

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
March 29, 2018



KEITH MITCHELL (-5)

Q. What did you find down there in the Dominican to take back up here to Texas with you?

KEITH MITCHELL: Just a new level of confidence out here, there's no reason to be afraid out here on Tour. It's easy -- well, it's easy too as a rookie because you're starstruck a little bit, but I think we've just gotten a little more comfortable out here.

Q. Talk about the golf course, how damp is it, have the greens slowed down?

KEITH MITCHELL: I don't know how we were able to play today, and it is perfect. I mean, the fairways are fine, the greens are rolling fast. I don't know what happened, what the greens crew did but they did an amazing job because I was shocked how good the course was out there today.

Q. Were you able to be aggressive with these receptive greens?

KEITH MITCHELL: A little bit. There were pins tucked in tough places so you had to be a little careful on some of them. But if you had a good number and a good club and the right wind, you could take it at it. So it was fair, but they put some pins in tough spots.

Q. Got a little Bulldog mojo working out here after last week with Bubba?

KEITH MITCHELL: I think there's always Bulldog mojo. There's so many of us out here, we're destined for one of us to play good each week.

Q. Second last week, obviously a good start today. What's been the secret for you?

KEITH MITCHELL: Just confidence really. I felt like my game's been around this whole year, this whole season, and I haven't been able to close out really on the weekend. Last week was the first time I did that, even with the stumble on Saturday. So I feel like if I can just stay just really in the present out there and just kind of know the season's long, my game's there, I've just got to keep plugging away.

Q. Your game is there, but what you did last week was a pretty impressive performance and it's carried over so far?

KEITH MITCHELL: I'm hitting it great. I had a couple weeks off. With the reshuffle, it's tough to get into some of those Florida Swing tournaments. So I worked on my putting a lot and that really kind of showed last week and carried over a little bit this week. So I'm really

just kind of focusing on the little things. You know, we've worked so long just to get on the PGA TOUR, it's not like you really need to change much when you get out here.

Q. And you had to regroup a little bit for that bogey putt on 18, that wasn't an easy putt to get that one in?

KEITH MITCHELL: Yeah, the par putt I had, actually I hit a great putt, it's one of the best putts I hit all day, I just hit it a little too firm and it kind of caught that high side and had a little extra pace going past. It was just a left center putt coming back.

Q. Coming into this tournament, was it on your mind that this is a shot to get into the Masters right before and you put yourself in pretty good position?

KEITH MITCHELL: Well, every tournament out here is a chance to get in the Masters, so that's fun. It's always in the back of your mind. Right now I'm really just focusing on playing well and trying to move up that FedExCup leaderboard because it's so tough with all these guys, they're so good. I mean, if we're coming down the stretch on Sunday and we've got a chance to win, I can't tell you I'm not going to be thinking about it, but definitely if I can just stay patient, stay focused, I think it might happen.

Q. Did the course start to get a little tougher as it started to dry out there during the day?

KEITH MITCHELL: Definitely. The wind's picking up just a little bit and the greens are firming up just a smidge, so I think these afternoon guys are going to have a fair test of golf out there. We had the first tee time, so it was just perfect out there on that front nine.