

**ROUND 2 QUICK QUOTE**  
July 28, 2023

**ERIK VAN ROOYEN** (-3)  
**ALEX GAUGERT** (+6)



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**Q. First off, guys, just talk about the week as a whole. It was an experience, I know this is a dream for both of you. How was it?**

**ALEX GAUGERT:** I mean, it was a dream. It happened fast. Monday qualifiers, you know, never done one and to get through was pretty cool. Then the Tour allowed us to play together, that was really memorable and something we'll never forget. I know after I qualified there was definitely a few tears shed and it was really, really cool.

And all the support, especially from call it the caddie yard and all the caddies and even the players, it was nice to get that feeling where everybody's kind of trying to -- everyone's lifting you up and telling you "good job." It was cool to kind of have the light shine on you for a week, so it's fun.

**ERIK VAN ROOYEN:** Yeah, I just bury him when he carries the bag all the time. No, I'm kidding.

For me, I'm kind of getting teary here. Like I was talking to a few people earlier in the week, when we were playing college together, this was what we were all talking about. Oh, man, we're gonna play the PGA TOUR together, we're gonna room together, play practice rounds together. We get to share that a little bit with him on the bag, but with him playing a tournament, it was really, really cool.

**Q. We saw you guys shared a moment on 18 fairway there, kind of waited up for you, quick hug. What was that like just really kind of taking a minute to soak it all in?**

**ALEX GAUGERT:** Yeah, just taking in the moment. You don't get these special moments every single week. This game's hard and it was -- it's cool to share that with my best friend, something I'll never forget.

**ERIK VAN ROOYEN:** Yeah, yeah, same. Playing the PGA TOUR is such a huge privilege, man. It's the best of the best that play here. And I know how good he is and to see the look on his face, it just reinforces for me how grateful I need to be playing here. Again, just having that moment coming down 9 was special.

**Q. And then not only sharing the moment with each other, you had friends and family in tow up there, a big group following along, you drive off with the kids in hand. What's that like being able to share this experience with them?**



**ALEX GAUGERT:** Yeah, I told my wife it's kind of funny because this week as a player I actually get to use the daycare facility for the kids, so it was nice. Granted, this is a home event, but if we had that on the road, they might travel a little bit more often.

No, I mean, kids kind of put everything in perspective. The people that supported me and come up from Lake Geneva where I'm from. Like I said before, all the caddies and the players.

**ERIK VAN ROOYEN:** His uncle flew in from San Diego.

**ALEX GAUGERT:** Yeah, uncle flew in from San Diego, Uncle Johnny. Brian McCabe in from New Jersey. All the support, it shows how really loved and cared I am and makes me feel really good.

**Q. Competitors aren't supposed to share secrets inside the ropes. Was it hard not to lean on him these last couple of days for advice?**

**ERIK VAN ROOYEN:** Yeah. I had a good boy on the bag, too. Robert Bowers was the assistant men's coach -- he's right behind you there -- at Minnesota. Bob, we're one for one. He caddied for me in my first professional win at the (indiscernible) here in Minnesota. So when he got through on Monday, I was always going to call Bob. I know Feely's game so well, I know what clubs he's hitting, he knows what I'm hitting without even talking, so it was easy.

**Q. Any fun moments? Obviously the moment on the last hole there. You guys will take I'm sure the whole experience, but any one moment that will stick out these last couple of days, you think?**

**ERIK VAN ROOYEN:** For me, the eagle he made on 18 and then I go and three-putt. Just this game's beautiful. I'll always remember that. It's a sick shot he hit from over in the rough down there.

Yeah, honestly, just the whole last few days from Wednesday or rather Tuesday playing a practice round together all the way through to nine holes, it's a dream, like he said.

**Q. Alex, does it give you any perspective of how difficult it is to be a player out here week after week?**

**ALEX GAUGERT:** Well, like I said, I play a little bit. I don't play as much as I used to, but ever since being out here, before you kind of see it, you have this kind of false sense of hope. Once you see it firsthand week in and week out with all these great players, puts in perspective what it takes to be out here. These guys are really -- sorry, I was going to swear, but these guys are really good, really good, and they're the best in the world, that's why.

A lot of friends who maybe are amateurs will tell me, they're like, dude, you need to go play.



It's like, I would love to, you know, but I know how good I have to be and if I can't do that on a daily basis at home, what makes me think that I'm going to be able to do it in a tournament.

So to put myself in their shoes and to see kind of what they go through, you're kind of trying to pick shots and what you're kind of seeing, it was a great experience.

**Q. Safe to say he's going to keep his job?**

**ERIK VAN ROOYEN:** Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah, his job's safe. Trust me, we've been through some highs and we've been through some lows together. Nothing can shake us, so we're all good.

**Q. Do you get the weekend off at least?**

**ERIK VAN ROOYEN:** Well, I hope I make the cut. I'm at 3 under right now. I hope the wind kind of picks up like it did for us yesterday and hopefully it stays at three. But regardless, we'll have a fun weekend and just kind of soak it in. It's nice to be in Minnesota, the weather's great. And we're off to Wyndham next week, so we'll hang out with family and just chill.

**ALEX GAUGERT:** Annika, do you want to say anything to the microphone?

**ERIK VAN ROOYEN:** Say "I love you, Daddy."

**ANNIKA GAUGERT:** "I love you, Daddy."

