

WILLIE WOOD (-3)

Q. So you double bogeyed the first hole today and yet here you are in a pretty good position. How did you recover from that?

WILLIE WOOD: I turned it -- I doubled the first hole and still turned it in 2 over. It wasn't looking very good, but all of a sudden the wind kind of laid down a little bit and the putter got going on 15, 16 and 17. I made nice putts, I made nice putts on all of them, especially on 16. I hit it to the back of green, it was a really hard putt and it went in. I mean, it looked like it was going in right from the start, it was beautiful.

Q. How long was that putt on 16?

WILLIE WOOD: Well, I'll tell you exactly. Pin's on 15, green depth is 33, so that's 18 yards, that's 54 feet. I was about a yard closer, 53 feet.

Q. And right in the middle you had a pretty steep slope and I saw you worrying about it with your hand there a little bit.

WILLIE WOOD: And I hit it above the hole on 18 also, I had to go down a steep slope. You really want to keep it below the hole on many of these greens and I didn't, but it did cost me today.

Q. You being a Tucson guy, it's like stealing?

WILLIE WOOD: Well, I've played here probably 200 times, but I haven't played that well until last year. So I would like to have a good weekend, it would be fun.

Q. Did that give you a confidence boost, your performance a year ago?

WILLIE WOOD: Oh, yeah, I'd rather shoot 70 than 76. I'm happy with the way I finished.

Q. Do you feel a certain comfort level when you come back here?

WILLIE WOOD: I feel comfortable on the greens, yeah, I do. I mean, I've played a lot of golf here. I spend my winters down in Scottsdale so I'm familiar with the desert. It's just down the road.

Q. Now, on 15, after you made your birdie there, did you feel like it was time to go on a roll?

WILLIE WOOD: Well, I knew 17 I could birdie, being a par-5. No. 16, you don't really anticipate it unless you hit a really nice iron shot below the hole, but I didn't. That's the way golf is. It gives and takes all the time.

I'll tell you, the Conquistadores have done a great job about rerouting the back nine and how the fans can stay near the clubhouse, that's great.

Q. Talk about that a little bit, 17 and 18, both difficult holes?

WILLIE WOOD: Yeah. Normally 17 would be 10 and then we would go out and -- sorry, come back in. I can't talk without using my hands, sorry. My kids have told me to stop.

The routing (inaudible) -- what's going on?

It's changed the dynamics of the back nine and it's kept the crowd close. It's really cool, they've done a great job.

Q. How difficult was the wind early on today?

WILLIE WOOD: Starting on No. 3 it started blowing, which we didn't expect. It was supposed to be kind of calm today, and it blew all the way until about 11 and then it's kind of laying back down where it should be. It's going to be windy on Sunday, though.

Q. What happened on hole No. 1?

WILLIE WOOD: I hit it to the right off the tee near the hazard and I had a pretty good shot and I didn't hit it hard enough and it went in the (inaudible) by the green. Lipped the bogey putt out.

You're making a lot of noise.

Q. And your outlook for the weekend at this point?

WILLIE WOOD: It's good, I've got to have a good attitude. Maybe I can keep the putter going and I can have another good one.