

Tim O'Neal

*A bogey-free round has to give you some confidence going into the weekend. How do you feel?*

Yeah, bogey-free rounds are nice. I wish I would have made more birdies. I made a 3-putt for par on a par 5 today, but all-in-all it was a good day. I wish I would have played a little better, I didn't putt as well as I did yesterday, but a bogey free round is always good.

*Do you feel comfortable out there and feel like you're settling into your game?*

I feel like I am, day-by-day it feels like it's getting better. The course is in perfect shape. I'm just getting a little more comfortable and I'm looking forward to the weekend.

*What is the mindset headed into the weekend?*

Basically the same thing it has been, attack when I can, try and stay below the hole, and just play smart golf.

*You had a serious test of your patience with no birdies on the front. I'm sure that has to feel frustrating when you know the leader is double digits already. You're getting done, you're staying up there. What is the mentality like knowing what you're doing is working?*

Nine pars on the front nine was a little frustrating because I had a few good looks at birdie, but I wasn't making anything. I looked at my caddie Mike and he told me to stay focused, the birdies will come. Yesterday I made an eagle on my ninth hole and then got it going. You just never know when you're going to get on a roll so you have to stay patient and hopefully make some birdies.

*What is it about your game that lets you know you can compete with Ernie Els and Steve Stricker? Guys who have been massive stars and here you are coming up on them right on their heels.*

These guys are legends so I'm just happy to be out here, able to mix it up a little bit, and see where my game stacks up. I played with Ernie in Newport and it was good to see him win. I'm competing against those guys I've watched all my life and it's nice, but I'm just focused on myself and trying to win a golf tournament too.