



PAT PEREZ (-21)

Q. Pat, you said you weren't necessarily happy with the 65 yesterday, but how happy are you with the 64 today?

PAT PEREZ: Yeah, the same. I didn't really hit it that great but I putted good again. You know, I'm just kind of getting the most out of my game right now. It's the same greens I won on in Mexico, so I really can see the line and I can see the ball in the wind here. It's helped me, especially this. I can't really explain, I've hit some good shots, I've hit some good putts, but things are just clicking right now.

Q. Were you keeping an eye on the leaderboard today because it seemed like you were making the pressure putts all day? When someone came within sort of two or three, you were making it and going back to three or four.

PAT PEREZ: I didn't look at the board. I wanted to get to 20 today, that was my goal, and then I know I needed -- my goal for the end is like 26 so I needed 13. I knew I had to do that again. These guys are so good and you can make so many birdies out here so fast and I know that. I'm not really worried about the board, I'm worried about the end number. So if I can get another six tomorrow, I might be tough to catch.

Q. I was going to say, you don't think that end number's going to change any given you're 21 and guys are at 17 behind you?

PAT PEREZ: I don't even know who's behind me. What's the second one?

Q. Xander's at 17.

PAT PEREZ: 17? So yeah, if he shoots 9, yeah, 26, 27 will probably be the number to shoot for.

Q. Great conditions for scoring today. If the conditions stay the same tomorrow, are you going to be pretty confident looking for that third win?

PAT PEREZ: Yeah, I'm not worried about that. I'm trying to stay alive out here, it's so hot anyway. I'm not thinking that far ahead. You know, I've got to hit some good shots and I've got to continue to putt the way I am and play smart. We'll see what happens. Hopefully, things will go that way.

Q. Bogey at 13 there and finished four out of five birdies. Did that kick you in gear a little more to close out strong?

PAT PEREZ: No, I'm still mad I left one on 17, that was the easiest putt I had all day. I missed that one. No, 13 was a horrible, horrible bogey. I tried to hit a hard 8-iron but got stuck on the hill, and the bunker shot I thought was firm and it wasn't, so I chunked it and made a 5. You know, it was just a bad hole. The birdie on the par 3 was a bonus, that's a hard 2. Then 16 and 18, fortunately I made a long putt on 18 (inaudible) at least a shot on that hole because that hole is really playing for the long hitter today, which I'm not, but it was nice to make that long one to kind of end it.

Q. So you're playing well, finished kind of middle of the pack in years past. What's different about this year?

PAT PEREZ: I putted better than in the past. I've hit it -- I haven't really hit it that great. I hit it like I usually do around here. There's a lot of holes -- I can't cover 3, and 5 is trouble, I can't hit it -- on some of the holes I want to. But I play the par 3s pretty good because I've got the same irons as most guys. But I've just been putting great. My short game saved me again like yesterday, I just made a bunch of putts and hopefully I can do it again tomorrow. But the greens are exactly like Mayakoba where I won, so I see it well, I know the roll, I know the speed. I'm just really comfortable.

Q. Is there a different feeling going into tomorrow in the position you're in?

PAT PEREZ: A little bit. I mean, I'm not going to put pressure on myself to win. If I do, great. If I don't, you know, I've got a long 11 months ahead of me. Of course everybody wants to win, it would be nice to do it, get the year started off right, but it is what it is. I'm going to go out and try to hit a little better, make some putts and we'll see what happens.