

JAY HAAS (-1)

Q. I know it wasn't the finish you wanted, but still, you've still got a chance to become the oldest -- I mean, I don't know if that matters?

JAY HAAS: Yeah, I kind of let it get away today. It was a tougher day. The wind was blowing a little bit different direction than we had it in the past couple days and I just didn't drive it as good as I need to drive it on a course like this. And then didn't make any of the putts that I had been making kind of the first couple days. You know, not out of it, but certainly, you know, a 68 or 69 was doable with a couple decent shots here and there. So a little disappointed, but 66 or 67 tomorrow would be nice. I would feel a lot better than I do right now.

Q. So is the wind kind of the key for tomorrow, whether it's blowing or not?

JAY HAAS: Well, it seemed like the first day the wind was either in or down and the second day was the opposite, but either in or down. And then today it was a lot of crosswind holes and it just -- it played a little more difficult for me personally and I didn't drive the ball very well and that was the key for me.

Q. Like I said, you still have a chance to win. Do you allow yourself to think of what that would mean?

JAY HAAS: You know, sure. In my dreams I guess I think about it and I think I'm still capable. And if I had played today the way I played the first couple days, I would be right there, I think. Then I could get real nervous about it.

You know, I guess I looked up after playing six or seven holes and I saw that Retief had gotten off to a poor start and kind of let anybody in the game, so it changed. It didn't really change my attitude, but it just kind of changed the outcome or the outlook, I guess, going forward.

So I don't think anybody really did any great round, I think 3 under was low or something and that's more typical to me of Firestone certainly in my vintage than the 62 yesterday.

Q. I know you said Wednesday it's just as hard as ever. I'm sure you still stick by that.

JAY HAAS: Yeah, I think so. Certainly holes didn't play as long as I've seen them play, but then others, it's just you cannot fake it around here. You misstep, you're going to make a bogey probably.

Q. Jay, at this point in your career, do you still -- when a major comes around, do you still kind of -- does it mean a little bit more?

JAY HAAS: I won't say it means more. I realize my window, whether it be a major or any event, is kind of closing and not many guys have done anything in their mid 60s and beyond. So anytime I do play well. I had a good week a couple weeks ago at the Senior U.S. Open and kind of carried that with me this week.

So, you know, I would love to contend tomorrow and go out and make some early birdies and try to put some heat on some of the guys. You know, all the golf that I get to play now is just kind of gravy. Who'd have thunk when we first started -- I thought if I could play until I was 45 it would be pretty cool. Now I'm 65 still trying to compete and getting mad out there when I hit bad shots. You know, that's kind of the dream part of our job is still being able to do that.

Q. I've just been asking guys, is the PLAYERS Championship, the opportunity maybe if you win here to get to play that tournament?

JAY HAAS: Well, without question, yeah. The last time I won THE PLAYERS, I did get to play and Bill was playing. I ended up making some bogeys coming in, didn't make the cut, so I was disappointed in that.

But yeah, that's certainly a lure for THE PLAYERS, the Senior British Open, the Senior U.S. Open, the Senior PGA, getting a spot in those events. I have 799 starts on the PGA TOUR, so there's been several people say, "You've got to get to 800, you've got to get to 800." If I earn it that way, then yeah, I'll do 800, but if I get to 800, it's not going to change my life any different. Just with the opportunity to do that, that would be very cool.