

CAMERON CHAMP (-14)

Q. Cameron, with the wind blowing the way it was, to get 67 out of this round, I know you still have to be very pleased.

CAMERON CHAMP: I'm extremely pleased. Not to make a bogey on the scorecard today, mission is accomplished. I'm hitting it well, I'm giving myself so many chances. I think tomorrow just going to not play as much break, I did that a lot today. Yeah, I'm certainly happy with the position I'm in.

Q. Sixty-seven, though, with four pars on the par 5s. It's almost sort of a what could have been, but I think that at least gives you a little bit extra to go for tomorrow, right?

CAMERON CHAMP: No, exactly. I mean, I positioned myself, I just wasn't able to execute when I needed to. You know, I know if I can just get it in the fairways tomorrow on those holes and kind of do what I did today, it will be a good day.

Q. I saw the emotion when you made that putt on 14.

CAMERON CHAMP: Right.

Q. You put the work into it, it really paid off for you on the greens.

CAMERON CHAMP: I made some good putts, like I said. I missed a lot of putts I feel like I could have made, but that's golf, you're going to miss those and some days you're going to make them all.

Q. If it's like this tomorrow, firmer with the wind blowing, I love how your trajectory plays in this. I have to imagine the tough conditions don't bother you at all out here?

CAMERON CHAMP: No, I love this stuff. This is a calm day for us during the spring. So yeah, if it blows, great; if not, still going to come out.

Q. Wrapped up your third round with a 67 there. Given how the conditions were, how were you able to play some of your best golf this week?

CAMERON CHAMP: I'm just executing everything. I'm hitting my shots, I'm not making the little mistakes I was, then I'm getting it up and down when I need to. Today was like a faultless day. It kind of felt like I left a lot out there, especially the last two, three holes, but that's the way the chips fall sometimes.

Q. That was going to lead to my next question. You played the par 5s even, a very different story than what we've seen the rest of the week. Why do you think that was the case?

CAMERON CHAMP: I just didn't position it well off the tee, 18, 16 I kind of did, it was a funky lie. Nine I didn't position myself, and then five, just didn't execute, had about a 75-footer and just two-putted. If I just keep doing what I'm doing, I feel like it'll just depend on the (inaudible.)

Q. You shared with us yesterday how your focus has been on family away from the golf course as your grandpa Mac has stage four cancer. He's the guy who got you into the game of golf, he's been instrumental in your career. Can you think of lessons he's taught you as you try to close out your second PGA TOUR victory?

CAMERON CHAMP: I think just perseverance, to love. I think that's the main thing. Everything he's been through, just to be able to come out and he's so lovable, he's so patient, he's so passionate about everyone. It's never been about him, it's always been about everyone else. Going through this experience, it's really opened my eyes to a lot of things. And this week, yeah, it's been a pretty emotional week. He just made me realize there's a lot more to life than, like I said, golf.

Q. It's so close to home. How good would it be to win in a place just an hour from home?

CAMERON CHAMP: Oh, it would be huge. I mean, especially, like I said, in the time, kind of the struggles we're going through right now, it would be mind blowing honestly. So I'm just going to continue doing what I'm doing. Whether I shoot 80 tomorrow or whether I shoot 65, I really don't care. I'm just going to focus on, you know, putting my best round together and whatever that's going to be tomorrow, it's going to be.

Q. What kind of change -- you said (no microphone.) What did you go through to make sure you made that change and keep going through it?

CAMERON CHAMP: Just struggle, you know. The only way you learn is if you struggle, if you fail. Half of last year it was all that. I just didn't know how to get out of it. But then, like I said, you learn. When I sat back and just looked with all that's going on with my family, just kind of really opened my mind. Like I said, the way I go about it, if I win tomorrow, awesome, that's awesome. But if I don't, hey, I'm going home to my family, so that's all that matters.

Q. Is that the perspective that you have tomorrow, it's just golf? I mean, considering the situation at home.

CAMERON CHAMP: Yeah, that's honestly the way I'm trying to look at it now, it's just golf. I have a lot of other things going on in my life. All of us do. Some guys have families, some

guys have this and that. So I try to keep it separate. I think that's kind of what you have to do out here to be successful. This week it's kind of felt like that. Once I'm on the course, I focus on that, and once I'm done, I'm done.

Q. Kind of a respite for you?

CAMERON CHAMP: Sorry?

Q. Is the course kind of a respite for you, getting away from some of that stuff with the family?

CAMERON CHAMP: No, exactly. Out here, like I said, it's still tough trying to keep my mind off -- like yesterday I almost broke down on the first hole. It's kind of just trying to focus on -- my caddie's been good with me this week, we've been going with the flow and just kind of have the same mindset tomorrow.

Q. What's the best tip your grandfather ever gave you?

CAMERON CHAMP: I mean, his legendary quote I have on my wedges, "It's not where you come from, but it's where you're going." Then, just love. I mean, he's the most loving man I know. He knows where he's at in his life and again, he's always -- even before like I said, he's always worrying about everyone else but himself. That's something that I take from him.

Q. You have a late tee time tomorrow. Are you planning to go see him again?

CAMERON CHAMP: Well, my whole family's here, so we'll probably stay here tonight. We'll definitely call him and stuff, see how things are going. I know he's doing okay right now, but yeah, we'll definitely call him. Once I'm done tomorrow, we'll head back up there.

Q. Does he have any words of encouragement for you this week?

CAMERON CHAMP: His thing is he likes to say "focus" a lot. Me and my dad, we always laugh about it because he always says, "Stay focused, stay focused." Like, okay, Pops.

So but yeah, he just said "play free" and that's what I've been doing. It's been nice. Like I said, I haven't made any of the mistakes, simple mistakes. Simple up-and-downs in front of the greens, I felt like I was struggling with those all last year. Yeah, it's just helped with a more open mindset.

Q. What got you through those emotions on the first tee?

CAMERON CHAMP: Just had to keep going. I mean, there's nothing -- at that moment there's nothing I can do. We know he's in a happy place, that's all you ever want. So I just tried to focus on the task at hand. Again, even yesterday I played well, too.