ALVARO ORTIZ (-11)



Q. Seven under for the day, what did you like about your round?

ALVARO ORTIZ: Pretty much everything. It was pretty solid. From tee to green it was as good as it could be. I hit the ball very well and just felt very comfortable out there. It was very clean, very stress free and I was glad to be able to make that eagle on 6. I feel like I was losing a little bit of momentum leaving a couple putts go, but it was good to get that one back. Happy to be in the position you I'm in.

Q. Heading into the weekend, do you have a number in mind for tomorrow, or you said you're just feeling that ease going out and playing?

ALVARO ORTIZ: Yeah. To be honest, this golf course, it depends on the wind and the conditions. We've seen the past years, Tony Finau, I think he got to 21 under. Honestly, I'm open minded to whatever comes, you know? I know I'm going to do my best and I'm going to prepare my best to get out there and have a chance to win.

Q. What's it like being a favorite here having the fans and support here?

ALVARO ORTIZ: It's awesome, it's awesome to have my family, to have my friends, to have my people. We don't get to play much in Mexico, so it's pretty cool to be out here, to be playing well and feel the support from them.

Q. Does it feel at all like an added pressure or it's just kind of support?

ALVARO ORTIZ: No, it's more fun, it's more fun. I don't get to do that often. As many people, the yelling, it's fun. I don't get that much in the States, but it's pretty cool to see how many people are coming and hopefully it will be packed this weekend.

Q. Playing on the Korn Ferry Tour, what have been some of the big takeaways getting starts out there?

ALVARO ORTIZ: Definitely the experience, getting the reps. The more I play, the more comfortable I feel and I start to realize that I have the game. I've been doing good work and (no audio) put four rounds together. Hopefully I can do that this weekend. Just got to prepare this afternoon and get ready for tomorrow.

Q. Bogey-free 64 today, what would you say was the best part of your round today?

ALVARO ORTIZ: I think definitely the ball-striking, it was very solid from tee to green. I



actually putted very well. Didn't make as many putts as yesterday, but definitely feel very solid out there. Just very comfortable. And I've been working really hard on my swing this past year and it's good to see the hard work's paying off.

Q. It really is, you had a couple wins on the Mexican Golf Tour in Mexico at the end of 2023. How much has that carried over, that great play, into this year as well?

ALVARO ORTIZ: Definitely big time. I think I closed very strong the Latin America season and then playing very well in the Mexican Tour and that carried over, that momentum, to Q-School. Been playing really well. Just excited to get this opportunity. Very grateful to Grupo Salinas and Vidanta, they make this happen. They invited me back, so happy to be on the weekend.

Q. Originally from Guadalajara, how much support do you feel out there on the fairways and greens?

ALVARO ORTIZ: It's awesome. It's definitely cool to see all my family and friends out here. You know, we don't get to play in Mexico very often, especially a PGA TOUR event, so excited to see all my people.

Q. Your brother won on the PGA TOUR four years ago. What will it take for you to become a PGA TOUR winner this weekend?

ALVARO ORTIZ: Definitely a very good weekend. There's still a lot of golf to be playing, 36 holes, anything can happen. Got to focus right now, got to get a good practice in, recover and get ready for tomorrow.

