



First-Round Transcripts | Albertsons Boise Open presented by Chevron Friday, August 19, 2022

PHILIP KNOWLES (-10, Leader)

City Plays From: Jacksonville, Florida | Turned Pro: 2019 | College: University of North Florida

Exempt Status: Additional Qualifying Tournament Finishers

On if golf feels easy when he is playing well

Yesterday felt very easy. Today, it was a little bit up and down honestly. I holed a few big putts on the front nine to kind of keep that momentum rolling. I had spurts today where I struck it really nice, but as a general rule, the back nine was a bit of a grind. Bad three putt on 13. I kind of did the same thing, I hit it within two feet of where I hit it yesterday. Even though it's going a different direction, I did the same thing. I left it. A lot of work for the next one. And then I didn't take advantage of 15, 16. I was out of position on 16 honestly. I made a really good par. I wouldn't say that it was super easy today, but there were stretches where I executed really good golf shots and made the putts and it kind of built momentum there.

On his long putt on the par-5 16th

It was huge. I thought I hit a really nice tee ball and we had the wind out of the left a little bit. As the ball is in the air, you can see the little flags on the ropes start blowing left, and you see the ball kind of fighting it. It lands and it kicks left and so I honestly should've just chipped out. I tried to punch it. Never got enough out of the rough. Next one was really weird, I just didn't make solid contact. I thought I hit a decent chip and it just came up short, so I had to make it and I did. The putter's been pretty reliable this week. Those putts, you don't want to have them but you feel pretty confident over them, especially that one. It was a left-edge putt. There wasn't a whole lot to it.

On what's working best so far

The putter. Even though I've had three three-putts. Three bogeys and three three-putts. It's just really weird. I've holed a lot of putts. Aside from those, I haven't missed much that I should've made or anything like that. The driver's been pretty good too. I always drive it pretty well and I lean on the driver. It's been a little wayward at times but I've done a pretty good job of missing it at least on the right side of the fairway where I can manage from there.

On keeping up with his college coaches and teammates

On the last off week, I had lunch with Jack, my caddie, Coach (Scott) Schroeder, Jeff, our assistant coach, and Scott's daughter, who just got No. 1 ranked junior player in the country. Shutout to Kaitlyn Schroeder. So good. Scott and Jeff - head coach and assistant coach - played huge roles in me developing as a golfer. I was streaky in junior golf. I got to my freshman year of college and I realized I was pretty bad at golf and I got better every year. Scott helped me really my first two years go from an average player to a pretty good player. Jeff almost took the next step and helped me become, what I felt like, really competitive. I owe them a ton. I still talk to them a ton.

On the satisfaction in seeing his patience pay off

I haven't seen my name at the top of the leaderboard yet, I haven't looked. But as a golfer, you have an idea. You'll always feel like you know where the cut's going to be or you feel like you know what a good round is on that day. It's super satisfying. I kind of dinked it around that back nine and just tried to stay patient, stay patient. I thought I hit a really nice wedge. After the par on 16, I thought I hit a really nice one. On 17, I landed five feet from the hole and it just took a big hop. The greens have been a little inconsistent with where some spots are baked out, some aren't. I kind of got in a weird spot and made par there. Then on 18, I toe-balled one, but it ended up getting far enough where I had an open shot and making that 12, 13 footer on the last hole for birdie was the epitome of patience. I didn't have it for five holes. I was able to kind of get that to go on the last. It was a good step into tomorrow's round.

On what he's going to do at the par-3 8th after birdying there in the first and second rounds

Tomorrow, I'm going to hit it right in the middle of the green and I'm going to hit a good putt with perfect speed and we're going to see if it goes in.