

PRE-TOURNAMENT PRESS CONFERENCE
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CHRIS GOTTERUP



Q. Chris, obviously a big couple of weeks. How's it feel to be back here at the 3M Open? Just another week on the calendar?

CHRIS GOTTERUP: Yeah, obviously it's been amazing the last couple weeks. Yeah, nice to -- honestly, probably a blessing in disguise with this weather today for me to just take another day to relax and get ready for this week.

Q. And like the last two weeks, does it feel like real to you yet, like leaving the States and coming back and --

CHRIS GOTTERUP: No. I mean, the answer's no, it definitely hasn't like fully hit what happened, which is probably a good thing honestly. I was talking to my parents and stuff, I'm like I'm kind of happy you guys weren't there for Scottish. I didn't have time to celebrate or anything, just kind of been going right into the next these last couple weeks.

Yeah, in that sense it's been good, but I'm sure once the season's over, we'll have a nice celebration at home.

Q. And why did you feel like it was important to come back Stateside and continue to play this week and kind of stay in top form?

CHRIS GOTTERUP: Yeah, I'm trying to ride the hot hand obviously right now, so that's goal No. 1. Then 3M gave me a spot a couple years ago when I came out of school and I felt like I kind of owe a little something back to them. I was planning on playing but that definitely helped.

Q. And then I think just going back to the Scottish, any specific memories -- you've had like another week to kind of reflect on it. Any specific memories from playing with Rory in that final round that you'll kind of take with you?

CHRIS GOTTERUP: Yeah, I mean, there's definitely some shots that I hit that day that, you know, I had to step up and hit some golf shots and I did that. Even at The Open I felt like, all right, I've done this, I've hit some quality shots under the gun. I think it definitely carried over, and I don't see why that won't carry over into the future. It just gave me a bit more confidence knowing that, one, when it's showtime I have the ability to step up and hit the shots.

Q. We have one question from a media member: Do you credit any of your European Danish heritage for what happened over there?



CHRIS GOTTERUP: I'll take whatever happened over there, I'll take whatever I can get, and hopefully there's some Danish European connection here in Minnesota, too. Yeah, it's cool. You get people from all sorts of parts of the world that are -- I feel somewhat connected to.

My dad, my dad can actually speak fluent, and I've got nothing. It's just cool. It makes going over there a little more fun and kind of feel a little bit of something, I don't know. It's just a cool part of my family.

Q. Now that you're in -- you're Top 30 in the FedExCup, how does that, how does that kind of change your goals with a couple weeks coming to the Playoffs?

CHRIS GOTTERUP: Yeah, for sure. I'm definitely in a good spot and I feel like I don't really have much to lose. Going over there ranked 80th or whatever I was and coming back 20-whatever, I feel like I have a different set of circumstances in front of me. I would like to get to East Lake and then obviously see what happens from there. Yeah, I feel like I'm playing with house money at the moment, especially with what's happened. I'm excited for the rest of the season.

Q. What's been the most exciting part of the past two weeks for you?

CHRIS GOTTERUP: I think just like seeing how many people were following along and all the texts I got, just how, you know, from my family to high school to college to, you know, friends of friends and everyone's kind of following along, which makes it really cool. Just to know that I have people at home that are following along means I'm doing something good and that I have people behind me.

Q. Do you feel like a different player than you were maybe a month or a few months ago or has the success surprised you at all?

CHRIS GOTTERUP: I don't know if it's surprised me. I feel like I've been in a good rhythm and flow over the last couple months. I felt like -- you know, I was talking to my team the last two months about like, all right, I feel like I've got to take the next step here at some point. I didn't know when it was going to happen, if it was going to happen, but I feel like the Scottish was a big step in the right direction, and then to follow it up. Someone asked me last week, media, they were like have you ever like been on a heater? I was like, I don't think so. Like when I won, I missed the cut the week after. I feel like I've gotten better at just knowing my body and how to react after like, you know, important weeks like that. And yeah, I'm going to try to ride it out as long as I can.

Q. Do you have any goals now that maybe would not have seemed possible a few weeks ago?

CHRIS GOTTERUP: Yeah, I think East Lake's one of those, for sure. You know, after I won



I was like, all right, top-50, let's shoot for that. And then followed up with a third at The Open I think should put me in a pretty good spot for that. Now East Lake's the last kind of notch to get there. Obviously in a good spot, but I know these next couple weeks are going to be really important for that.

Q. Lastly from me, Chris, going back to earlier this season, after you missed the cut at Valero you kind of went on that run a little bit of getting those solid top-25 finishes even though you weren't maybe in contention, like you said. Did anything change in your mind from that point forward or has it just been kind of sticking to the process?

CHRIS GOTTERUP: I think it's been sticking to the process. I wish, I wish I knew what it was. I feel like I've been in great control of my mental part of the game. Yeah, I feel like I've just had a better understanding of how I work and how my game works and playing with what I've got for the day and the week and not trying to overcomplicate things, just trying to take apart the course, how I think I'm doing for the week. Yeah, it's been a good couple weeks/months.

