

**WOODY AUSTIN ( -11)**

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**LAURA VESCOVI:** We'll kick things off. Congratulations, you are now the champion of the Dominion Energy Charity Classic. You're in a great position now going into next week ranked No. 9. Back in the winner's circle, how did that round feel for you?

**WOODY AUSTIN:** Well, the big thing is being back in the winner's circle because that, you know, gets you the caveat of the Tour of starting in Hualalai the next couple years. Really good to get out of the Wichita cold in January for that, so really happy with that. Now obviously if I can play really good the last two and maybe win one more, I might sneak in there.

**Q. There was a resistance to scoring today after all the good scoring yesterday. Were you aware of where everybody was? Do you watch the board?**

**WOODY AUSTIN:** I do watch. My boy with me this week, Brent, who caddied for me for 10 years on the regular tour, he was just out for this week and he's pretty stern on trying to keep me from looking. It's hard to not look once in a while, but I kind of had an idea. I didn't constantly look to know, I just knew when I made those bogeys, the three-putt on 10 and bogeyed 14, I knew I had hurt myself. I just knew that I needed to make some birdies to have a chance. Then when I saw -- when I got to 18 and saw that if I made 4, I was going to have a two-shot cushion, that was pretty nice to know.

**Q. You described your chip shot, hit it a little firm. There was that flagstick there.**

**WOODY AUSTIN:** Yeah. I've said it all along, usually the person that wins gets a break on Sunday. That was my break. I mean, I played well enough to win all week, but I still, I didn't putt well enough to win all week and I needed that break and I got the break I needed, which usually that's what happens.

**Q. Today you had something like six birdies and it looked like -- I'm trying to remember, it looked like four of them were on the front nine. I couldn't remember that, but did that help get you in a positive frame of mind?**

**WOODY AUSTIN:** Sure. I hit a real good shot on the first hole, made a really good putt on the first hole, so that gets you in a good mindset.

Then I stuffed it on the par 3, No. 4, to four feet. So if you're hitting it close...

Then No. 9 was a tap-in, I chipped it up there to about six inches. It's like anything, if you can give yourself enough chances, which is what I did. I didn't hit it as good today as I have

all week. I missed the second green, was the first green I missed in 30 holes. I hit 29 greens in a row at one stage this week. The only bogeys I had made were three-putts. So if you can keep doing that and keep yourself in the game, which is what I did, I got the break I needed at the end. So I kept myself in there long enough and fortunately got it.

**Q. If you watch the scoreboard, as dominant as he's been on the tour, did it seem like Bernhard was just at 9 under for the whole day?**

**WOODY AUSTIN:** Yeah, it seemed like he couldn't quite get it over the hump, you know. I'm not going to feel bad for the guy, the guy's kind of had things go his way for the last 12 years. You know, now he sees what it's like to have it happen. (Laughs.)

**Q. It's been a couple of years, you must feel pretty good. You had seven top-10s this year. This has to make you feel really good.**

**WOODY AUSTIN:** Yeah. Like I said, I've played well enough, it's just really hard for me to play well enough in three days and not -- and putt well enough. I mean, I was tied for third going into today and I was 58th out of 72 guys in putts for greens in regulation and I was third. It's pretty tough, if that's all you're doing on the greens, it's pretty tough to win. That's why I said it's hard for me to get those -- you need a couple days of good putting to win and I'm lucky if I get one. It's hard to get enough.

So, fortunately, like I've said, this was a golf course that was hard enough to where the scores aren't going to go really low that this is a good week for me to where I don't have to worry about missing as many putts and thinking I've got to shoot 6, 7 under every day. So to shoot 11 under out here and win a tournament, that's rare. That's because it's a really good golf course, bermuda rough. It's nice.

**Q. Did the conditions help today?**

**WOODY AUSTIN:** Absolutely, 100 percent, absolutely. I was happy to see it. I said I really enjoy a difficult test. I showed even at the Senior British, the worst conditions the last day and I played phenomenal in those conditions and moved all the way up tied for sixth at the British. I enjoy even par meaning something. That's my game. I mean, if I can get it to where it's hard, I'll just make a couple birdies just hitting good shot after good shot. I just don't make 20-footers on a regular basis like these guys do, so you get me to a golf course where I don't have to on a regular basis, I've got a chance.

**Q. The consistency of the greens then is huge for you?**

**WOODY AUSTIN:** Absolutely, it's always been big for me. Like I said, I didn't hit it as good today, I think I probably only hit 14 greens today, but like I said, at one stage I went 29 holes in a row without missing a green.

**Q. How big was it to bounce back from that bogey that took you out of tied for the**

**lead?**

**WOODY AUSTIN:** Big, obviously. I didn't know where I was at the time. That was the real bad swing of the day, it was pretty much the only real bad swing I made all day was on 14. Just tried to hit the 4-iron too hard and I got underneath it. Made two perfect swings on 15, hit the ball in the right side of the fairway where I could attack that flag with a sand wedge and knocked it in there about five feet.

**Q. What was the putt on 18?**

**WOODY AUSTIN:** I would say probably six feet.

**LAURA VESCOVI:** Thank you, thanks for coming in.