2017 Mississippi Gulf Resort Classic Scott Hoch (-5, 67)

Q: Congratulations!

A: Thanks! It feels good to start off the tournament well. It was slow early... I kept hitting only greens and hit eight straight pars and then I guess I shot five under on the last ten holes. It was pretty good playing after that, but it was also pretty good playing before. But, the first 9 was tough to score on. I was hitting fives and four irons for what seemed like the whole time. It's tough to score when those are the only clubs you are hitting.

Q: What worked for you down the stretch?

A: Well, I hit good shots and made good puts. I hit a poor drive on 16 I hit the tree and it came back into hazard, and then I almost pitched back sideways from the hazard, and then hit an 8 iron up there about 3 feet. The one shot, the one poor shot hit today I got away with. It was slow going early. I mean I hit some good shots, and was just kind of tentative with my putting, I'm trying something new. I was about ready to get rid of it after awhile. It wasn't a bad put, I just wasn't quite hitting it where I wanted to, with the right speed.

Q: Do you want to disclose with that means?

A: If it works I'll tell you later. Hey, tomorrow it will probably be something else. Whatever is working that day.

Q: How did the course play today?

A: Well I really enjoy this course. I hope to come back here for a long time, because it's a really good test. It plays long for me on the front line. In the back 9 I'm hitting a lot shorter clubs on the greens, and I was able to hit them closer and make the puts. Hitting mostly 4 and 5 irons its hard to make birdies, except for par 5's. It's a very challenging course, and its in excellent shape.

Q: Daly said 10 and under might win it out here. Is there any number you in mind that you have coming into this?

A: Daly said that? That must be what it is then. It's hard to say, I think we are going to have good conditions. Gosh, I would like to take 10 and under right now. Yeah, I think that is a safe bet, but you never know, there might be 2 or 3 guys that let loose and play well and score well. If I'm fortunate, I might be one of them.

Q: Are you putting yourself in position to make that push in the next 2 days?

A: First, you never can take the first day and then multiply it by the rounds you play. Obviously, that would be 15 under, but 10 under. There doesn't seem to be much wind here, but there was swirling out on the course. It just depends on if we get a lot of wind. If we get much wind then this course plays really tough.

Q: You cant win a gold tournament on the first day, but you can lose it?

A: Oh yeah, you sure can.