

**ROUND 3 QUICK QUOTES**  
February 24, 2024

**JAKE KNAPP (-19)**



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**Q. Still 18 holes to go, 24 hours, but my goodness, what a performance today, 11 birdies including the last two holes.**

**JAKE KNAPP:** Yeah, you know, struck it very similar to how I did the last couple days when I was able to get some more putts to fall. Would like to clean up a few of those bogeys on the back nine, but it was a great day.

**Q. Golf is never a game of perfect, but how about your playing the par 3s? Five par 3s, you play them in 4 under par, you had four deuces on the card.**

**JAKE KNAPP:** Yeah, I kind of circled them this morning after looking at the pin locations and just felt like depending on where the tee was, I felt like they were going to match up for me pretty well and thought they were going to be pretty gettable, so wanted to make sure I kept in the back of my head that there was definitely going to be some good opportunities there.

**Q. Are you satisfied with par 5s going this week? It's strange with your length off the tee, you're so accurate off the tee, you haven't really dominated the par 4s, or par 5s rather, like a person who's 19 under par would.**

**JAKE KNAPP:** Yeah, no, I don't think I played the par 5s very well, but just haven't really chipped it very well. Like we were kind of talking about, I feel like every time I missed the green this week I kind of ended up in a funky little lie or just kind of a weird chip.

I'm not super worried about it, feel like I'm hitting good shots, I just haven't ended up exactly where I'd like. But yeah, do our best to clean it up for tomorrow.

**Q. Chance to go into the final round with the lead to win your very first time on the PGA TOUR. What are the next 24 hours going to mean for you as you prepare for this?**

**JAKE KNAPP:** Just a lot of the same. Go back, shower, go to the gym tonight, do my preparation for tomorrow morning and get ready to go for tomorrow afternoon.

**Q. Start off with 8 under for the day highlighted by a front nine 28. How did it go as co-round leader entering?**

**JAKE KNAPP:** Yeah, I can't complain obviously. Feel like I struck the ball about the same as the last couple days. Just hitting it really well, driving it well. Was able to roll in some



more putts. Felt like once I was able to see a couple go in early, it just felt like kind of everything was going in for a little while there.

**Q. And kind of what was it like playing in Mexico with the favorite? You were leading the tournament, a lot of cheering for Ortiz out there.**

**JAKE KNAPP:** Yeah, I think as soon as I hit my approach shot on 2 after he hit his, everybody just kept on walking and didn't pay any mind. I was like hey, we're just going to have to deal with it, don't bother trying to stop everybody.

It was awesome. it was cool to see the support that he got. He's a great guy, so he's fun to play with.

**Q. Curt Byrum on the broadcast said he got you on the putting green on Friday. What did you find with that club in particular that paid off today?**

**JAKE KNAPP:** I wouldn't say I necessarily found anything. I felt like yesterday afternoon ball wasn't rolling as well as it could. Late in the afternoon like that it's going to get a little bouncy. The practice green was cut and it was smooth and I was like I just want to be roll some and make sure I'm starting on my lines. Just putted for about 10 minutes, got a little bit of confidence just to make sure I knew what I was doing was correct and trusted that today.

**Q. This is the era of the long ball, but you have a very syrupy swing. How did it develop? How did your swing and move develop?**

**JAKE KNAPP:** Just kind of happened. I've had like the same childhood coach forever, John Ortega, and then now I work a bit with Dana Dahlquist.

Yeah, Johnny O just never wanted to change anything, just wanted to let me swing how my body really wanted to move and just try to make the best out of it. Just do my best to stick with that.

**Q. Your college teammates, I spoke to one of them today who says you hit the ball an absolute mile. How much do you kind of leave in the tank and not necessarily swing at 100 percent?**

**JAKE KNAPP:** I mean, kind of a lot. I've always tried -- I shouldn't say kind of a lot. I still move it pretty quick or at least I'm still trying to be aggressive into the ball. I mean, yeah, like a lot of guys out here we all have like another gear we can get to. There's a few holes out here where we can let it go, for sure.

But for me, I just think I've realized over the past few years and especially this year just fairways are a premium so tend to kind of hit a lot of that like spinny cut shot and just kind of get it in play. Especially when I'm hitting the ball well, I know if I can just get it in play off the tee, can give myself a lot of chances from there.



**Q. You turn in 28, you hit iron off the tee at 10, not the shot that you wanted. Take us through the tee shot and also the great bogey save.**

**JAKE KNAPP:** Yeah, I think that tee shot I kind of told my caddie, I was like, you know, that was the only shot I was kind of like half committed to the entire week. I just felt like I was trying to aim down the left side and wanted to just hit my normal little cut, but also didn't want to overcut because I felt a little gust.

I should have just backed off. Yeah, just a bad swing. We talked all the way up to the next shot just about resetting and giving ourselves a chance to make bogey. Yeah, didn't hit a great chip there, was able to roll the putt in and I think that 5 was a big momentum saver for me.

**Q. Twenty-nine years of age is a little bit older for a PGA TOUR rookie. You've taken the road less traveled, you were a bouncer/security guard at The Country Club in Costa Mesa.**

**What did those experiences teach you about that can help you as you try to win for the first time on the PGA TOUR?**

**JAKE KNAPP:** Yeah, a lot of appreciation for what I get to do. I think standing there at 1:00 in the morning every Friday and Saturday night, you kind of realize how good you have it when you get to travel and play golf for a living.

Yeah, I think that, and then also like a bit of grittiness, the fact that I don't want to necessarily want to have to go back to that.

Yeah, I think it was a lot of different things, but I think it just kind of gave me some thicker skin and allowed me to get to where I am now.

**Q. How do you keep things simple tonight looking ahead to Sunday?**

**JAKE KNAPP:** Just kind of all the same for the most part. Do my homework tonight and go to the gym, eat dinner, go to sleep pretty early and get up, get ready to go tomorrow.

**Q. Noticed they were using the graphic of when you earned your PGA TOUR card and it showed your tattoo.**

**JAKE KNAPP:** Yeah.

**Q. What's it say there and what does it stand for?**

**JAKE KNAPP:** It's my grandfather's initials. He passed away at the beginning of last season.



**Q. When did you get the tattoo?**

**JAKE KNAPP:** I got it -- I got a matching one with my cousin right at I believe the end of last season or middle of last season. Yeah, no, middle of last season.

And I wanted it to show. I know that that's like an area I wanted to save -- excuse me -- just because I know it's seen in like every single golf photo, but I wanted to make sure it's seen every time when I finish.

**Q. And what was that kind of special relationship with your grandfather?**

**JAKE KNAPP:** Yeah, very special. Sorry.

**Q. You're good, take your time.**

**JAKE KNAPP:** Having gotten asked about him before.

Yeah, super special. I mean, family dinners every Sunday night. He was the guy I talked to after every single round. Still text him after every round. Sorry.

Yeah, he's super special to me and my entire family, so I know he's with me out there and he's watching.

**Q. What's something you're going to text him after today's round?**

**JAKE KNAPP:** Just that I miss him, miss talking to him, wish he could see it. It was always like my dream and his dream as well for me to get out here. Yeah, I'm sorry.

**Q. You're good.**

**JAKE KNAPP:** My family and I talk a lot about it. Just very thankful to have a grandparent that was so close and so involved in my professional life and just our lives in general.

