

GARY WOODLAND (-6)

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**Q. Closing nicely, what were you doing so well out there today, Gary?**

**GARY WOODLAND:** I played well from top to bottom. I drove the ball well, and anytime I can control the ball on the greens from the fairway and make some putts, that adds up to a pretty good day. But I rode some momentum off the way I finished last weekend, which helped, and looking forward to the rest of the week.

**Q. And glad you mentioned that because you finished tied for third last week in Korea. What has elevated in your game in the last few weeks?**

**GARY WOODLAND:** To be honest with you, I think after the U.S. Open, I was riding that short game so hard and I worked so hard on the short game and I kind of lost ball-striking a little bit. After Vegas I put a lot of work in, the ball-striking's coming back where I want it. I've got to rely on that. And when I putt it well, good things will happen. I started to hit it well last weekend and I hit it great again today.

**Q. Trying to get the captain, Tiger Woods' eye, who you're now tied with, who knows, he may pick himself as well. How much is that hanging around in your brain this week?**

**GARY WOODLAND:** I mean, obviously I'm off next week, so I can think about that next week. Right now I'm just trying to continue the golf tournament, give myself a chance on Sunday. He knows how much I want to be on that team, I've talked to him about it. So for me, I'll just go out and play well and everything will take care of itself.

**Q. Can you talk about the atmosphere and the crowds today?**

**GARY WOODLAND:** I mean, this is as good as we get. The energy, even on Tuesday in the monsoon we were getting, was awesome and then today was nothing short of spectacular. It felt like kind of a major out there. The crowds were excited, they're happy. It's cool, it's nice to come over here obviously for the PGA TOUR, hasn't been in Japan in a long time, or ever. I don't know if we've been here or not, but I haven't. It's awesome to come out here and see how excited these people are that we're here and the energy to feed off of it.

**Q. Sometimes it's hard to separate that this is the beginning of a new season. Finished tied third, started up this week. How important is that for your overall goals for the season to have real good starts here?**

**GARY WOODLAND:** That's huge. I mean, you look at the way I started last year, that's what happened. I came over to Asia and got off to a top-5 -- two top-5s in a row to start the year. With our wraparound season, how much we play early in the year, it's huge to get off to a good start. It's tough when you get behind the eight ball, you put so much pressure on yourself to start after January, so it's nice to play early and play well.