

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
June 10, 2022



PAUL GOYDOS (-4)

Q. Paul Goydos, open it up for questions.

PAUL GOYDOS: What would you like to know?

Q. Well, we kind of thought with the course being softened by the rain that there would be a ton of guys at 4, 5, 6 under, so where was the defense of the course today?

PAUL GOYDOS: Well, we're not done yet. There could easily be a ton of guys at 4, 5 or 6. I was in the second group. It wouldn't surprise me if someone got 6 or 7 under par. It played a little longer. I think this year the rough, if you happen to miss the fairway, which I missed a few, is thicker, more penal than it had been in previous years. I think the greens are just a touch quicker even after the rain. The superintendent here probably deserves a tip of the cap for how good the course dried out. It drains very well, the golf course isn't that wet, no mud on your ball or anything. It was a little bit windy and it might have been a little bit out of a direction we're not used to that may contribute a little bit to it, too. But let's see what happens, let's see where 4 under par is when everyone is finished here in a couple hours.

Q. Your form has been pretty good so far this year, at least the last couple tournaments. What's clicked and what kind of confidence do you bring in here?

PAUL GOYDOS: Yeah, last few weeks I played quite well. I've hit the ball tee to green really well and just good things have happened more than anything. Everything's kind of worked. Today on 16 I hit kind of a bad tee shot, hit the tree. It could easily be in the long grass and have to re-tee it and it got over by that much and I ended up making birdie. That might be a three-shot swing just because kind of a good break. That's kind of what's been happening, things are working out, for lack of a better word. Hopefully, they'll continue it work out for a while. It's just kind of in a good spot right now.

Q. When you come to University Ridge what's usually your mindset in terms of how to attack and how to put yourself in this position?

PAUL GOYDOS: I don't know that I attack anything, quite frankly. I just try to hit it in the fairway, hit it on the green and try to make putts. That's kind of how -- I need to drive it straight. I drove it okay today, I wouldn't say I had a great day driving the ball, but I need to do that first and that's kind of my -- it doesn't matter which course we're playing, I need to drive it in play. And then from there you just try and hope you make putts, and today early in the round I did and today late in the round I did and that's kind of why I played well.

Q. Were you and Paul kind of feeding off each other?

PAUL GOYDOS: Well, Tom shot 4 under and Paul -- we shot 10 under as a group, which is pretty good, I think. Yeah, I think a little bit. He birdied the first two holes, I birdied 2, 3 and 4. We all kind of -- and Stankowski birdied 2, so we were all on kind of a good start. It kind of gives you that -- an idea of the scores that could be made. Probably more of a subconscious thing, but it does help.

Q. How big of a role does momentum play in a tournament like this? Like how important is it to get off to a fast start when --

PAUL GOYDOS: I think it depends on the player. I think for me, you look at my record on tour, very rarely do I have good finishes that I don't have good starts, but I think that's not true of everybody. You just kind of have to -- usually you've got to play the first 36 holes and kind of see where you're at, give you some time to figure things out. Then Sunday tends to -- if the weather's good, tends to be shootouts and you just need to have a hot day that day. But it doesn't hurt, I'm not going to complain about how I played. I'll take my 4 under par every week starting out and see what happens.

Q. Just overall thoughts on the tournament and kind of what it means to the tour and Steve and his family and --

PAUL GOYDOS: You know, I think that's -- I think Steve is the first, I think the first player kind of that I know of to host an event on the Champions Tour here in Madison where he lives, to get AmFam. I think it's a great direction the tour's going. Furyk's doing it in Jacksonville now and I would expect that we're going to see more of that as it goes on. And it's great for the community. This is probably one of the better attended events, Madison really comes out for this event. I think that has a lot to do with Steve and his foundation and what he's done for this community. It's just, again, it's one of the premier events on this tour and I think the big part of that is because Steve hosts it.

Q. Is it close to feeling like a PGA Tour event because of the community support?

PAUL GOYDOS: I think from a standpoint, yeah. Yeah, this is an event that you've got a bigger build-out. Friday's not a great judge for the weekend, you have a little tough weather today. Weather doesn't help. The meteorologist needs to get on his job, get the weather a little better. But yeah, this is an event where the crowd, it gets a little more electric because the crowds are more. It's a bigger deal here.