



May 25, 2007



### The Ocean Course ~ Kiawah Island

Hole #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Out	Total
Yardage	394	535	390	458	185	450	537	170	425	3,545	439	562	428	445	194	421	540	197	430	3,656	7,201
Par	4	5	4	4	3	4	5	3	4	36	4	5	4	4	3	4	5	3	4	36	72
Score																					

### QUICK QUOTES FROM:

**TIM SIMPSON  
HALE IRWIN  
JAY HAAS  
GRAHAM MARSH  
GARY ROBISON  
JON FIEDLER**

TIM SIMPSON

**Q. (Inaudible.)**

TIM SIMPSON: We kind of caught it sleeping this morning. I think I'm not whining, I mean it was a tough afternoon for everybody. But I think we got the worst of the worst starting off the back as well. We had nine straight holes into the wind. We had 14 to 18 and 1 through 4. And when we came to 18, or 17, I hit a good 4-iron with the pin was like 178, I think, 138 front, 140 back. And I didn't get there. So I hit a 4-iron 136 yards, my normal 4-iron is 195. That's 50 yards of wind.

But I played really, really solid today. I had a lot of opportunities. There was 13 holes to make birdies. I was 3-under for the day and could have been 7-under just as easy. But I played real solid and I had a disappointing 3-putt on 12. It was silly after two good shots. And then I came back with a birdie at -- I actually bogeyed 14 I think it was.

And came back with a birdie at 15.  
Miss a five footer for at 16.  
Then 3-putted 17.

So it's kind of a little sour taste to throw away a great round. But anything under par here is good.

**Q. After playing two rounds what are you looking forward tomorrow?**

TIM SIMPSON: Just continue playing solid. I'm striking it real well, I'm driving the ball extremely well. I think I think I only missed one fairway in two days. So that's a great start. If I continue to hit the ball solid and swing it well, and my health stays fine, I'll be okay. I have a rib problem in my back. It's been bothering me the last few days.

HALE IRWIN

**Q. (Inaudible.)**

HALE IRWIN: I didn't figure it out. I'm still wondering what's going on. I think the biggest difference is certainly the wind is not blowing at quite the pace it did yesterday when we played. But I can't say a whole lot good about my game right now except I seem to be putting pretty well. But I just can't get to the fairways or the greens. But other than that I'm doing okay. But yesterday was a poorly played round. And today wasn't much better. I just, I had a few more opportunities and I putted great.

**Q. General consensus is stay away from the sand.**

HALE IRWIN: Well, I think every player in this field is going to tell you the sand is exactly that. And I never played in an event where sand was like this. Where you're encouraged to take an

unplayable lie before you can even come close to finding your ball is I think a big challenge.

**Q. Is this course harder on guys than other courses, in other words if you go long on one hole, it's --**

HALE IRWIN: Oh, if you go long here there may not be an escape. You're in jail. We don't have bunkers that are like this. But the sand is so deep in places that you literally cannot find your ball. And if you can't find your ball it's real close to where we have to play. It's very severe.

**Q. Unfair?**

HALE IRWIN: I said it was severe. Fair, unfair, that's a fine line.

JAY HAAS

**Q. (Inaudible.)**

JAY HAAS: We played a different set of tees than we played yesterday afternoon. There will probably be a few good scores today, but it is very tough out there. You have to drive the ball in the fairway, hit it on the green. Putting is still very difficult. I'm pleased with 1-under. I could have been four or 5-over the way I started off.

But I settled down and hit a bunch of greens.

And then 3-putted 17.

And made a nice up-and-down at 18. So I'm pretty happy going to lunch here at 1-under.

**Q. Talk about that 17th hole. How instrumental is it in playing well here?**

JAY HAAS: It kind of depends on where you put the tee. If they go back a tee, which they probably will, if it doesn't blow 30 like it did or 25 or what it was yesterday, but it seemed like a hundred out there in the wind. But it's a four or 5-iron shot yesterday with the wind. 5-iron today. So it's playable, but it's not Sunday afternoon either. You're not trying to protect a lead or trying to catch somebody. So anything could happen there. There's almost no bail out.

The bunkers are firm, it's hard to hit a good bunker shot out of there. You almost, if you're in the bunker, you almost have to play for bogey. It's going to be very difficult to get up-and-down from there. But if you hit it in the water it's going to be A 5 for sure.

**Q. Does 1-under keep you in the hunt for the weekend?**

JAY HAAS: I think so. If somebody doesn't go crazy here. The other guys, Joe, you

know, those guys could probably do it again like they did yesterday. But I'm certainly not out of it. I feel like anything in the red, even 1-, 2-over, you know, it's hard to catch up in this, but the leaders can certainly fall back. When you shoot a 69 or 68 this in something like this you're going to make a huge move. So yeah, I think I'm still in it. Pretty pleased with the day.

