

PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW: JEFF MAGGERT
September 1, 2016



DAVE SENKO: Jeff, maybe just get us started. This was one of your four wins last year. What do you remember most about I guess your round on Sunday where you pulled away from everyone?

JEFF MAGGERT: Yeah, I just, you know, there was a pretty good leaderboard there on Sunday. Colin was playing well and I felt like I needed to be really aggressive and shoot a low score Sunday to have a chance. My summer last year was going really well, playing well, hitting the ball well, putting well, so I felt good going into Sunday's round.

I think the turning point of last year's Sunday round was the ninth hole. I birdied the ninth hole and Colin had some trouble there, I think he made double bogey so that was a three-shot swing there right before the back nine. And I just played steady all the way through the back nine, made a couple more birdies there and finished off with a nice round. It was an easy stretch coming down the last three or four holes there with a little cushion.

DAVE SENKO: How would you assess your year-to-date so far?

JEFF MAGGERT: Obviously, I'm a little disappointed. I feel like at this point in the year the game plan was to win a few times. A couple little nagging injuries this year. I hurt my wrist way back in March and just kind of took a while just to kind of work through that. So everything's been good but not great. Obviously we've got quite a few tournaments left here this fall, so lot of good memories here and hopefully I'll come out this week and just play some steady golf and have a chance again on Sunday.

DAVE SENKO: What's the key on this golf course to play well and win?

JEFF MAGGERT: Well, for me, I drive the ball well so I play the course very aggressively with my driver on some of the tighter shorter par 4s on the front nine, so I try to take advantage of that.

There's some short holes on the front nine where a lot of guys might hit a 2-iron, a 3-iron off the tee and I like to play the driver and get up there and get 70 or 80 yards from the green and try it convert some easy birdies that way.

Other than the shorter par 4s, the rest of the golf course is, you know, very challenging. It's pretty tight. You've got to drive the ball well on all the holes. All in all I think that the golf course suits me well. I like the look and the feel of it; it's kind of an old-style architecture a little bit.

The golf course is in great shape so far. I mean, the weather's been fantastic. I know they keep saying about this big change we're going to have. It was kind of ironic, I've played a lot

of golf tournaments in my life and this is the first one they gave me a ski hat when I checked in at registration. I was thinking, Are you serious, am I going to need this? So that was a first, but hopefully we won't need that the rest of the weekend but we'll see.

Q. How much did you (no microphone.)

JEFF MAGGERT: You know, someone asked me that earlier this week. Everyone thinks just because you're the defending champion it's just going to come in and be an easy week. I think if you look at the history of golf tournaments, rarely does a defending champion repeat. Obviously, sometimes they do.

If I can do that this week, that would be awesome because I'm looking to kind of jump start the rest of the year for me. So I'm probably a little bit more focused and thinking about winning this week and not so much thinking about what I did last year. There's a few things in my game that are getting really good right now. I'm starting to feel a lot better with my putter from 10, 15, 20 feet. So if I can do those things well this week, I'm just going to try to take this kind of as maybe like it's the first tournament of the year and I'm really trying to focus in and play a good week of golf and not think too much about what I did here always year.

Q. You mentioned you had a couple nagging injuries. How are you feeling right now?

JEFF MAGGERT: I feel good. You know, we always look for little excuses when we're not playing well and I guess probably I used that as a little bit of a crutch earlier in the year, but there's really no excuses. My game's good, I feel good and I just need to come out and just kind of get in a little bit better rhythm than I had this year. Seems like I get one or two really good rounds in and then the third round I just kind of falter a little bit. Not necessarily in any particular order, sometimes it's the first round I don't play well, sometimes it's the second, sometimes it's the third round, but I've just been a little bit off on the consistency. Just going to try to take it more of a one-round-at-a-time tournament and not think too much about what's going to happen at the end.

I think the weather forecast will change the character of the course a lot from the way it played the last couple years I was here. I need to pay attention and focus in a little bit more on how the weather conditions are going to change the playability of the course because the course will play longer with the cold weather and if it's raining. So that's going to change really a lot of what I've seen of the course in the past.

Q. How are you at playing in rainy conditions?

JEFF MAGGERT: Well, I've played in just about every condition you can imagine. I think the hard part is you've had such a nice, warm summer and you've been all these places and the weather's been great and then all of a sudden you get this change of fall or winter weather and it kind of throws you offguard.

I was telling a guy the other day, I said if you're home in January and you get a day that's 55 degrees, you're like oh, this is great, let's go out and play some golf. It just so happens that it's coming off of a nice summer and you're just not really ready for it yet.

Q. Every defending champion comes in and talks about good memories, but for you personally, where do those memories start, is it at the airport, is it the first time seeing the course, is it seeing maybe the ninth hole?

JEFF MAGGERT: Well, I think it's a combination of everything. My first year here was 2014 and just enjoyed the week, enjoyed the city, staying downtown. The weather was good. Just everything just kind of gets you in kind of a good mood for the week. I like the style of the golf course. I played fairly well in 2014 and then obviously last year playing well.

I think it's just a combination of everything. You get -- some courses you just seem to play well on every year no matter if you're coming in playing bad or coming in playing good, you just have a good feel or a vibe about everything.

So I feel good this week. I mean, everything's good. I had a great practice round Tuesday and hit some balls yesterday, so there's really just kind of looking forward to getting started tomorrow. I'm a little anxious about the weather forecast. Like I said, that's going to change the conditions a lot so just going to have to play that by ear and grind it out tomorrow and see what happens.

Q. (No microphone.)

JEFF MAGGERT: Yeah. Well, it is in the hotel right now but I might have to throw it in the car in the morning because you never know. You know, I don't think the temperatures are going to be too crazy tomorrow. I know in the morning it might be a little chilly but we kind of play later in the morning. I think I have an 11:15 tee time. Other than the rain, you know, if it's kind of a heavy, steady rain all day, that could create some troubles. If it's just kind of passing showers, it's not that big of a deal. But if you get that three or four hours of just that constant steady, you know, yucky rain, it really tends to kind of make the golf course very challenging physically and mentally.

Q. (No microphone.)

JEFF MAGGERT: Oh, good group. Out here we get a good pairing every week. That's one of the great things about playing this tour. You've got 40 or 50 guys out here every week that have had a pretty awesome career. Every week you get to play with a nice guy with a great record and they're all good guys.

Q. (Question about the cowboy hat.)

JEFF MAGGERT: Yes, for sure. Growing up in Texas I've been around a lot of cowboy hats. I've got my family coming in later this afternoon so my little boy who's 12, he had a

kick out of the cowboy hat last year so he's hoping he can get another one this year.

DAVE SENKO: Thanks, Jeff.

JEFF MAGGERT: You got it.