

MEXICO OPEN AT VIDANTA

PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW
April 26, 2023



NICO ECHAVARRIA

GERMAN ROZO: We are here with Nico Echavarria. Welcome to the Vidanta.

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Thank you.

GERMAN ROZO: How do you feel being here?

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Very happy. It's good to be in Latin America playing a PGA TOUR event. Haven't been in Mexico in a while and this place is beautiful, so very happy to be here.

GERMAN ROZO: How important is it for a Latin player having a tournament here?

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Super important. You can tell how much Mexico has done for golf, how much -- I was just telling you how much in front of the rest of the countries in Latin America they are and yeah, playing a PGA TOUR event in something that feels like home is super nice.

GERMAN ROZO: How was the practice round? What's going to be the key for having a great week?

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Yeah, it's a very long course, it's tough. It starts blowing and the greens are firm, so hitting a lot of par 4s with long irons is the key. Obviously being long like we saw last year is very important when Jon won and I think Cameron Champ was in the final group. Obviously there's an advantage for the long hitters, but you still have to hit it in the fairways and make putts.

GERMAN ROZO: Your pairing with Camilo Villegas for the first two rounds, how do you feel about that? What's your relationship with him?

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Yeah, it's incredible to be playing with your hero back in the day. Now I consider him as a friend and super happy to play two rounds of competitive golf with him. I played yesterday the practice round with him and seeing the pairing after we played was very cool.

GERMAN ROZO: (No microphone.)

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Yeah, I met Tony when I was on the Korn Ferry. He had the Monday



pro-am was for his charity in Utah and he's a great person, so it's going to be very cool to be playing with a guy like Tony.

GERMAN ROZO: You're leading a new project in Colombia (inaudible.)

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Yeah, having an AJGA in Colombia, it's going to be the first one in South America, so very excited to give the opportunity for kids in Latin America to play on AJGA. It's not easy to travel to the United States and play on that tour, so now with a new series that we're having in Latin America and other countries, it's going to be very cool to be present for the first time in an AJGA back home.