**Q. As defending champion are you pretty pleased with how you played these first two rounds or did it rattle your nerves?**

JAY HAAS: Yeah, certainly I would like to be playing the best golf of my life right now, but I got off to a shaky start today. I'm really pleased with the way I came back from that. Especially after four holes, if I was four or 5-over that was probably what I deserved, but I just kind of got it around and made two nice up-and-downs, and was real tentative. And then I kind of just made a couple adjustments and got a little more adjusted maybe and then when we turned downwind too and that's really a much nicer, the mishits don't go so badly downwind. So I was able to settle in there a little bit and make some nice pars, made a couple birdies and then by the time we turned back into the wind I felt a little more comfortable.

**Q. How do you feel about seeing Ben's name up there?**

JAY HAAS: I think it's great. I saw that he was 3-under yesterday and I was looking in the scoring last night in the locker room and surprise that had he had gone to 1-over. But he's been playing a lot of good rounds lately. He's been playing real well lately. This year it seems like he's playing a bunch of good rounds and to me it's just a matter of time for him. He's not that much older, but he was somebody that I looked up to when I was playing high school golf, he was just a freshman a sophomore in college and we never did play, I was an -- I guess we did, he was a freshman -- I was a freshman, he was a junior, that was his last year in school, but we really didn't play all that much. He was kind of -- but everybody loves him and I'm sure all the guys would be happy to see him win. It would be right up there. That would be great.

GRAHAM MARSH

**Q. Two rounds of 73. Were the conditions any different today than they were yesterday?**

GRAHAM MARSH: Oh, the conditions

were a little friendlier today than yesterday. Yesterday the wind was gusting I think probably another seven to 10 miles an hour harder. Which really made a big difference on so many of the holes. But having said that, it doesn't take a lot of wind to make this golf course play really tough. And there are a number of back pins today, which are very, very difficult to get to. And if you miss them, it's really hard to get it up-and-down. So overall, the course played easier today, but not three shots or four shots easier.

Now, as the day goes on I think the greens are going to firm up, and getting close to make birdies again.

**Q. Were you happy with your tee time today do you think it's an advantage?**

GRAHAM MARSH: No, I don't think it's an advantage, because I think it's probably going to even out over the day. Maybe the afternoon times, if the breeze dies down, maybe the afternoon times might get a little easier. Maybe morning late might have had the advantage. But you got to take it, you can't think that way when you're playing in a Major, you just got to try and go out there and particularly on a golf course like this, it's just survival and making the best you can on every hole and concentrate on every shot.

**Q. It's a difficult course, obviously everyone has said that but how much can you actually enjoy it when you're out there in the fight?**

GRAHAM MARSH: Difficult to enjoy this golf course. Because you're living on a knife's edge the whole way. There is a fine line between disaster and brilliance here.

When you have that in the back of your mind all the time, the moment you sort of let your guard down, the moment you relax, the moment you take your mind off and enjoy the scenery or whatever, that's the moment it's going to grab you.

So I don't think that anybody could really say that they're walking around here enjoying the scenery. Everyone is walking around here just grinding to try and save themselves from disaster.

GARY ROBISON

**Q. Tell us about the conditions out there?**

GARY ROBISON: They were a little bit milder than yesterday. But it's still blowing pretty good. You have to hit a lot of different shots. And pretty much play defense is what I've been playing. Obviously I only made one birdie in 36 holes. So,

but it's a matter of where you miss it and hopefully you make some putts. But it's pretty tough. Tough to hit it close, tough to make birdies.

**Q. Do you feel that today you used some of the things you learned from yesterday?**

GARY ROBISON: I think the more you play it, you know, I'm not saying you're going to ever get comfortable with this place, but you get a little better feel for it and just really it's kind of where you don't want to go as much as where you're trying to go.

**Q. It's a very difficult golf course, but how much can you actually enjoy the experience being out there playing?**

GARY ROBISON: Well, it's a great experience regardless. But it's a different game. It's, you know, it's not your typical throw it in there high and let her sit down. You're playing a lot of different shots and unless you keep the ball down a little bit it's really hard to judge your distances. So I think that the guys that keep it down, they got a better chance.

JON FIEDLER

**Q. It's a difficult golf course. That score is respectable, right?**

JON FIEDLER: I doubled 10 and tripled 17. That's five shots right there. It didn't feel too good.

**Q. How did it compare to yesterday? Was the wind stronger or --**

JON FIEDLER: Oh, very nice, very nice, very nice. I think we got the brunt end of the deal. But that's the way it goes.

**Q. Do you think it will be better if you played later on today?**

JON FIEDLER: The wind could be stronger, but I don't know. Who knows.

**Q. What do you think the cut is going to be?**

JON FIEDLER: I think the cut's going to be at 8, possibly 9. So I missed it by one. Maybe two.

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