

NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT!

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The Rolling Stones once sang that time is on your side, but one notable tour player knows that isn't the case for his quest for a major title. Next week is the second leg of the major championships in golf. Kenny Perry came as close as humanly possible to picking up a green jacket in April at Augusta and Bethpage Black will be his first chance to avenge his second place finish at the Masters.

The Kentuckian is aware that his window of opportunity is closing quickly and it remains to be seen whether his best chance is in the rear view mirror. "At my stage in my career, I figure I've only got seven majors left, three this year, and I'm definitely in the four for next year," he said. "I turn 50 next year, so that's an ultimate goal to me is to win a major."

He changed his routine before heading to Augusta this year and it nearly paid off. "I did that differently. I went in there four days early at Augusta. I went down to Reynolds Plantation, which is the TaylorMade facility, stopped in there, worked on my equipment and I got into Augusta Thursday night and I played Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Augusta getting ready for that tournament."

Perry is still undecided when he'll get to Bethpage Black in part since the course is closed on Friday to him and others who are playing in the US Open. "They said we couldn't play on Friday, that they're going to take Michael Jordan and (Justin) Timberlake and they're going to try to break 100 out there on Friday. I may go up on Thursday so I can play Thursday, Saturday, Sunday or may just go up Friday night and play Saturday and Sunday," he explained.

After the US Open, Perry next chance comes at the British Open in July. But he is already torn over playing it in. "I got criticized heavily last year for skipping the British and going to Milwaukee, which is something I'd really rather do this year," he began. "I'd really rather not go to the British. I think U.S. Bank, it's the last year for the Milwaukee tournament. That's been very big in my life. I've been able to win there. It's been very crucial in getting me to this stage in my life, and this is probably the last year for that tournament. I think they're going to lose their sponsorship, pulling out, and that tournament might not exist anymore, so I'd rather go there and support that tournament. It's probably my last year to ever play Brown Deer Park," he continued. "Anyway, I'm definitely going to go to the British. I'm going to go try to play. I've never played Turnberry."

In the span of the next five weeks, two of his last seven chances at winning a major championship will be behind Perry and it will either soften the blow of his second place finish at The Masters or leave him with more to wonder about.