



WEBB SIMPSON (-16)

Q. When you started this round, what was your plan of attack going into Saturday?

WEBB SIMPSON: I didn't hit it the way I wanted to yesterday, so we did some work on the range yesterday. I knew that to shoot a better score, I needed to hit it a little better and that's what I did. It was a little trickier today, a little windier, and I saw early on Brendon Todd and the boys were off to a quick start, so it was nice to kind of stay on pace.

Q. There is a new force in this field, it is Brendon Todd. What's been the chatter around the driving range, the clubhouse on what he's done the last month?

WEBB SIMPSON: I think it's remarkable. He's a good friend of mine and to show the resilience of not playing well, to come back and stay in it and get one win and then two in a row, and now he's playing great again. I'm really happy for him.

Q. Dennis Paulson's our analyst this week and he said, "Well, this is Webb Simpson's annual annuity." Here we are, 63, you're right there again on Sunday.

WEBB SIMPSON: Yeah, today got me back in the golf tournament. I felt like yesterday I left a few out there and it felt nice to shoot 7 under with no bogeys on a day that was pretty windy. Still a few mud balls, but we fought well and obviously nice to end with a birdie like that.

Q. Your birdie on the last, I was standing behind the green trying to figure out if that shoulder was going to push it. Were you worrying about that shoulder throwing you a little further right?

WEBB SIMPSON: It was actually -- you know, it's rare you have a 25-footer that's dead straight, so it was a straight-in putt. My read matched the book's read and it went right in the middle.

Q. You've been here many a time, come close to winning. A clean day today, you're glowing with confidence. I'm assuming just more of the same tomorrow?

WEBB SIMPSON: More of the same. I think we've got some cooler temperatures, maybe even more wind. It would surprise me if the scores were as low tomorrow as they are today. So yeah, good, nice rest, play with the kids and come out tomorrow ready to go.

Q. Webb, late session on the range yesterday. What did you find?

WEBB SIMPSON: I wasn't turning my hips in my backswing, which was getting the club high, and I was hitting kind of low slices out there on the golf course. So I just tried to turn more, get the club more on plane, ball quit slicing, started going a little straighter and it paid off.

Q. Twenty-eight footer for birdie at the last. You've done this a lot. How are you able to use that momentum going into Sunday?

WEBB SIMPSON: It's nice. I mean, you want to be in the last group, you want to kind of have an awareness of what's going on right in front of you. But I'm standing there and I'm not really thinking about trying to get into the last group, I'm just trying to hit a good putt. I had a straight-in putt on 17, missed it left. So 18 was another straight-in putt, so it was nice to see one roll really nice and it went right in the middle.

Q. Twice, last year included, you were in a very similar position going into the final round. Anything you learned over those two times that might help you tomorrow?

WEBB SIMPSON: I think last year especially, scores were really low Sunday. I think typically on the PGA TOUR we see guys maybe slow down on Sunday and scores not be as low after, you know, moving day Saturday.

So I think tomorrow, even though it's going to be a little cooler, I think the scores will still be good. Maybe not as good, but I think I have to be in attack mode and continue to make a lot of birdies. There's plenty of guys up there at the top, so it's not like there's just one or two guys that could win, there's probably 10 guys who are in the mix.

Q. You and Brendon knew each other in college days, didn't you?

WEBB SIMPSON: Middle school. So he moved from Pennsylvania I think in sixth or seventh grade to 20 minutes from where I grew up.

Q. Good chance obviously in the last group together. What's it going to be like playing with him, also having seen the comeback and the good story? You can kind of root for him, but also want to beat him.

WEBB SIMPSON: Yeah, I feel like we've been good friends for a long time. When I was kind of winning golf tournaments and then he moves to Cary, North Carolina, he starts beating me like a drum. He was really good and I think we kind of inspired each other growing up. I'm only a couple months younger, but a grade behind him, so he definitely pushed me and hopefully I pushed him. Then even in college we played a lot of golf together, amateur golf, so we've been good friends for a while.

I had some struggles for a couple years, he's had some struggles, so we've been able to talk to each other on the phone and help each other out. I've been so proud of him for hanging in there. I mean, I think besides the Player of the Year, I mean, his story could be the

biggest story of the year just, you know, where he was, to come back -- even this year he started out, missed his first few cuts and he goes and wins and then he wins again. I think that just proves what kind of just guts he has inside of him to not give up or throw in the towel. I was really happy for him, because I've struggled. I think it's fair to say everybody's struggled, but mine was for a long period of time and his was, too. So it's remarkable what he's done.

Q. There was talk about him maybe getting on the Presidents Cup team. Have any of the players talked about that on the side, and if he wins a third straight, what would you think about that?

WEBB SIMPSON: Well, it's funny, Brendon texted me after he won Bermuda and he said, "Captain's pick?" But now it's like he's playing as good as anybody in the world. But I think the team's set, but he definitely gave it a good try.

Q. Was there anything you said to him earlier this year that you can share?

WEBB SIMPSON: No. We've just -- I don't remember any specifics. We've just talked on the phone a number of times, bounced things off of each other. And I think for him, I mean, the thing he had to do was somehow keep himself playing and he's been good enough, he's won at the highest level and I feel like if you've done that, you're going to figure out a way to get it done and you've just got to hang in there. It's really hard in those moments I think to continue on knowing that you've been playing bad golf, but he did that and it's paid off.

Q. What was the best Webb Simpson Brendon Todd duel from like junior golf?

WEBB SIMPSON: That's a good question. I feel like the Donald Ross Junior, it was always December 27th, after Christmas at Pinehurst and it seemed like it was me or him. But he got the best of me in middle school and high school. I mean, college, he was a great player, too. It's fun thinking back now how much golf we've played and now we're playing on the PGA TOUR together. It's pretty fun. A lot of these guys out here I played college golf with.