

U.S. Mid-Amateur

Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2024
Kinloch Golf Club
Manakin-Sabot, Va.

Will Davenport, Palm City, Fla.

Round of 16
def. Parker Edens, 2 up



Q. Quite a day. You knocked out probably the best mid am in this field and then beat last year's quarterfinalist?

Will Davenport: "I mean, he's the best, best mid am in the world, and has been, and I knew I had to throw a fastball today. And, you know, I was fortunate to come out on top of that match. I think Stu and I would both agree I was lucky to get one on him today. It just, [everything] came together at the right time for me."

Q. Was it you take a different attitude, like he's the favorite, he's the guy that everybody guns for. Does that make it a little easier, a little less pressure on you?

Will Davenport: "Oh, yeah, I was excited to have played him before. I actually played Stew in the first round of the Mid-Am at Colorado Golf Club, and he bested me pretty handily. And so, I was just excited to get another crack at playing the best. You always want a chance to play the best. I was happy to play a different game than I did a handful of years ago. And it was great. He was all class, and it was a fun morning."

Q. How tough is it to turn around and play another match, especially after a big win like that, and get yourself refocused for an afternoon match against a guy who was a quarterfinalist last year.?

Will Davenport: "Really hard. I mean, Stewart actually said to me afterward, he said, 'You know, lock in at lunch, because Parker's gonna give you everything he's got. It was tough, and it was a quick turnaround. We had, I think, 45 minutes between the matches. Got some delicious meatloaf, and tried not to look at my phone too much, and then went [and played]."

Q. How'd you get 2 up in the match?

Will Davenport: "It was so back and forth. I'm losing track of the holes. I think I got up on him. We tied the first handful of holes, and then I made a couple good birdies to get the 2 up. We then we traded, basically, you know, one in, one out, made a couple really nice putts down the stretch. I switched to this broomstick [putter] a couple years ago after missing an eight-foot [putt] to make match play in the [U.S. Amateur] Four-Ball. And I wanted something I really trust under pressure. I'll remember forever some of the putts I hit down the stretch today in both matches."

Q. So obviously I looked like, you laid up here at 18?

Will Davenport: "It was 9-iron. I had 154. I actually laid up to the same spot earlier [in the championship]. It's such a different hole today, with it being wetter. It was such an easy, you know, driver-3-wood, get it up on or near the green, and Parker hits it well past me, and I knew he'd have a go at it [being 1 down]. I thought, let's just follow the same game plan. It worked once."

Q. He obviously left his 15-foot birdie putt just short there, which probably freed you up a bit?

Will Davenport: "It's heartbreak you feel for anybody who hits a putt that good that could have gone in [with a] half a revolution, right? Especially, I mean, he made a great birdie on me on 17, and on 15. He was charging and playing some awesome golf. So I was very fortunate."

Q. You're in the quarterfinals at the Mid-Am for the first time. You were a semifinalist at the Four-Ball this year. So anything you take from either caddieing for Lukas Michel back at the Colorado Golf Club in his 2019 title run, or what you did earlier this year at Philadelphia Cricket Club that will help you tomorrow?

Will Davenport: "I think caddieing for Lukas, I thought to myself afterward, 'I think I could belong out there.' And after the Four-Ball, I thought to myself, 'I think I do belong out here,' and I came in with confidence playing well at this point and I just think, why not me."