

SCOTT HEND (-7)

Q. Scott, when you make nine birdies in 18 holes and you've gone two stretches of three in a row, you did the same kind of thing in Morocco, what's it like when you get on those kind of streaks?

SCOTT HEND: I didn't realize I was on that type of streak. I made a couple stupid mistakes to make the bogeys before that and I just tried to get it back in play, get the ball in the fairway and be able to get into a position where I could attack the pin a little bit better.

Q. When you get to a new golf course like this, does it take a couple days to get used to it?

SCOTT HEND: More than a couple days. I didn't play the last four holes, so I didn't know what the last four holes were like. So got on the 18th tee, I said to my caddie, "Where's the green?" He's like, "I think it's over there." He walked up trying to get the proper line. I'm just trying to learn the golf course and hopefully by Sunday afternoon I'll know what to do.

Q. I believe you had four or five birdies there to wrap up on your last nine. How crucial was it to get as hot as you were and now find yourself on the top of the leaderboard?

SCOTT HEND: Doesn't really matter, it's the first round. Top of the leaderboard in the third round is the place you want to be. Just to be in the mix and not have to do too much hard work in the second round is pretty much what you're trying to do.

Q. When you don't know the course because you haven't had the opportunity to play the last four holes, how do you and your caddie work together to figure this out on the fly?

SCOTT HEND: We got a pretty good yardage book. We're just trying to play a little bit less aggressive off the tee because you're not quite sure -- you can look at the yardage book and you can see where the trouble is, but you're not sure if it's running to the trouble or stops at the trouble, so you're playing back a little bit. Just trying to be a bit more tactical instead of just trying to tear the golf course up.

Q. How much more does that take on your mental side of the game maybe than just kind of going into it --

SCOTT HEND: There's not much upstairs here anyway when I play golf. Hit it, find it, get it in the hole, that's what I always say. Try to keep it as simple as possible.



Q. What did you make of the Des Moines crowd and all the spectators?

SCOTT HEND: It's pretty cool. I mean, looks like they're having fun out there where the cigar bar is and the beers are, so not a bad place to be hanging out. And the sun's out today, so hopefully we get this for the next two days.

Q. How do you think the course looked today after the weather yesterday? How do you think the grounds crew did getting it ready?

SCOTT HEND: I thought it started really well for the rain they got. I thought it was going to be a lot muddier out there and I thought the greens would chop up a lot more, but it's held up really well.

