

ROUND 1 QUOTES
February 1, 2024



COLLIN MORIKAWA (-5)

COLLIN MORIKAWA: Last week driver was off, kind of just got in that creative mindset this week and hit some shots. We've been doing a bunch of short game comps this week leading up to the round today and I was able to kind of take some money off my caddie, so it was nice to see that bleed into the rest of the round.

Q. What were the lucky breaks that you got today?

COLLIN MORIKAWA: Just 16. You know, I went birdie-birdie 14 and 15. Just hit an absolute shocking of a golf shot on 16 and ended up in a good spot to where I almost had a decent birdie look and almost made birdie. That's kind of one where you just, you make bogey versus having an easy par kind of led into I think how 17 played, made a great putt there and just was able to finish off the round in that sense.

Q. You don't ever want to miss the cut, but I get the sense from hearing some of your other interviews that the most recent one rubbed you the wrong way, that you were a little --

COLLIN MORIKAWA: Yeah, it was just everything felt so good and after Thursday or Wednesday's round it was just like, all right, we're on our way. Just started thinking. I talked earlier in a different interview where I've got to stop thinking. Like I play my best, even though I want to be a perfectionist and I love to be in control of everything, I've always played my best just kind of being free and just swinging and being creative out there and just hitting my shots, right? There's that balance of just I could live the rest of my life in full control, but out here you just, sometimes you can't control what's going to happen. I was trying to be too perfect last week and this week is just I know my body can hit the shots, I've just got to let it do that. So essentially got to get out of my own head.

Q. Obviously a great round today, but what happened at the turn? What was different?

COLLIN MORIKAWA: Some hard holes. I mean, 8's a tough hole and just missed an iron shot. Made a great up-and-down on 9. On 10 just hit a bad second shot. I'm trying to flight a 6-iron and I fan it right, it's going to work, that's what's going to happen. Yeah, couple bad swings.

Q. When you got up this morning and saw the weather wasn't like the forecasters said it would be, what went through your mind? Was that a relief?

COLLIN MORIKAWA: Yeah, I was very happy. It's always going to play tough and it still



was going to be a little breezy out here and you're going to feel that especially being on the coast. Yeah, I was happy that we got through it all and didn't have to put on any rain jacket or I wasn't freezing. Fingers crossed for the rest of the week.

Q. What was the best shot you hit today?

COLLIN MORIKAWA: Probably the 3-wood on 6, second shot was -- did exactly what I wanted. Or the second shot on 15.

Q. What club was that?

COLLIN MORIKAWA: 9-iron. The greens are just so soft, just all spin control.

