

JAY HAAS (--9)

Q. Jay, off to a great start with a birdie. How did it feel to be back in contention and play with that lead on a Sunday?

JAY HAAS: Yeah, it was -- you know, I was nervous. It felt good last night, but I woke up early this morning and I was certainly uptight.

But the way I started off, I played the first four holes like a champ, just nice putted 1 and hit greens and had nice chances at 2, 3 and 4. Kind of got off the rails a little bit. Certainly had a chance, had a good look at 13 for birdie and left it short and then just made a mess of No. 14. That hole in the past has given me a big headache and I just -- I made a 2 and a 3 on it the first couple days and today, that was just inexcusable. I felt like if I could get past that hole, I had three sand wedges basically and certainly a chance to get 11 or 12 under. I felt like that was the number. Just took the wind out of my sails a little bit there. Thought I might have a chance with birdie at 17, but then I guess Woody birdied 18.

Disappointed, for sure. Not going to get many more opportunities like this, but it gives me hope, too, that I can still do it.

Q. It sets you up well for the next two events. What do you take away from this week looking forward?

JAY HAAS: Yeah, my number one goal coming in here was to get to next week. I was 49th starting off, so I thought if I could play a good week and make sure I got there and then see what I could do.

Yeah, the putt at the last hole there, it could have given me a little bit of a cushion going into next week to get to Phoenix. That was my goal at the start of the year, to win a tournament and to get to Phoenix, get to the TOUR Championship. So still have that opportunity, right at 36 I guess, so I'm a bubble guy. But I've got to play good. No matter when you play and who you're playing against, you've got to play good to move forward, so hopefully I'll do that next week.

Q. Did the conditions today make it more resistant to scoring?

JAY HAAS: Oh, I think definitely. I don't know what low score was today, but I can't imagine anybody shooting much --

Q. 67 maybe or 68.

JAY HAAS: Yeah. The way -- as I said, the way I started off, I felt very comfortable. I was nervous, but I like that. I tell myself if I teed off at 9:20, I wouldn't be nervous, so 1:05 was a little more nerve wracking. But again, I had my chances, just a poor tee shot at 14 cost me two strokes basically. A good one there and I'm still 10 under with, like I said, three out of four wedge shots coming in and I like my chances, and then I birdied the hole I was thinking would be the hardest.

It was fun to be back in the hunt and I've got my honey in the gallery and it's always good to see Jan out there. It was a good week.