

WILLIE WOOD (-9)

WILLIE WOOD: Starting about No. 8, the wind came up and then it kind of laid down. It was up for about two hours. It played quite challenging. My round was not nearly as stress-free as yesterday. I scrambled pretty well on the back nine.

Q. So was it sort of a hang-in-there mentality today?

WILLIE WOOD: It was, it was. Initially starting off, though, you could try to make birdies, go for it, but then it was a hang in.

Q. How did the wind affect your game specifically today?

WILLIE WOOD: Well, we're not used to playing this golf course with the wind because usually it's ideal conditions all the time. I had to just try to make adjustments, you know, try to play a little bit more conservatively because there wasn't a whole lot of birdie holes on the final nine, final 10. No. 9 was really difficult. It was howling on No. 9.

Q. It was. So you're playing with one of the longest hitters on the Champions Tour in Kenny Perry. He's like, you know, kind of blowing it by you by 15 yards or whatever. Does that affect your thought process at all?

WILLIE WOOD: No, I'm kind of used to it. I played with Kenny and all the long hitters for many, many years. Fortunately, this is not a golf course that bombers have a big advantage on. I would love to be able to hit it 20 or 30 yards further and reach the par 5s, but it's not a giant advantage. He hit a lot of 3-irons and 3-woods off tees, which it kept me -- I outdrove him on the first hole, but I had a driver and he had a 3-iron.

Q. What were your expectations coming into this week?

WILLIE WOOD: I didn't really know what to expect. I haven't played a tournament in quite a while, but I knew I was playing pretty well, so I just wanted to do my best. And I had a nice hot round yesterday, which was terrific. I finished strong. I would like to do the same tomorrow.

Q. Sure. If the weather's nice, calm tomorrow versus windy, how many shots --

WILLIE WOOD: It will be back to how scores were yesterday probably.

Q. Does that change your mentality at all going into the next round?

WILLIE WOOD: It does, it does, and you've got to anticipate it being nice because it usually is nice here.

Q. When was your last tournament?

WILLIE WOOD: The PURE Insurance Championship.

Q. September of last year?

WILLIE WOOD: Yeah. I didn't play very well last year. I just kind of took the rest of the fall off.

Q. You're right in the thick of this thing. What would it mean to you to pull it off if you could?

WILLIE WOOD: Well, it would change my schedule tremendously for the rest of the year. I would like that. I've had that happen to me before in 2012, so that would be a very welcome change of schedule.

Q. Because right now, what does your schedule look like?

WILLIE WOOD: Oh, gosh. I'm entered in the qualifier Tuesday at Newport Beach and I'm going to do a few of those. My schedule's not -- kind of winding down type of career and I would like to keep it from winding down a little bit longer.