

# U.S. Senior Amateur Championship

Quick Quotes

Thursday August 31, 2017



## Paul Simson

PAUL SIMSON: I had a lot of nice chances. When you play in this kind of match, you just couldn't afford that stuff. I had a great opportunity down there on 15 to square the match and just hit a poor putt, and then probably made a tactical error on 16. I went and practiced that tee shot yesterday after my match because I had had problems with it, and just hit a real stinker there.

You know, maybe if it was stroke play, I would have laid out, tried to make 4 the other way, but I thought maybe I had a chance to hit a good shot out of there, but it didn't come out of the grass very well.

### Q. Did Sean going left make any --

PAUL SIMSON: Well, I didn't really think about that. I thought that I could get it out of there and maybe get it on the green and put enough pressure on him to win that hole and square the match again. But I made a lot of mistakes before that, and hey, he played a good match and a solid match, and he's a deserving winner.

### Q. What positives do you take away from this week?

PAUL SIMSON: Well, you know, I played pretty well. The stroke play I was real pleased. I'm really happy with the way I'm hitting the ball. I mean, I'm ready to go play another nine.

### Q. You were great all week. I know there's a couple things you want back here today, but a heck of a tournament.

PAUL SIMSON: I had a great week. I mean, I played really great -- I didn't play that great the first two matches, but the three matches after that, I was on fire, and I was hoping that would carry over into today because it might have been a different story had I played that much better, but --

### Q. You were 1-up early in the back nine, and you had a little trouble with the speed maybe on the greens?

PAUL SIMSON: You know, the putting on 10 and 11 just left me there, and I mean, I just didn't make any putts. Normally I make a lot of putts. It was just one of those unfortunate days.

### Q. It's a long week, six matches, and you were

**trying to do something that only a few people older than you have accomplished. Can you tell us a little bit about how much that would have meant?**

PAUL SIMSON: Well, that would have been fantastic. To win three times would have been great. What I really would have liked, though, is the 10 more exemptions. I still have four left or five left -- I've got five left. But to have another five would get me pretty far along.

### Q. And you don't know how many chances you're going to get like this.

PAUL SIMSON: You know, I'm playing well enough, I still think that I'll be able to contend. I've still got plenty of distance, got plenty of time, and plenty of competitive spirit.

### Q. What did you say yesterday, the quickest way to get old is --

PAUL SIMSON: Is to make age an excuse. It's not an excuse at all. I mean, I felt great today. I just didn't have the stuff that was necessary to win.

### Q. Can you talk a little bit about Sean?

PAUL SIMSON: Well --

### Q. You guys butted heads for many years.

PAUL SIMSON: This doesn't really square the match for him. One of us, we were in a two for one playoff for the U.S. Open in 1998, and I got the spot, and then later on that year, I think in the quarterfinal match, we were at NCR in Dayton, Ohio, and I beat him 1-up in 19 holes. And so, you know, he's a fine player and has been for years and years. But you know, every dog has a different day, and this was his day. I'm happy for him. To get that first USGA win is really pretty special.

### Q. There's a lot of players who have come close, and you know better than anyone how hard it is.

PAUL SIMSON: It is hard. It is very hard. You have to play well. You have to have a little bit of match play luck, and I thought maybe the stars were with me this week, but it just didn't come up as good as I had hoped.

### Q. How do you hit it so far?

PAUL SIMSON: It's all in the legs. You've got to keep the legs strong. I ski every year, keep trying to get him -- he goes with me, but he's raising a family now. It

used to be a father-son trip, now it's becoming just a father trip.

**Q. Are you a good skier?**

PAUL SIMSON: Yeah, I'm a pretty good skier. I don't do all the crazy stuff I used to, jumps and helicopters and things like that. Oh, I used to be crazy.