ROUND 3 QUICK QUOTES November 18, 2023

ERIC COLE (-19)



Q. Could you just talk about the conditions? Seems like everybody was going low, so seems like today was the day to get after it.

ERIC COLE: Yeah, there was definitely a lot less wind and it wasn't gusting or bouncing around directions. It's the type of course, it's in perfect shape and if you are hitting good shots, you can definitely go on a little bit of a roll.

Q. Is today an example of how you're a better, maybe more mature player? You bogey a hole early, everybody's going low and you don't let it get to you, or maybe you did let it get to you?

ERIC COLE: No, I wasn't hitting any bad shots or anything like that, just kind of misclubbed on the hole I made a bogey on. Just tried to stay patient and not get in too big of a panic and kind of realize that if I continue to hit good shots, hopefully it will switch to making birdies instead of that one bogey.

Q. Was the 28 as easy as a 28 can be?

ERIC COLE: Yeah, no, I was hitting it well and the greens are very good. When you get it in there to makeable distance, they're not bouncing around or doing anything. I'm not sure if it felt easy, but it was definitely very welcome and I was happy with the finish.

Q. How do you feel like winning 50 plus times (inaudible) prepared you for this moment?

ERIC COLE: It definitely doesn't hurt. It's obviously a little different stage out there and everything's kind of amped up a little bit. Whenever you win, it's always a good thing and something I'll probably lean on a little bit tomorrow.

Q. The going low, ability to do so, is that required out there on mini tours and one-day events and things like that?

ERIC COLE: For sure. When you only get one day, even if you're one of the better players, you still have to kind of find a way to shoot low. Between that and doing Monday qualifiers and stuff, you definitely have to learn to shoot as low as possible.

Q. So how long before your tee time will you arrive tomorrow?

ERIC COLE: Probably an hour and a half, and then range, hour and five minutes.



Q. (No microphone.)

ERIC COLE: We're staying here on the island, it's about 10 minutes.

Q. How many one-day (inaudible)?

ERIC COLE: That's a good question, I don't really know the answer to it.

Q. (No microphone.)

ERIC COLE: Yeah, more than 10.

Q. Do you feel like tomorrow could decide Rookie of the Year?

ERIC COLE: I don't know, that's not really up to me. You know, not something I'm too worried about. It's going to fall where it's going to fall. You know, I'm just focused on getting some rest this afternoon and tonight and being ready to go tomorrow.

Q. Have you played with Ludvig before this week?

ERIC COLE: Yeah, we played a few times. We played at Bay Hill, I think he was still an amateur when we played at Bay Hill, and we played the final round of John Deere I think where he shot 63 and it was very impressive.

Q. (No microphone.)

ERIC COLE: Yeah, there's a lot to like. He drives the ball great and is a great putter, so there's not much to pick at with his game.

Q. (No microphone.)

ERIC COLE: When I played with him, there's not much to swear about. He was playing pretty well, so I think I didn't get any taste of that.

Q. What was a bad shot on the back nine?

ERIC COLE: The most unique shot was probably the shot on the par 5 where I kind of had to run it up there. I got a good break off the tee and then hit a good shot and kind of took the right bounce, so that was probably the biggest swing type of shot.

Q. What did you hit?

ERIC COLE: It was a 5-iron, like a bump-and-run 5-iron.



Q. You strike me as the type, maybe because of how long and how hard you had to work to get here and stay here, you're probably the type that kind of stays in the moment and doesn't really worry about, you know, what three holes ahead means. Is that the way you approach things, and did 59 come into your mind?

ERIC COLE: Yeah, I like to stay in the moment as much as possible. We were having fun out there and making birdies, so you don't want to get too far ahead of yourself. When I birdied 16, I kind of did the math and realized if I birdied 17 and 18 I could shoot 59. Thought about it a little there.

No, it's a cool spot to be, second-to-last group today and playing well, so hopefully keep it going tomorrow.

Q. Did you have a 59 either in competition or casual round?

ERIC COLE: I have 58 down at a club in south Florida, Abacoa Golf Club.

Q. Was that in a tournament?

ERIC COLE: No, just playing with friends.

Q. Where in south Florida is it?

ERIC COLE: It's in Jupiter.

