US Open Championship 2016

Friday, June 17, 2016

Dustin Johnson

Flash Interview

Q. The conditions the way they were, was this the kind of Oakmont you wanted to see?

DUSTIN JOHNSON: It's still playing tough. But, yeah, I mean, obviously the practice days we played, the course was really firm and fast. It's still kind of difficult out there. But I think if we get nice weather, it's going to dry out pretty much.

Q. Talk about your strategy on 17, playing back there.

DUSTIN JOHNSON: I don't know if there is a good strategy or not there. It's a short hole, but it's still pretty tough. Obviously, if you go for it and you hit it in the right spot, it makes it a lot easier. Yeah, I mean, I still like a (indiscernible) in the middle of the fairway.

Q. Even though you're probably the best driver of the ball out here, is it distance that makes that tough?

DUSTIN JOHNSON: With the wind like it was today, I'm kind of right in between. I can't get a 3 wood there. If I hit a driver solid, it's going to go too far. So, you know, just it's the U.S. Open. I like wedges out of the fairway.

Q. Do you anticipate playing that way all four rounds?

DUSTIN JOHNSON: All depends.

Q. What is it like having Wayne Gretzky out here to help you out?

DUSTIN JOHNSON: Obviously, I've known Wayne for a long time. So it's obviously always good to have him around for support.

Q. (No microphone) to have to go out and (inaudible) better to start fresh again?

DUSTIN JOHNSON: I mean, doesn't matter. I was prepared to play yesterday if we had to. So it doesn't really matter to me.

Q. How do you prepare for the challenge of potentially playing 36 holes in a day? Is there anything in particular you do?

DUSTIN JOHNSON: No. You know it's going to be a long day. Still do everything exactly how you would if you were just playing 18.

Q. Your approach into 18, were you aimed a little bit right of the flag?



DUSTIN JOHNSON: It's a tough pin. The wind off to the left, you know you can't hit it left of the flag. I hit it right where I was trying to.

Q. (No microphone)?

DUSTIN JOHNSON: I didn't quite understand.

Q. (No microphone)?

DUSTIN JOHNSON: I mean, yeah, it really doesn't matter, I don't think. Yeah, I mean, it's nice to go and get 36 holes, 36 straight holes in.

Q. Does this course suit you?

DUSTIN JOHNSON: Yeah, I like the golf course. I've liked it since the first time I saw it last Tuesday.

Q. What do you like best?

DUSTIN JOHNSON: I just think it's a good, challenging golf course. It's fun to play. Got all kinds of -- got to hit a lot of different shots.

Q. Do you think your group caught the good side of the draw?

DUSTIN JOHNSON: No idea. I mean, the guys in the morning, guys played good. I think it's going to -- the conditions are going to be fairly similar, I think.

Q. Your focus [indiscernible] especially with the par putt at 16. Do you feel like you're in the zone right now?

DUSTIN JOHNSON: I mean, those are putts that you 00 you've got downhill sliders. All I'm focusing on is starting it on the line I want to with the right speed. If it goes in, it goes in.

Q. Do you feel good putting on these greens? DUSTIN JOHNSON: Yeah, I like these greens. I mean, they're tough so you've really got to look at every, you know, every bit of every putt and see what it's doing,

because they're tough greens to putt on.