

*Opening Statement*

"It was a good, solid round today. I hit a lot of greens, gave myself a lot of solid looks, only one bogey on 18 and that was unfortunate, but I hung in there and felt like I hit a lot of good shots today. I've been struggling a little bit this ankle, getting it going and being opposed to the left side. But yesterday it felt pretty good and today it felt really good, so I'm very happy I played some good golf, it's been a long time."

*Q: I would have to imagine you feel good about yourself. You've been rehabbing like crazy, haven't had a top-30 all year, you have no clue how it'll turn out, but your +2 and three shots back of the leader. How does that feel?*

A: I'm just happy to be playing, yeah I haven't had many good rounds or tournaments this year, but I'm happy to be playing. I'm still coming off of that surgery, the doctor said it would be about a year before I can really go at it, but I'm ahead of schedule and I'm just happy to be out here playing. To be able to go out and play well today was a nice bonus.

*Q: The older you get do you feel like every day is a blessing coming out here?*

A: Every day on the Champions Tour is a blessing. I feel very grateful that I'm able to play golf for a living is a blessing. To be able to come out, past 50 after having a career on the PGA Tour, and then to be at 50 to be able to come out and play against a lot of my heroes and idols and be able to make a living playing golf is pretty special. I feel very grateful.

*Q: Do you see the hard work finally paying off?*

A: I do, I've seen it pay off a little bit last week with a lot of birdies with 15 birdies and an eagle. I made a lot of mistakes, but I finally started to see some good things happening and it's carrying over into this week. It's been a lot of hard work so just to be out here playing I feel really good.

*Q: How much fun is it to compete against some of the best guys and biggest names on this tour?*

A: It's great, I've been competing against these same guys for 25, 30 years so it's the same guys we competed against when I was on (the PGA) Tour in 95-96 and it's the same guys I'm trying to compete with out here when I'm 56 years old. A lot of these guys are hall of famers, they're great players, great guys, and I feel fortunate to out here playing amongst them.

*Q: How much juice does this give you to feel like a leader again?*

A: It's good to finally have a good round, and really a good two rounds. I don't know what tomorrow brings, but I've felt good the last two days. My foot didn't really hurt the last two days, it was the first 18 holes I walked that it really didn't hurt so that was a good sign, and

today I feel good. I'll go out and hit some balls and practice a little bit, but it's everyday getting stronger and the more I've been walking it's finally helping.

*Q: Where are you back as far as movement?*

A: I think I'm getting there, I'm probably 85, 90 percent. It still gets a little sore every once in a while, but the last two days it's felt good. Still gets a little swollen so I have to ice it at night, did last night and will this one, take an autoinflammatory and maybe a cocktail or two and I should be pretty good.