



SCOTT PAREL (-11)

Q. So when you started on the first tee today, how much did you count on or use that win a couple months ago as kind of a guide to getting through today?

SCOTT PAREL: I don't know if I used it as a guide, but I was comfortable knowing that I could win, I've done it before. So I tried to give myself a target score, I thought maybe 12-under would have a chance, and I just played good, solid golf. I didn't get in too much trouble and kind of played like I've been playing.

Q. You said the other day when I asked you about strategy, you said to be aggressive and smart. Do you feel like you accomplished that today?

SCOTT PAREL: I think so, yeah, I think so. I didn't really take many chances today. I'm trying to think. You know, Perry and I played -- we made good decisions all day today. We didn't go at flags that weren't good for us and we hit some good shots. I could have -- I know everybody could play better, but it just felt solid. It certainly didn't feel like the 63 I shot in Seattle, that was quite a different feeling. I didn't really pay much attention to what was going on behind me, I just played the front nine and then looked at the leaderboard and saw that I was in contention.

Q. The holes I watched you on, walked with you, you had a couple of nice wedge shots; the one from the back of the green on 5 when you chipped down close and made birdie there and then coming out of the bunker on 6, big par save there. Talk about just that part of your game and how that maybe played, kept you going.

SCOTT PAREL: Yeah, my short game has definitely -- I mean, you can't win if your short game isn't working, so my short game has definitely improved.

When you're putting well, it doesn't put as much pressure on your chipping, on your bunker game. I mean, if you feel like you've got to hit it a foot every time, it makes it a little more difficult. But I feel like from inside 10 feet, I don't know what my statistics would be inside 10 feet this week, but I don't think I missed too many. I feel pretty confident I can get the ball inside 10 feet most of the time. Like I said, when you're putting well, I think the rest of your short game looks pretty good.

Q. I know you've had two good years out here, but does it at all feel a bit surreal out here that you're out here and playing so well and competing with guys like Langer and Jimenez and those guys?

SCOTT PAREL: Yeah, I'd be lying if I said no. These guys have been playing against each

other and the best players in the world when they were younger and here I am only in my third year. So for sure. It doesn't -- I don't know about surreal, but sometimes I have to pinch myself, yeah. I'm just so blessed to be able to do this at this point in my life and to be successful at it. I've worked hard, but a lot of guys work hard and they don't get this. So for whatever reason, it's doing right at the right time, it's working out.

Q. Why didn't you play coming out of college? What was in a decision to not pursue the playing career at that point?

SCOTT PAREL: Well, I had nobody pursuing me. It wasn't like I was turning people away. Like I said before, I've played all different sports and I would say golf might have been my third favorite when I was younger. I enjoyed baseball and football the most. I'm not a good enough athlete or a big enough specimen to play those professionally, so I didn't really honestly think about being a professional golfer once I got to where I knew I was in college.

Playing golf in college, I went and talked to the coach about walking on and I kind of got the same thing I'm sure everybody got and I hadn't set my schedule up to do what he needed me to do, so I was not at all that disappointed. I just concentrated in on my studies and got a degree in computer science and went from there.

Q. Your thoughts just going ahead two weeks, thoughts on trying to chase down Langer and win the Schwab Cup?

SCOTT PAREL: Yeah. My goal, like I said earlier in the week, my goal is to try to at least play better than he did so that maybe I could make up a little ground and I did that. I'm playing well. Two weeks is a long time, things can happen, but like I said, I like my chances. I'm playing good golf. If I keep playing the way I'm playing, I think I'll at least have a chance.

Q. Scott, a lot of fans around here said they love the personal feel of this tournament. What is it like from a player's perspective?

SCOTT PAREL: I love it. I love to have the kids right up on the ropes and give them the golf balls and have all the people tell you good luck and get it done, finish it off.

I think that's the good thing about this tour. I think the guys, like you said, you can get right up to the ropes and you can get close to a guy who's won the Masters twice or U.S. Open twice. It's tough to get close to Tiger or -- it just doesn't happen. Not that we're any kind of athlete like that, but I think that's the great thing about this tour and I love it, I enjoy it. I've always enjoyed, even when I was playing on the Nationwide and Web.com Tour, playing in the pro-ams, meeting new people. I just love to play golf.

Q. And how would you describe kind of the energy at this tournament, especially today?

SCOTT PAREL: I felt a lot of support. You know, I don't know. I felt like there were a good

amount of people that were interested in trying to figure out what was going on back and forth between the last group and our group. I could tell when more people maybe started following me a little bit that maybe I was going to have a chance.