
Q. Pat, 5 under on that back nine, kind of moving up the leaderboard pretty quick. It was pretty stagnated all day, the leaderboard wasn't doing much until late?

PAT PEREZ: Yeah, I don't really know how I shot that on that side because that's a long side for me. I got a lot out of my game on that side. A chip-in and another up-and-down, I hit a couple irons close. It was just, I just played good on that side and made some putts and it was nice.

Q. You said you played so good, couldn't make anything the first day from inside seven feet; had to hit it farther away from the hole?

PAT PEREZ: Yeah, I did that today. It was harder, especially with that rain. I'm not a real good rain player. I'm just trying to keep it in front of me, not make mistakes. I'm not as long as these guys, so it's much more difficult for me. But it was fun, I managed my game out there nicely.

Q. Looks like you're going to be out there all day tomorrow. How's the shoulder, going to be okay, you think?

PAT PEREZ: It's good. Yeah, I shortened my swing this week. I was getting long there in Phoenix trying to hit it harder and this and that and that's just not me. So I went back to shorter and I'm getting -- I'm hitting it straighter but I've got to get my distance. But my shoulder feels great, so that's awesome.

Q. So you're making a habit of this getting back into contention after the surgery. It's got to feel good?

PAT PEREZ: Yeah, I'm trying to. I believe what I'm doing, I know what I'm doing. I'm just playing my game and I'm hitting it solid and pretty straight. The putter's been pretty good for the last three months now and I just feel great.

Q. I read some quotes from you when you were in Hawaii you said you wish when you were back in your mid 20s you were playing like this back then. Any thought about why this is, is it just a matter of maturity?

PAT PEREZ: No, I don't have a reason. I'm not even going to try to think about it. Just is this happening and I'm just going to try to continue it.

Q. Pat, was your shoulder -- before you had the surgery, you had several tournaments that you didn't do very well in. Was the shoulder a factor then and that's what sort of led you to do it?

PAT PEREZ: Yeah, it happened last August. Actually, I probably never should have started the season last year but I'm very stubborn, so I figured if I could just get a good start, I could take a medical and I could come back and not have worry about so much getting my card back. But it was a learning experience and in the end it worked out in my favor.

Q. During the rehab, which obviously's pretty long from shoulder surgery, did you go through ups and downs with that? Were there times when you were discouraged by how it was doing or wondering whether it was going to come back okay?

PAT PEREZ: No, I really wasn't because I knew I had a lot of time. I had as much time as I wanted to to really come back. I was actually really encouraged where I could hit balls the first time and it didn't hurt so that's why I was really excited. Then once I could get some speed back, that's when I knew I was going to be able to come back and do something.

Q. How long was it before it didn't hurt?

PAT PEREZ: Oh, it was five months, all of five months. It still hurts now. It doesn't hurt but it still aches.

Q. Do you have any concerns at all about being in the leading group, possibly not getting out today but having to play 36 tomorrow maybe?

PAT PEREZ: No, I'm fine. I've walked how many miles since Maui? I've been out every tournament, so it's not like it's a --

Q. But from a shoulder perspective?

PAT PEREZ: No, no, I feel great. It actually feels better now than I have in a while. So I'm looking forward to the challenge tomorrow, especially trying to catch Dustin, which will be really, really difficult.

Q. Do you pay attention to what else is going on on the course or do you just try to concentrate on your game?

PAT PEREZ: No, I just try -- the holes are hard enough, I don't need to worry about what anybody else is doing. They're hard enough for me. Tomorrow with Dustin, he'll hit it 50 yards by me like usual and that's actually something that's easy for me because I don't have to worry about trying to keep up with him. I know his game real well, I've known Dustin a long time. I know my game even better, but I'm going to have to play amazing tomorrow to catch him.

Q. Are you confident with how you're playing right now, do you feel good about it?

PAT PEREZ: What do you think?

Q. I think you feel pretty darn good.