



Third-Round Transcripts | VISIT KNOXVILLE OPEN | Saturday, May 14, 2022

Anders Albertson (T1 / -16)

City Plays From: Atlanta, Georgia | Turned Pro: 2015 | College: Georgia Tech
Exempt Status: 75 Points Leaders from the Korn Ferry Tour Regular Season

Q. Another great day for you, bogey free. Walk me through your round.

ANDERS ALBERTSON: Yeah, the course was very difficult today. The greens were really firm, so I think the whole group was kind of struggling to get birdie looks early. We were just trying to get a feel for it. For whatever reason, I got in a better groove on the back nine and got a couple birdies in a row there which was nice. Only two par 5s on this course, so it's hard to really count on those kind of easy birdies. And No. 18 is a tough birdie with the flag, but it was nice to get one to close out the day. Yeah, another just kind of really solid ball-striking round. You don't really get a straight putt around here so, it's nice to get in a groove whenever you can find that and that happened for me today on the back nine.

Q. When the course is playing tough like that, how do you just -- I think you're good about this, but staying within yourself and not letting that get to you?

ANDERS ALBERTSON: Yeah, right. I really try hard before the tournament starts to go through where are the best places to be so I can make the decisions when I'm in the middle of the moment.

Yeah, we had a really good game plan, my caddie and I, my friend Walker. I think we'll stick to that. My body felt good all week, so I feel sharp with my swing and can put it where I want and I always like that. So enjoy it when you can put it on the right side of the hole. Yeah, we've been able to take advantage of that.

Q. When's the last time that you went like, I mean, you led 18, 36, 54?

ANDERS ALBERTSON: I don't know if ever, honestly. Maybe back if I was playing like a junior event. I don't think I've ever done that to my knowledge in a professional event. Yeah, it's cool.

Again, not really thinking about that as much as I can about playing the course tomorrow and if it happens to be good enough, but my focus is playing the best I can and maintaining the strategy I've had all week. It's fun to be here, but yeah, it's not really where my mind's at.

Q. Was the highlight of the day a good break or a bad break?

ANDERS ALBERTSON: I mean, it's funny it worked out like that. It was probably the most solid shot I hit all day. I just kind of held up a 6-iron and that's a really hard par 3. Honestly, you're just trying to fly it in the middle and just hope it stays on. Yeah, we couldn't see, it was so far away, but like it definitely hit the flag and we heard the noise of the people and I got up there and it was like an inch away. So I think it was a good break considering that it was a back flag and it kind of falls off, so I'm glad it stopped it and didn't have to do an up-and-down there, it was nice.



Q. I've heard the crowds can be tough to appease here, so for you to cause a ruckus out there, that's --

ANDERS ALBERTSON: Yeah, yeah, that was very fun, so we appreciate it and look forward to tomorrow.

Q. Is LincolnLand being four years ago, is that too far being able to draw back? I doubt you'll have to shoot 9-, 10-under tomorrow to win, but is that something you can draw back or is that just too far long ago?

ANDERS ALBERTSON: Oh, no, I mean, I've only won one of these events, so I don't have to try too hard to remember back. It's very, very clear.

Yeah, it's comfortable, I guess, if you can think that you've already won. But again, I'm not really thinking about winning. If it happens, it's great, but I know for me after making a bunch of mistakes in my career, that it's about being as free as I can.

Yeah, that would be nice, but I know that there's 18 very difficult holes that I have to take care of before that would be a reality, but it is comforting to think back that I've done it before. I've been in a big moment and can just kind of be present and calm in my body when things are on the line. It is helpful.

Q. And then I remember that year, you had that streak of Sundays, like you would play final rounds like I mean I think you had like three or four 63s. What is it about Sundays, because guys sometimes are like I'm good with my position, whereas you are just like I'm going to keep making birdies.

ANDERS ALBERTSON: Yeah.

Q. Is that something you can use even though it was three, four years ago?

ANDERS ALBERTSON: Yeah, for whatever reason I feel more comfortable and more free the later in the week it is. I feel more confident on Sunday than I do on Thursday. It's just kind of always been like that whether I just get settled with the conditions or whatever. But yeah, I've always believed in myself more and more throughout the week.

