ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES February 22, 2024

HENRIK NORLANDER (-6)



Q. Six under for opening round. How would you assess your round?

HENRIK NORLANDER: Yeah, pretty good. A little tight this morning, I haven't played out here since the RSM, I haven't got in any tournaments this year.

No. 1 it's not my favorite hole, but made bogey and made a nice putt for par on 2 and I felt like I hit it pretty solid, drove it good.

And I felt like middle of the round I missed some putts that I felt like I had good chances to get to 3 under. Then it just all came together towards the end. I made a long putt on 15 and hit two great shots on 16 and 18 it was nice to finish eagle.

Q. Where are you feeling most comfortable with your game?

HENRIK NORLANDER: I don't know, I think everything feels pretty good and putter is always sort of the iffy part. I've struggled some the last few years and I've just been really tough on myself. It's easy to say now, but that's sort of the main goal when I get in, to try to have a little bit more fun and be a little nicer to myself. It's a grind out here and being tough on yourself doesn't help.

Q. You mentioned earlier playing on some Korn Ferry Tour starts. Is there kind of added pressure to capitalize on these starts this week?

HENRIK NORLANDER: Yes and no. I mean, it's just golf. It's a cliche, but good golf is good anywhere. Felt like I played pretty good two weeks ago in Colombia, just try to keep it going.

Q. And what do you think the keys to success are on this course specifically?

HENRIK NORLANDER: I think you've got to stay patient. It's a pretty long golf course. It's pretty open, but if you can take some good lines off the tee, you have a lot of par 5s. Yeah, you've just got to put well and realize that par is good, you're going to get your chances.

Q. And where do you think that this course presents its challenges?

HENRIK NORLANDER: I think it's definitely a second shot golf course. The fairways are pretty wide, you've got to be pretty good with your mid irons to long irons for me at times. Like I said, you've just got to be pretty good from 30, 40 feet because it's tough to get close on a lot of holes.



Q. You played your last five holes in 5 under par. You one-putted all those last five greens.

HENRIK NORLANDER: Yeah, that doesn't happen very often for me. Played pretty nice on the front, too. I missed a few short ones but had good chances, kept hitting it pretty good, capitalized coming in for sure.

Q. Had more than 120 feet in putts today. These Paspalum greens are receptive and rolling well, aren't they?

HENRIK NORLANDER: Yeah, they're very nice. You've got to get in your head to hit them hard enough. They're on the slower side, but they're really pure.

Q. It's hard to get starts on the PGA TOUR these days with Signature Events. You're not in the Signature Events yet. This is your first start of the year and you bogey your first hole of the PGA TOUR season. You've played enough golf to know that a lot of good rounds start with bogeys. Still, was it disconcerting at all?

HENRIK NORLANDER: No. I mean, No. 1 here is pretty tight. I hit a cut and if you come out of it at all, it's a re-tee. I hit a little too much club on my second shot over the green. I wasn't too worried about it, I just tried to get into a rhythm.

Like you said, first start of the year. Luckily I played the Korn Ferry event two weeks ago in Colombia, felt like I got the rust off.

I'm really trying to be a little nicer to myself. I struggled a bit the last few years and ending up finishing 126 last year wasn't really ideal with all these changes. I've just got to take advantage of the chances I get.

