Life is good for Snedeker

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Brandt Snedeker is spending this week in Maui. No, not playing golf. The PGA Tour star is taking a well-deserved family vacation.

Life is good. For Snedeker, it's great. He is one of the hottest golfers in the game right now.

Numbers don't lie. The former Montgomery Bell Academy and Vanderbilt golfer has played five tournaments this season.

He won the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am Sunday by two strokes. He jumped from sixth to fourth in the World rankings, trailing only Rory McIlroy, Tiger Woods and Luke Donald.

Snedeker has put 10 straight rounds together in the 60s. Sixteen of his 19 rounds have been in the 60s. He is an incredible 82 strokes under par in the five tournaments.

"It's just hard to put into words, to have a stretch of golf like I had the last couple of months, something you dream about, something you think that you can do, but you don't really know until you actually put it together and I have," Snedeker said in a press conference after winning the fifth PGA Tour tournament in his career.

If it's consistency you value, don't go any further than Snedeker's start this season.

He was third at the Tournament of Champions with rounds of 70-70-69. He tied for 23rd at Humana's tournament at PGA West with rounds of 67-68-67-67. That's 19-under par.

The last three tournaments have really boosted Snedeker's confidence, not to mention his bank account.

He finished second to Tiger Woods at Torrey Pines. He was second the next week to Phil Mickelson at Phoenix. With a closing round 65 Sunday, he played Pebble Beach in 19-under par.

With a birdie on the par-3 No. 17 hole Sunday, Snedeker went to the 18th tee with a two shot lead. Patiently waiting out a delay, Snedeker took time to let the moment sink in.

"There's not a much better place to be on the planet with a two-shot lead on that tee box,'' Snedeker said. "It was a nice feeling."

It didn't hurt that Snedeker was playing with Nashville businessman Toby Wilt all week. Wilt endowed a golf scholarship at Vanderbilt. The first recipient was Snedeker. The fact they got to take the pro-am trophy home after tying for first was icing on the cake.

"We played hundreds of rounds of golf together," Snedeker said of Wilt, who played football and golf at Vanderbilt. "He knew what to say when I was kind of hurting and not playing my best and he knew what to say when I was playing great.

"We had a lot of fun talking about everything but what we were doing. … I wanted to make sure that we both walked out of here with a trophy and for us to do that was a very special thing."

The two will be reunited in April at the Masters, a tournament Snedeker would rather win than any other. Wilt, an Augusta National member, announces the pairings on the first tee.

It's the site of Snedeker's biggest disappointment and he's looking forward to making it his

biggest achievement.

“I’ve gone in there in the past thinking I can contend. This year I’m going in knowing that I can contend and knowing that winning is not a farfetched idea," he said.

“It’s very much a reality."

Contact Sports Columnist Joe Biddle at This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it .

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