

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW: JERRY SMITH (-9)
May 6, 2017

Q. Jerry, right now you're 1 back after two rounds. I believe you're still bogey free so far?

JERRY SMITH: Bogey free, that's right.

Q. Maybe talk about today's round.

JERRY SMITH: Yeah, I played similar as the first day, really. I thought the conditions were probably a little easier with the winds out of the directions they were.

I hit a lot of greens today. I don't recall having to really struggle to make pars. Yesterday I had to make a few pars to keep my round going, but today it was fairly stress-free. I made a lot of mid-range putts for birdies. I wouldn't say I had a lot of -- like Kenny had a couple of par 5s where he two-putted for birdie. Most of mine were 15, 20 feet and I just made a lot of those today.

Felt good. I feel like I gotta big hurdle tomorrow, playing with Kenny, who is hitting it really well, hits long, and John is long, and I have to fight through and play my game and try not to get -- just keep playing the way I'm playing. If I can keep those bogeys off the card, who knows. We'll see. Maybe we'll have a chance at the end.

Q. How much of a mental grind is it with those longer hitters hole, after hole, after hole and you know they're stripping it well?

JERRY SMITH: It is. The golf course, the one thing, the driver gets taken out of the longer hitter's hands in a lot of holes because of the water and the way it's laid out. So it does help me in regard, but playing with guys that hit it a lot longer than what you're comfortable, it's always difficult. Difficult to stay within your swing and your game.

You think you've done it enough times throughout the years you've got to put the blinders on and go out there, and, like I said, just like they always say, one shot at a time.

Q. Speaking about blinders on, you gotta cover your ears or anything because seems like John Daly might be the --

JERRY SMITH: I'm sure he will be the gallery favorite, for sure. It will be fun to be in that environment and that arena. I look forward -- I don't think I've every played with John. I went to school at Baylor when he was at Arkansas, so I'm sure John is, you know -- still can hit it long, and when he gets the putter going, he's probably tough to beat.