

ERNIE ELS (-7)

Q. Obviously a huge improvement today, 7 under par. What was the difference between today and yesterday?

ERNIE ELS: I just felt a bit more comfortable. Believe it or not, after all these years I felt like a rookie yesterday and I felt a little out of place. Obviously I didn't putt very well and all that stuff, but today I felt more comfortable and know the course a little better, and obviously the start was nice and I kept it going today.

Q. It's probably a funny feeling to feel like a rookie when you're 50?

ERNIE ELS: Exactly. It's amazing. I mean, it's funny enough, a good friend of mine sent me a video from 1989 when I turned pro in South Africa when I was a rookie then and it showed me what I had back then. That's 30 years ago, and 30 years later I felt the same as I did when I was 20-year-old. It's interesting, but it's a good learning experience and looking forward to the rest of year.

Q. Did the wind play any factor for you, helpful or hurtful maybe?

ERNIE ELS: Blowing, it start blowing a little bit on our seventh hole and a bit of rain came. Playing really good now. It's all good, that's Hawaiian golf.

Q. You still made eagle on 7 though, right?

ERNIE ELS: Yeah. You're always a little -- I was a little disappointed with not making birdie on 18, but I'm good.

Q. Was the putter better today?

ERNIE ELS: Yeah, I think it was a little bit better and I fell a bit more comfortable. I went to a different putter today which gets the ball rolling a bit more. I left everything short and didn't quite get it to the hole yesterday, so it was a little better.

Q. Is it just maybe to get some rounds under the belt out here and kind of get going out here?

ERNIE ELS: Exactly, that's exactly what I need to do. I need to feel my way into it. Obviously yesterday wasn't a great start, but I've got to just play rounds and see what it takes to do well out there. Obviously you have to shoot well, but there's a way of getting there and I've got to find my way of getting to a low round. You can't just be aggressive on

everything, you've got to kind of tack your way around some of the courses.

Q. Obviously a lot of golf still left today, but you've certainly flown up the leaderboard. Excited for what's to come tomorrow?

ERNIE ELS: Yeah. Obviously yesterday was a bit slow, but today was good. I need something like that tomorrow, even better to maybe get in the top-5, I think. I think the guys are going to still shoot well today, but it was really nice to get a good round under my belt. Second round of my Champions Tour career to get a 65, you've got to be pleased with that.

Q. Good to be back in the Hawaiian Islands? You've always done well here in the past.

ERNIE ELS: Love it. I mean, everything, from Kapalua to Sony to here now, I've had good times. Even in the Grand Slam, we played the Grand Slam on Kauai up north and always had success here, so hopefully it can continue.