

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
February 25, 2021



JON RAHM (-4)

Q. Jon, how did you feel about the round out there today despite the bogey at the last?

JON RAHM: Really good. You know, I played really good golf on a challenging golf course and it was a lot of fun. I was going to say, besides the last tee shot, I was almost perfect off the tee. The only other missed fairway was on 10 and that was in a pretty good spot. Just too bad that the one I missed, it wasn't even that bad of a tee shot, cost me so much. But either way, 68's a great round, played really good golf. Hopefully I can keep this ball-striking up all week.

Q. How much did prior knowledge having played here in the NCAAs help you in your strategy this week and as far as just knowing your way around?

JON RAHM: Well, just being familiar with an area helps because the golf course played nothing like it's playing this week. It felt like a million degrees, it was windy, it was a different wind as well and the greens were firmer than they are right now. It felt, like I said, a very different golf course. Also, I'm a very different player to what I was back then. I wish I was this good when I was playing in college. But just being familiar with it, it helps. Just having seen tee shots and having seen putts and having seen certain things happen helps a lot.

Q. What's something that you might want to improve on for tomorrow's round?

JON RAHM: It was a pretty solid round throughout. I think we just learned those fairways got really firm overnight. Yesterday they were not rolling and releasing this much. In fact, yesterday I hit the same tee shot I hit today on 18 and I was in the fairway. Just be aware of that, maybe adjust some tee shots on some holes. If anything, just keep doing what I'm doing. I just never put myself out of position or in a tough spot, so that's why it seemed like a pretty, not easy day but uneventful 4 under par. So just keep doing the same thing and just knowing that birdies are out there, clearly people are making birdies and it's going to take a low score to win here.

Q. 2015, was that the first time you saw the golf course?

JON RAHM: Yes, that was the first time. Like I said, it was very different to what it is right now.