ROUND 3 INTERVIEW April 3, 2021

CHARLEY HOFFMAN (-10)



Q. Charley, 7-under 65, birdied the closing stretch. How did today come together for you?

CHARLEY HOFFMAN: Yeah, obviously the wind was blowing harder this morning than it was this afternoon. I was 1 under through nine, just sort of cruising. Then I was able to make a birdie on 12 and then hit a good shot on 14 in there, made eagle. Then I was able to make a few putts coming down the stretch on those last three. Obviously 7 under on this golf course at any time under any conditions is a great round of golf.

Q. You've never missed a cut here, you're a past champion here. Clearly there's something about this golf course or this tournament that agrees with you. What is that?

CHARLEY HOFFMAN: It fits my eye. You've got to shape tee shots. You've got to be in certain spots hitting iron shots into the green. I guess it just fits my eye and I really enjoy playing this golf course. You've got to hit right to left, left to right and make a few putts, and I've been able to do that so far and throughout my career.

Q. The eagle on 14, at that point did you know that a special round was coming together for you?

CHARLEY HOFFMAN: Not really. I was just cruising. I was only a couple under and obviously I was trying to get back in the tournament. I wasn't really near the lead at that point. Obviously those closing last three birdies are very important going into Sunday, having 18 more holes on a golf course that if it's soft, it will allow itself some birdies.

Q. You made some really big putts to clench those birdies. What went into the setups of those shots?

CHARLEY HOFFMAN: Yeah, on 16 I put myself in a good spot to make birdie. And then 17, hit it sort of in a funky area short and left there and actually was just trying to give myself a 15-, 20-footer for birdie and I was able to sneak that one in the hole. And 18, hit two great shots on the green, was able to two-putt. So it was a, I would say, fairly stress-free round of golf, which around this golf course is rare. So hopefully I can keep that going into tomorrow.

Q. And speaking of tomorrow, what's it going to take to get it done tomorrow here?

CHARLEY HOFFMAN: Yeah, you've got Jordan Spieth knocking on the door, he hasn't won in a while. Obviously myself, I love this golf course. You've got a Texas guy in Jordan,

you've got a ton of other guys bunched up near the leaderboard. I expect you've to go out and make birdies tomorrow. It's not going to be a day that par gets you to win a golf tournament.