

Third-Round Transcripts | Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna | Friday, August 13, 2022

TAYLOR MONTGOMERY (-13, Co-Leader)

City Plays From: Las Vegas, Nevada | Turned Pro: 2016 | College: University of Nevada – Las Vegas
Exempt Status: Top 75 in 2020-21 Regular Season Standings

On his round...

"I hit it really well today, besides two holes- No. 16 and No. 17, other than that it was pretty stress free which is nice. I don't have too many of those rounds."

On holding the 54-hole lead...

"It would be nice to have an out-right lead but seems like I'm always tied for the lead. I had some opportunities on the back nine today, but it doesn't matter. There are 18 more holes, pressure packed, but I love it. If you don't like being in the lead then you don't like winning. It's going to be fun tomorrow."

On mentality being in the lead or contention...

"I enjoy it because that's what you play for. I love the fans out here. We don't get them like this too much so I wanted to make that putt on the last hole, but I'm just excited to see what tomorrow has in store."

On what he's most looking forward to tomorrow...

"The ceremony, for sure. I'm inside The 25 and I really want to look at the Rankings right now to see how it can go, because I find that very interesting."

On being the Bubble Boy last year...

"That's what everybody keeps saying. This is a way better week than one year ago, but that's golf. In golf you can change it in a couple of days and that's what's nice about this. I kept my card last year and practiced hard and it led me to this spot."

On the emotions right now...

"Just a lot of excitement, who knows what could happen. I could be a multi-multi millionaire and multiple wins. It would be nice to be one of the guys competing every week on the PGA TOUR."

On staying present this week...

"I think you have to prepare yourself first and foremost. This golf course is very TOUR worthy, it's a hard golf course. You have to hit a lot of good shots and it's long. It's nice that I can let the driver go on this golf course, I don't have to worry about those white posts to the right or left, that's a nice feeling as well."

On if mom and dad are coming...

"No, they'll be watching on TV I'm sure, but my dad has to work. We had a wedding last week and they had a lot of work to do for that thing."

CARL YUAN (-12, T5)

City Plays From: Dalian, China | Turned Pro: 2018 | College: University of Washington
Exempt Status: Tournament Winner

On his round...

"The birdie on No. 18 was huge. I doubled it the last two rounds on No. 18, so that was a three-shot improvement. I was happy about that. I had a good day. I didn't start off very hot, didn't birdie either of the par-5s on the front nine, but on the back nine I was lighting it up. I made an eagle chip on No. 12 and then holed again from the bunker on No. 13 which kept the momentum going, I almost holed out again on No. 14. It was great. The putter was rolling nicely and I hit the ball decent so that was good."

On using motivation from yesterday's round...

"I didn't finish the round strong and that's always a little disappointing, but like I said, if I make the cut and have a shot on the weekend on a tough course out here like this, if I fire two low rounds, I'll give myself a chance on Sunday."

On mentality already locking up TOUR card...

"I have had it for awhile, but still, every week that I come out here I still try to use the best strategy and play the best golf possible that I can, especially this week. I love the golf course and a great ceremony afterwards. I would love to finish up in the last few groups on Sunday, so that would be awesome."

On the highlight of his game this week...

"I would say my putter, I've been rolling the ball nicely. I took two weeks off and had some deep conversations with my wife, she argues how I should and shouldn't putt. I listened to her this week and it worked out fine, thank to her."

On the course this week...

"The course plays long. Overall it's a tough track. You have to hit good golf shots to score. It's hard to be in the rough and get it close to the pin, so it's more like a PGA TOUR golf course for sure. It's a challenge but it's fair at the same time. If you hit good shots you get rewarded as well."

On still striving for that No. 1 spot...

"[The No. 1 spot] has been my goal since the beginning of the year. I've been working hard towards that and want to finish the season strong to get that done."

On having his wife Kathy here with him...

"It's extremely important. She's much more than just my wife. We work as a team. There are things she says to me that makes me uncomfortable, which is good. It pushes me out of the comfort zone to make me better, the results show that. I definitely have improved and she's been a big help for me the whole year."

On the importance of the week...

"She played on the ESPON Tour, that's how we met."

On if she'll be out here this week..."This week at the ceremony afterwards we get our handwork [recognized], for a lot of us it's a dream come true. It's an unbelievable week and the experience is going to be awesome.."



On his plan for Finals...

"I'm probably not [taking any time off]. I'll try to play them all unless I have a good lead going into the last event. I plan to play them all."

On getting 600 points this week...

"It's nice but at the same time I don't really look at the points going into the weeks. Getting the [PGA TOUR] card, I got the card, so if I finish No. 1 that's the cherry on top. Every week I come out here and stay present and play shot by shot. The points are there and if I play good golf I'll get them."

On No. 12...

"It was a great hole, they made it reachable. If you hit a good tee shot you can hit it on the green and have the chance to make two or three. It was 280ish yards. I hit a three wood and I didn't hit a good tee shot so I had about 40 yards in."