

**PRE-TOURNAMENT PRESS CONFERENCE**  
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**BRIAN HARMAN**

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**JACK RYAN:** We would like to welcome Brian Harman into the interview room here at the RSM Classic. Brian's making his 12th start in the event and first as a major champion.

Brian, coming off a runner-up last year, how exciting is it to come back to the RSM Classic and playing at home this week?

**BRIAN HARMAN:** Yeah, to be able to sleep in your own bed is always a nice treat, especially a PGA TOUR event. Just happy to be playing this golf tournament again. It's a great event, Davis has done a great job, and Todd as well. Todd Thompson, he's been running this thing for several years now and the event just keeps getting better every year.

**JACK RYAN:** Making your first start on Tour since the TOUR Championship, how's the state of your game coming into this week?

**BRIAN HARMAN:** TBD. We haven't been working as hard as we probably should have. Been taking advantage of this off season, trying to rest up and heal up and trying to get a little stronger in the gym, trying to grab that little bit of improvement where I can.

**Q. Since the British Open, has your life changed in any measurable way and do you see yourself any differently as a player since then, and do you sense other Tour players have a different perception of you after you having won a major?**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** Some of the commitments, there's been a lot of obligations, which I'm happy to do. It's just my time management's had to get a little bit better, I've had to just compartmentalize and figure out where I'm going to be at certain times and really trying to take advantage of what I'm doing at the current time.

I don't see myself any differently. I'm just going to keep working as hard as I can.

As far as other players, I don't know. I would say everyone's been very supportive and a lot of congratulations, but I'm not sure.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** Yeah, my expectations for the Ryder Cup were exceeded as far as my experience was. It's such an interesting event because you don't -- I'll just, I'll start by saying my favorite part of it was getting to know all the guys on the team at a more like intimate level. It was so cool to be up close and watch like elite golfers compete, and so for me it was incredible. Especially like teaming up with a guy like Max Homa, who's so good at golf and



so competitive, to watch him play so well and be rooting for him like right next to him the entire time, I felt like I had a front row seat to like ultimate golfing performance. It's just not something that you get to experience as a team and just rooting those guys on. So that aspect of it was one of the coolest.

**Q. Were you surprised at all by the emotion, whatever happened Saturday night with Rory and everything else that goes into the week? Did that catch you offguard?**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** No it didn't catch me offguard because I knew the way I felt, I knew how passionate I felt about it and the way that our team felt about it. Those types of things are bound to happen because everyone is just, it's like a powder keg, everyone's on full tilt and you go through this emotional rollercoaster for matches and all you want to do is win a match, all you want to do is make that putt. You're just right there. It's just like one little thing can set anybody off.

**Q. Being that close to those players, is there anything you felt like you learned from the week or you would do differently going forward?**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** As far as like --

**Q. Just watching those guys prepare, as you said, and how they do their business.**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** What's interesting is everyone goes -- everyone prepares a little bit differently and it's interesting to see the way that different guys get ready to go. So for me the only difference is just trusting your process and like what you do to get ready to go play.

And everyone's different. You can pick up little things here or there or, oh, I really like how that guy does that, I like how that guy gets ready to go.

The most important thing is you're ready to go and you're comfortable. I think that's -- I think just being demanding with your own preparation and what you need to be ready to go is probably what I took forward from that.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** Yeah, I can, yeah. It's what we all do, man, and that's a testament to his grit and determination. I can appreciate that, for sure. It's an awesome story, what he's been able to do to stick with it that long when I'm sure the voices in his head, and he's probably got a lot of friends like, hey, man, you sure you still want to compete?

No, but just to have that belief and just to know that he stuck with it, I'm sure he's probably even surprised. It's almost like when you start having success, you start like surprising yourself, like I didn't know I could do that. That's a pretty cool place to be. It's been fun to watch him do what he's done. He plays a lot and he plays some really, really good golf.