I appreciate you noticing that, but yeah, thankfully it's just a good skill that I've been blessed to have, just be comfortable on the weekends. Yeah, it's another day and I'm excited to be out here with my friend and family. And yeah, I've never played with Carl, so I'm looking forward to that. Yeah, it will be a good group.



Carl Yun (solo second / -15)

City Plays From: Dalian, China | Turned Pro: 2015 | College: University of Washington
Exempt Status: Tournament Winners

Q. Carl, once again finding yourself atop the leaderboard. Walk me through your day and then that 29 there on the back.

CARL YUAN: Yeah, it was an awesome day. Hit the ball really well. Hit 17 greens, made some good putts on the back nine for sure. I think today I just played really smart, it was really solid.

Something I want to say, a big shout-out to my wife. After Thursday, my game had been struggling the last couple weeks and Friday morning she sent me an article about Jon Rahm, that he was struggling with his game for a little bit. He was focusing so much on technique and really losing the feel or flow of the game. So last two days I really remind myself why I've got to be me when I'm playing golf. So that's what I did the last two days and it worked out great. So looking forward to keep that going.

Q. I'm not sure you know this, but today, 62, that's your career-low round on any PGA Tour-sanctioned event. Everything just kind of clicked for you out there. What does that mean to you to get that number today?

CARL YUAN: I wasn't really thinking about it through the round obviously. Really my caddie kept me in good rhythm to try to focus on shot by shot, not getting ahead of myself, so that was great just hitting shots with 100 percent focus, not really worried about where I'm at on the leaderboard on the round. I think that was the key for sure. Yeah, being able to shoot low out here is crucial. The competition is so hard out there and I have to put up a good round somewhere in a week to have a chance at winning a tournament.

Q. Some guys at No. 1 would kind of take a deep breath and sit back, but for you it's like you're still fighting as if you weren't. Can you attest to that? I mean, just how you grind week in and week out.

CARL YUAN: Yeah, 100 percent. I know I'm going to be on the PGA Tour next year, but when I come to the course every week, everybody starts from even par, so I have no advantage over anybody. I've still got to come out here, play good golf, shoot low scores, try to win the tournament. I think that's my mentality coming every week. You make the cut, play good or play bad, it's a week of golf. It doesn't really matter where I'm at on the points. I think the mentality really keep me going. Not backing off, not backing down, playing safe or anything. Yeah, I think that's a good mindset to have for sure.

Q. I'm sure you're asked this a lot, but you've made five cuts. Out of those, four top-10s, you've placed really well when you do make the cut. What would you say like the reason for that is? Like you either miss it or you're up there, there's no in between.

CARL YUAN: Obviously I'm not trying to miss the cut. I can definitely put better golf together, not missing the cut. Something I'm working on. Yeah, when I make the cut I'm excited to play the weekend, trying to go up the leaderboard as high as I can. Yeah, just have a good mindset trying to win a tournament.

Q. Walk me through your favorite shot today, favorite hole, what was it?

CARL YUAN: Favorite hole?

Q. Something you're just really proud of out there.

CARL YUAN: I'd say probably No. 11. It's a tough par-3 with a front pin, with how firm the greens are today. I had a great number, just hit an awesome 9-iron pin high, went like 10 feet past the hole. It was a really quick putt, but yeah, I saw the line, really trusted it, put on a good stroke and the ball went in. So that was a great feeling to have playing golf, for sure. You saw the line, you execute it exactly how you want it and the result came out great.

Q. How would you define being comfortable at the top of the leaderboard? You seem to be comfortable up there. Like some guys don't really like it, but how do you define being comfortable and why are you?

CARL YUAN: I think I'm in the position often enough that I know if you want to do great things winning tournaments, this is exactly where I need to be. Being uncomfortable at first, it's a good test. I put myself through more situations like this, almost force myself to be comfortable because this is where I need to be to win a golf tournament.

Q. And will you be able to draw on Lafayette or is that different because you were so far behind whereas tomorrow you're going to be in the final pairing?

CARL YUAN: Probably a little different. I was a little more behind in Lafayette, but tomorrow I think same mindset, go out attacking. And I shot 62 today, so who knows who's going to put up the best score again tomorrow. So I've still got to have the offensive mindset to play the course, not trying to play defensive golf. That never works out great.