

MIKE WEIR (-7)

Q. What was the key to your round today?

MIKE WEIR: I think the key to my round was just I played really well. I had a lot of shots I hit very close to the hole today, so that was key. My iron play, I would say. Played mostly out of the fairway. A couple -- missed maybe two fairways. Overall, it was just solid all the way around. I made a couple nice putts. So when you shoot 7 under, it's a few close ones, made a few nice ones, played well, too.

Q. How about that save over there under the tree, the bunker and then the putt?

MIKE WEIR: Yeah, it's a very difficult tee shot. I hit a great tee shot and just no way to stop it, just ran through the fairway. I told myself if I overcut it in the bunker I'd be okay, but I caught not a great lie over there, so it was nice to get that ball up and down. I had to just play safe with my bunker shot to 15 feet and made that one, so that was a bit of a bonus.

Q. What club did you hit on 16?

MIKE WEIR: On 16, par 3, hit a 6-iron.

Q. What did it look like from the tee box?

MIKE WEIR: It looked good all the way, looked good. I couldn't tell, up the hill I couldn't tell if it was 10 feet by. I saw it get up the hill, but I could tell from the crowd's reaction that it was probably a little closer than 10 feet. Nice when you get those little kick-ins.

Q. Were you looking forward to turning 50, being eligible for this tour and this opportunity?

MIKE WEIR: Yeah, no doubt I was, I was really looking forward to it. Last couple years that I was closing in on it, really looking forward to playing this tour.

Q. And what's the experience been like compared to what your expectations were?

MIKE WEIR: It's been good. I mean, I know how good these guys are out here. The standard of play is so high, I kind of knew that going in, but until you experience it and know that -- my first bunch of events out here I didn't really get off to good starts and if you don't get off to a good start, you're playing catch-up. You might have a good finish, but you really don't have a chance to win. You have to get off to fast starts in three rounds, so it's good to at least get that going today.

Q. How did you feel about your game heading into this week?

MIKE WEIR: It was a bit of an unknown. I played well over in Hawaii, but I've been off for a month. I hadn't hit a shot outside until I came to -- until I flew in here. I've been doing lots of skiing. I hit some balls indoors and did some stuff on a simulator, but I hadn't played any golf in almost a month. Yeah, I didn't have big expectations. I guess I was just trying to find my game. Having the pro-am to play Wednesday and actually play nine holes in the pro-am yesterday probably helped me to get some holes in because I hadn't been playing any.

Q. Utah is your home base?

MIKE WEIR: Yes.

Q. Is it sometimes a good thing to not have huge expectations for yourself, maybe you take a little pressure off?

MIKE WEIR: I think that's always good. I think anytime you go in thinking you're going to play great, it's good to have confidence, but sometimes things don't pan out well. A perfect example is in Hawaii, in the pro-am I shot 59 over there, I had big expectations and I shoot 71. Felt like about 85 from the day before. You've got to temper those expectations sometimes.

Q. You've been working on your swing for quite a while, right?

MIKE WEIR: Yeah, I think everybody does, but I've been working really hard with Mark Blackburn for the last couple of years and made some nice headway the last bit with him. Yeah, it's been great to --

Q. What's the biggest change that has come from that?

MIKE WEIR: The biggest change? I'm not sure. I would say probably I drive it much better than what I had been before I saw Mark. Overall, the understanding and the consistency, the verbiage we speak. So there's not a lot of changing around much the last couple years, it's very consistent what he's telling me to do and I just have to do it.

Q. Tell me if this is a stretch, but is there any correlation between like the slopes when you're skiing and golf? Is there anything that you kind of --

MIKE WEIR: I've always believed that playing other sports is good for any athlete. I think obviously skiing, there's great -- you've got to have balance and coordination and anticipation. And it just gets you away and gives you a little break and gets you away from the game sometimes, it's great. So I've always enjoyed doing that. Summertime doing outdoor things, always taking my family river rafting or camping or things like that just to get away. I've always liked to do that, just to break away from it from a little bit.

Q. As someone who knows what it's like to win and also knows how hard it is to win, what's your outlook heading into the weekend?

MIKE WEIR: Well, now you have to keep the pedal down, you have to keep playing well. But this is a quirky golf course, you have to play smart. There's certain holes here you've got to really -- it gets your attention and you have to put the ball on the right side of the hole. No. 18 in particular here, tough hole and you want to be underneath the hole if you can. So there's little subtleties out here that you really have to pay attention to. Hopefully keep my wits about me and think through a smart way to play this golf course, and hopefully I make putts.

Q. What was the difference on the back? You were 5 under and just really solid.

MIKE WEIR: I hit three -- three shots in a row. You know, I hit a shot into 11 to maybe five feet, the next hole I hit it three feet and the next hole I hit it two feet. So they were all just, except for the one on 11, which I had to work at a little bit from five feet, four feet, you know, it was tap-ins, so that was nice. Then I hit another tap-in on 16, hit it to a foot, and then 17 made a nice putt.