**Q. (No microphone.)**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** Yeah, yeah. Earlier this year I was asking my agent about announcing jobs already. So we all get there, we all have those thoughts. Everyone's in a place that -- we operate on these razor thin margins and a couple shots a day and you're out of the game. I mean, it can happen so quick.

And I like operating on that edge. Like I like it mattering, I like when it means the most, I like where that puts my head as far as like how hard I work.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** I think March, I think it was March. June? Oh, a little later than March, I guess.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** Oh, no, I ponder it all the time. I think anybody thinks about it. I mean, I don't think it's bad to have those thoughts. What's bad is when you let them like become your reality.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** No, he just, he told me exactly what I needed to hear. No, we're not doing that yet, Brian.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** Well, no, because I think some of my best golf has been played right after I -- it's kind of like it's just a cycle. It's like you work, you work your ass off to get to like whatever like a mini little peak is and then something -- you stop, you stop doing the things that got you there and so you start this kind of downhill thing and then it just snowballs and then it's rock bottom. All right, I guess I'm going to go do something else.

And then it's like no, I'm not going to do that. Then you start working hard again and you start working your way up to the top again. It's always, it's in constant motion. It's kind of like you're either getting better or you're getting worse and your mindset in the way that you approach everything is sort of what determines what part of that projection you're on.

**Q. Did the Ryder Cup put a dent in your hunting season at all?**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah.

**Q. And have you been able to get out?**



**BRIAN HARMAN:** Gosh, I'm such a -- with my place, I'm such a perfectionist. I haven't done much hunting, I've a ton more like dig ditches and get the water to move the right way and keeping the place dry and keeping the grass mowed and trying to fix roads. Like I've almost got more pleasure out of all the preparation than I have the actual hunting part. My dad and brother have been doing all the hunting.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** No, no, no elk trip this year, sad to miss that one, but I will be back to do that.

**Q. One more thing, I wonder what you thought of our Jacksonville kid playing quarterback for Georgia this year. Give me a scouting report on Carson Beck.**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** I hadn't been to Athens for a game in probably seven or eight years. Young family, just hard. So I was up for the Missouri game two weeks ago and I had my two oldest kids up for an Ole Miss game.

It's been really cool to watch his progression as he's gotten more and more comfortable. I watched him make some throws on Saturday that you just can't -- I mean, he is just -- he's locked in. It's his team, he's the leader of that team. I'm really proud -- I mean, I don't know Carson at all, but it's been a lot of fun to watch his progression and how he is -- he's a total leader of that team now, which is what you want out of your quarterback.

**Q. Tough to transition from Georgia football talk.**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** Let's talk some more Georgia football. Have you ever seen a better route runner than Ladd McConkey?

**Q. Brock?**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** Well, yeah. Ladd can't block like Brock can, but they play different positions, man.

**Q. All right. There was a policy board meeting yesterday. There was a memo this morning on where the Tour is as far as negotiations go. Just what are your general thoughts on whatever direction the Tour seems to be heading in?**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** It's been quite quiet lately, I haven't heard anything. I trust our leadership. I think Tiger coming on board's been really positive for all the players, we've all got his back. I think our goal is just transparency from here on out and just to make the best decision for the entire membership. I haven't read the memo so I don't know what happened yesterday, but I'm sure I'll hear some more today.

I feel good about the direction things are going, and I'm not smart enough to -- I'm not on the



policy board, I'm not in any of the meetings, but I do trust guys that are there and I think they'll make the right decisions.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** Yes, do it.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**BRIAN HARMAN:** So first question, I think just the sideline reporter that just reports nothing, I think I could do that. Like, oh, you know, it's sunny out, back to you up in the box.

I've played nine holes with Kirby Smart, he's got -- he's got an interesting golf swing. By interesting, I mean not great. He's a lot of fun to play golf with. He's as passionate about that. He gets very frustrated that he's not better at golf. I'm like, well, you don't spend near the time, you know, golfing that you do recruiting, you're really good recruiter. His expectations for golf for the amount of he plays, but he loves it and I really enjoy getting to beat him.

