to be part of it and you know the reasons why I'm

focusing over here. There's been moments in my career where I've played brilliantly playing two tours and there's times when I've really struggled. The reason for focusing over here is family based, trying to spend as much time with my little guy who turned two a couple of days ago.

But of course you look at what's about to go down. I think the team looks fantastic. You feel for Russell Knox. I've been in that position as well before. And it's why I'm going on holiday the week of the Ryder Cup because I daren't watch it because you know it's the greatest sporting event we've got in golf, it really is. It's right up there with the Olympics, the World Cup and the Ryder Cup. It's one of the top three.

Q. I know that you're enjoying your relationship with your new caddie John. I'm going to ask you about this what you posted on social media. Tell me what he's up to here.

PAUL CASEY: I think John, when they said golf was back in the Olympics I think John got confused as to how golf was going to be in the Olympics. I've been told there might be a triple jump coming up into one of the bunkers. But he's Johnny, I can't control him, he's brilliant.

Q. Paul, so much fun watching you play. You stuck on 66s, that is pretty sweet right now.

PAUL CASEY: Thank you. It was a great score. Hit it beautifully the first few holes, which you weren't out there watching that but I hit it great the first few holes. It would have been really easy to get frustrated because I didn't roll the putts in.

I think it's one of the best prepared golf courses we've seen this year, the greens are superb. And I knew everybody else was making putts. Bided my time and sure enough the ball striking stayed with me and managed to roll in a few coming in.

Q. We might have had a dead golf course if we didn't get that rain. It was really firm and fast in the practice rounds. That rain has kind of softened it and it is absolutely perfect right now, isn't it?

PAUL CASEY: It is and it allows for great scoring conditions. I think there's a few sadistic players out there who would like it to be kind of even drier. It would require great ball-striking to get it close to the flags and you know I wouldn't mind that. But I know they've got a bit of a drought here so you don't wish sort of drought situation on anybody, but it does produce a great golf course.

Q. The forecast shows that the drought might be getting a little better come Monday with all the rain that's coming. But tomorrow we're going to be dry but we're going to be windy and you've got to be excited because your ball striking, if it gets tough, it's pretty easy to shoot 2 or 3 under par the way you're hitting it right now and that's

probably going to be a good score.

PAUL CASEY: And it will be pretty easy to shoot 2 or 3 over if you don't (inaudible.) It could blow it tournament wide open, for lack of a better term. This is just posturing for Sunday and Monday. There's a long way to go, but I'm very, very happy with what I've done so far.

Q. We spoke about the way your golf game is. I said, man, I've always loved your golf swing, but I think you're swinging better now that you were five or six years ago. Do you feel that way also?

PAUL CASEY: Thank you for that. It feels really good. Nothing changes with what I do with Peter Kostis, it's still the same stuff. Maybe I'm a slow learner. It's been 16 years of work with him. He would probably throw me under the bus and say it's all my fault it's taken this long to figure things out. And I've had injuries and niggles. I think I've got a better understanding of my golf swing now and a great way of getting around the golf course. Combine that with John McLaren on the bag, I feel it could be a pretty potent combination. But thank you for saying the swing looks good, but as you know, it's all about the golf shots and hopefully those will be good, too.

Q. Can you talk about the conditions? Seems like the scoring is a little bit more bunched than we've seen in recent years.

PAUL CASEY: Yeah, I don't know why that is. Yeah, I don't know, don't have a reason for you.

Q. Can you make something up?

PAUL CASEY: No, I can't make something up (Laughs.) I can explain why the scoring's good and a lot of birdies happening out there. I don't know why it's bunched, I don't know.

Q. Why are there so many birdies?

PAUL CASEY: I'm looking at that end of the leaderboard, I don't care what's going on down there. When I'm down there I care about it, but I don't care this week.

Q. Paul, do you remember in 2010 when you made your playoff run. I think you went into East Lake ranked fifth?

PAUL CASEY: I had a runner-up at BMW, which I believe Dustin won that particular event. It got me, you're right, I was within the top five at East Lake, I think I finished sixth.

Q. Do you sense there's something similar this week in terms of just your -- any similarities at all? That's so long ago.

PAUL CASEY: I don't know. I've not really thought about it. You know, I feel like the results been anything like they were in 2010. I'm not where I was in the world rankings at that stage. But yes, there are some similarities in terms of how I feel with the golf game and the control I feel like I've got with the golf ball. That hasn't been that way through the majority of this year but it feels like it's coming around.

And it doesn't guarantee anything this Sunday or Monday, but like I say, it's trending in the right direction so that's the only similarity.

I would like the similarity to maybe go one better than 2010 and have a victory going into East Lake. But long way to go before then. We've got some wind coming this weekend that could cause havoc for this golf event, which could be good for some guys and bad for others. Fingers crossed it's good for me.

Q. Can you control your own destiny out there? (Inaudible)

PAUL CASEY: It was, yeah, it was, but it was confusing admittedly. Like I said, I think I was fifth going in. I want to say I finished top 5. Doug will know the exact details. Fourth maybe in the actual TOUR Championship. Furyk won. However, if I had finished second I would have won the FedExCup but I finished fourth and dropped in the FedExCup rankings. We've got a better system now, we think.

Q. Have you been asked about your equipment for next year?

PAUL CASEY: Not really, no.

Q. What are your plans?

PAUL CASEY: Good question. I don't know. You know, I've been with Nike 12 years and so it's still quite raw. The thing that hits home is the people, all my friends who are losing jobs. That's the bit that really gets me. And I truly feel -- it's not even a feeling, the equipment's the best it's ever been right now, which makes it also a difficult pill to swallow. I understand why it's happening.

What do I do from here? I'm getting a lot of backups from Nike, because I know I can play great golf with the stuff I've got. Moving forward, I don't know. In some ways it's a nice position to be in because what Nike is allowing us to do is really cherry pick what we like and they honor our contracts. That's a very fortunate position to be in. I've got one more year left in my contract through the end of '17 so we'll see. I was a Titleist player before I was a Nike guy. I was a Mizuno player when I was an amateur, I was a Ping player when I was in college. What does it all mean? I've got no idea. There's a long way to go before I have to sign another deal. We'll see.

Q. Would you consider a mixed bag?

PAUL CASEY: Yes. Yeah, a mixed bag is I think what a lot of guys -- you'll be looking at that with a lot of guys because they don't have to do anything. We won't look any different. And that's the thing for the untrained eye, nothing will look as if it's changed. You're already starting to see that. There's a few players, you know who they are, putters being switched and balls being switched and things like that.

I've got absolutely no reason to switch right now. What we've got coming up the rest of the year is far too important for me to start worrying about that. And everybody else knows that as well because I've had some wonderful conversations with some other manufacturers but they know that right now I'm trying to take care of the golf.