

SCOTT PAREL (-2)

Q. I know disappointed coming in with the lead and eyeing your first major. Surely disappointed coming out, but just reflection on the day, on the week as a whole?

SCOTT PAREL: It was a good week. You know, I think I probably will do better next time I'm here. I was probably not as prepared for the course. I probably needed to take a club out, put another one in here or there. Really seemed to bite me today more than anything.

Q. What club in particular?

SCOTT PAREL: Hybrid was never a club I needed all week. I've got a 3-iron that I play, I'll use it when I go to the British, but never occurred to me that I would need it here and it's just poor judgment on my part. There was a few shots where I really could have used it.

Overall, it's hard to be upset finishing top-5 in a major. Just a little -- you know, just tough when you're leading and you know you don't have to shoot that great. Although 1 under par, 2 under par is pretty darn good today. Just try to learn from it and move on.

Q. Take me through 14 through 17. I know that was kind of a crazy stretch.

SCOTT PAREL: Yeah. You know, I never really seemed to get good -- that's how golf works, you never seem to get good numbers. Finally had a really good number on 14 and hit a good full pitching wedge close, make birdie.

Then we get on 15 and that's the hole there where I was talking I really needed that 3-iron. My hybrid I knew was too much and I don't have a 4-iron. My 5-iron I knew, with the way the wind was coming into me, there was no way I was going to get it anywhere near the front of the green. So in hindsight that probably was still the shot to hit, take your chances from the front edge of the green versus, you know, hitting the shot I hit, which was horrible. So make bogey there.

And then 16, you know, after that I just kind of lost focus on that tee. Another thing not being prepared, they had the tee up and I hadn't hit a tee shot from there all week. I didn't really trust where my line was. Again, that's preparation, so you think at this point in my career I would know how to prepare, but it just was different.

Good golf course. You really needed to be prepared and unfortunately I wasn't as prepared as I needed to be.

Q. Just reflections oncoming into this year? I mean, certainly a couple years ago you're doing all the Monday qualifiers and you're like, let's get our card. You got your card and you kept your card last year, you win twice, you almost win the Schwab Cup. What were your goals coming into this year?

SCOTT PAREL: Well, my goals this year were to, again, I would love to win the Schwab Cup, but it was again to try at least be in those top-5 guys again and contend in majors. So I've contended in a couple, got one more chance. I didn't really set any goals on winning this, that or -- you know, my goal every year I always say is just to play good enough so I can play next year.

Q. Most of the time, a lot of times when you're new out here, it's getting used to new golf courses. This is a new golf course, quote unquote, on the schedule, but a lot of these guys have played a lot of golf here.

SCOTT PAREL: I think it was an advantage. But still, it doesn't help -- just because you know where to hit it doesn't mean you can. I don't know if I would have done any better or any worse had I played a bunch here before. I would know I would have been prepared and had the right clubs in my bag. Is that going to make up four shots? I don't know. It's hard to say.

You know, it's getting -- I can't -- it's hard to be upset for where I am for the year, but again, I've had so many chances now, it's maybe starting to wear on me a little bit. So I'm hoping that I don't, you know, kind of lose whatever it is to keep getting up there. It's a grind, it's hard always being, always being up there where you think you've got a chance. Mentally, it's not too difficult on your 15th or 25th. It's, not that it's easy, but mentally it's just not the same grind.

So every week I feel like, or most weeks, at least at some point during the tournament I'm up near the top somewhere to where I am grinding out, trying to figure out how to get in position to win.

I don't have the experience that these guys have. A lot of them, Retief, how many times has he done that? I'm sure many times in his life, and he showed it. I mean, he struggled, too, but boy, when he needed to make a birdie, darn if he didn't do it.

And he lays up with an iron off the tee and hits a great -- that's just somebody that knows how to finish. I'm still, I guess I'm still trying to learn how to do that.

Q. That was my last question for you. You're one of the top players out here, you won twice last year, almost won the Schwab Cup, but you're in a senior major with an exemption to the PLAYERS Championship on the line playing with a Hall of Famer. Are you still learning something from these guys at all?

SCOTT PAREL: Definitely. Yeah, I felt like I learned a lot today from Retief, just like what I

said. On 17 he had a game plan, he knew he needed to make a birdie, he stuck to what his game plan was and obviously executed it just the way he envisioned it.

For me, again, like I said, those two shots, the tee shot on 15, not having the right club in the bag for it, and then the tee shot on 16, not committing to a line because I had never hit a tee shot there. And that's my fault.

I'm sure he's played from that tee numerous times, so it wasn't any question for him, even though he still struggled on that hole anyway. Like I said, just because you know where to hit it out here doesn't necessarily mean you're going to do it, but it sure -- for me, I need to be 100 percent committed, especially on tee shots for me to be able to hit good ones. That's just the way it is for me.