



Q. How would you assess your round?

TIGER WOODS: Played the par 5s better. Yesterday was not very good and you've got five par 5s and basically you can get to every one of them. Playing that many over par yesterday, I played them better today and consequently I shot 66.

Q. Were you caught offguard yesterday? How disappointed were you with what happened yesterday?

TIGER WOODS: I felt like I really didn't swing the club that poorly. I was just a fraction off and I got out of position a couple times. And as I said, didn't pay the par 5s well and it just snowballed into a high number. Was never really able to get any kind of momentum going because I played the par 5s so poorly. Today was different. Got off to a much better start and kept rolling.

Q. What were you happiest with today?

TIGER WOODS: I think the overall, just overall I hit the ball so much better. Yesterday was not that sharp and today was a lot more sharp and a lot more crisp and clean.

Q. Tiger, it seems you're feeling better than you were at the U.S. Open?

TIGER WOODS: Yes.

Q. Maybe moving a little bit better?

TIGER WOODS: I am.

Q. No pain or whatever. Can you quantify the difference?

TIGER WOODS: That's just the nature of my back. I wish it could be good all the time. I have moments where it's not quite -- feels as elastic as I'd like it to be and unfortunately the U.S. Open did not help with the long rough, and did not drive it in the fairway enough times and put a lot of stress on it and shot high numbers.

But I am moving a lot better. Having four weeks off was good, training sessions have been good, so everything's kind of turned around.

Q. I know you just told Fred that you were happy you were able to move the ball both

ways. I know going into last year's Masters you talked about hitting that epiphany when you start kind of --

TIGER WOODS: Yeah.

Q. -- off to the left. Do you feel anything close to that now?

TIGER WOODS: A little bit, yes. I feel like I'm able to draw the ball a little bit better. And I need to get a little bit more sharp with it, start setting up a little bit higher than I am right now. But the nature of this golf course is not quite like that, not quite like Augusta. There are a couple holes that I do like setting it up and hitting high draws and I've done that. At Augusta I'm going to have to do that a lot more often than I am here.

Q. When you do that this week --

TIGER WOODS: What's that?

Q. When you do something like that this week on those certain holes --

TIGER WOODS: I have, I have.

Q. Regardless of score, do you take something out of that in a positive?

TIGER WOODS: Yes, 6 is a lot like No. 10, sitting up, trying to hit that high tomahawk draw down there, I was able to do it yesterday and today. So yes, there are a couple shots that yeah, I do look at that are similar to what I'm going to face at Augusta. And I've got a few weeks out, so yes, imaging some of those shots already, and I have been for quite a while, ever since the U.S. Open. So hopefully I'll be ready in a few weeks.

Q. I think that was your first time playing with Wolff. He seems to play kind of a quintessentially modern game. What were your impressions of him over the two days?

TIGER WOODS: I've seen him hit it at Medalist, but I've never seen it live in person in a tournament setting. Obviously what we do in practice at home is a little bit different than what we do come game time. He has a little bit more speed come game time just like we all do. Some of the tee shots he hit, like on 4 today, I didn't quite see that line. He took it basically over the third tee and carried the water down there. I think he must have carried it about 330, something like that. And he was awfully impressive.

Yes, it is the modern game, just go out there and rip it, hit it high and take advantage of some of the short holes and some of the holes that he can get it down there, and he does that. He's only going to get better with time. He's so young. Give him a few more years out here and understanding it, playing the golf courses. All these venues are new to him. Give him a few more years of seeing these venues, it's going to be pretty good.

Q. Tiger, you talked earlier this week the difference at Augusta because of the roars, that there won't be any roars. how different is it going to be that there won't be any fans perhaps rimming the golf course to stop perhaps errant shots?

TIGER WOODS: Yeah, that's -- a couple of the holes that if you do bail out, you know, we have had the patrons knock a few balls back in play. It will be interesting. Some of the angles may be a little bit better. Like on 2, be able to sneak it down the right side a little bit more on the second shot, the layup. It will be different. The atmosphere will be completely different. Something that I've been talking with my team about. It's -- you know, I won't say the intensity, but just the atmosphere in general is going to be so different. You make putts and you don't have the big roars. You hit a shot in there, get momentum, you're not going to have any of that this year.

Q. Tiger, when you mentioned Houston as a possibility, is it more because of your -- you fear you don't have enough competitive rounds or does it have anything to do with the rules being different at Augusta this year with practice there in advance? Sometimes you like to go early. I mean, I don't know how you weigh that or what the decision is there.

TIGER WOODS: Well, it's just I really haven't played a whole lot. I tried to keep that open as much as I possibly could throughout this comeback is that I really haven't played a whole lot and maybe I need a few more rounds, but if I play like I did today, a little different story.

Q. You also must feel some confidence in your body to even think about it, right?

TIGER WOODS: Say again?

Q. Some confidence in your body that you would even broach the idea of playing back to back?

TIGER WOODS: Well, yeah, that's what we did in the Playoffs and that's what we did end of last year. This year's a little bit different. As I said, I really haven't played a whole lot this year. Maybe I've kept an idea of an open mind of possibly playing a few more rounds pre-Masters, but that's, as I said, just keep an open mind about it and don't shut myself off to the idea.