

**Q. Joe, you made 10 birdies today, matches your all-time total. What do you think clicked today?**

**JOE DURANT:** You're going to laugh at me when I tell you this but it was actually a par I made on my first hole. I pulled my tee shot left, went into a bush and had to take an unplayable, had to drop back and hit an 8-iron about 15 feet and made par and it was kind of like, okay, well, maybe the putter is going to work today and after that I played well, just the one 3-putt on 10, but I rolled the ball nicely and made some good shots as well.

**Q. When you strike your irons like you do, like we know you can, you're going to make some of those putts. You have won twice on the PGA TOUR Champions. Are you a little surprised you haven't won out here more? I am.**

**JOE DURANT:** Honestly, John, I mean, it just shows you how difficult it is to win out here. I have played a lot of good golf out, I've shot some good scores, but some guys have set the bar really high as you know, and it's a tough tour to win on. Guys don't tend to back up on Sunday and tomorrow won't be an exception, to that, I'm sure.

**Q. What does Joe Durant have to do to win?**

**JOE DURANT:** Shoot the same as I did today. I'd be feeling pretty good if I did that. That's all you can do is go out and make a bunch of birdies, really.

**Q. That's all you can do out here on the PGA TOUR Champions. Good luck tomorrow.**

**JOE DURANT:** Thanks.

**Q. What was the key for you?**

**JOE DURANT:** Actually like I just told John, the par I made on the first hole today, I drove it in a left waste area and it was in a bush, and I had to take a drop, take an unplayable, made a par. Hit an 8-iron about 10 feet and made the putt, and then I hit a -- made a bomb on 2 for birdie, and after that the putter just felt really good. I kept giving myself nice opportunities, too. I hit some good shots coming in. The greens are rolling great so if you hit your spots, you can make a bunch of birdies, which a lot of guys did today.

**Q. It was bunched up there for a while, I think there were eight guys tied for the lead at a couple of different points. Are you thinking about that?**

**JOE DURANT:** I always look. I'm one of those guys that looks at the leaderboard, but the thing about it is here, if you look too much and you're not paying attention to what you're doing you're going to get run over. You've got to make a lot of birdies. We don't have the wind that we

typically have here. It's been a bit benign this week and that's why the scores are so low, and the course is in great shape, too.

**Q. Have you played much where Stricker?**

**JOE DURANT:** Yeah, it will be great. I look forward to playing with Steve. He's a class act, one of my buddies out here and obviously he is playing well, and he had a great round today. It will be a shootout tomorrow, no question, but it will be fun.

**Q. Thanks.**