ROUND 2 QUICK QUOTES March 29, 2024

CHAD RAMEY (-5)



Q. So a great birdie on 9 to move onto the cut line right now. Data Golf says pretty good, but I guess we'll see in the afternoon. What were you thinking about where the cut line might be and then what was it like to birdie 9 to better your position in that way?

SAHITH THEEGALA: Yeah, it's tough to tell out here because sometimes I'm like this course is really hard and other times I'm like there's a lot of gettable holes. It is windy out here, but I will say the middle of the round got super windy but it calmed down the last few holes. So I was a little worried that it might calm down for the rest of the afternoon. I don't know what the forecast is, IO think it's supposed to still blow at least 10 to 15, so figure it's not going to move above even.

I still think 1 over has a very decent chance. Be curious what the stats are, I'm sure it has like a 50 percent chance or something just because the course is tough. I didn't quite see a 62 out there, that's one where you take your hat off and shake Tony's hand, that's a hell of a round. Yeah, definitely proud of the last couple 2s there. Honestly, without having much of my stuff, it was a good grind.

Q. The shot on 9, what did you hit, what were you thinking, what's kind of the approach to that shot?

SAHITH THEEGALA: It's funny, I have pretty good vibes on that front pin on 9. I kind of was in a similar position maybe my rookie year, I think I was one ahead of the cut line. It's a scary pin because if you hit it right or left, like a lot of this golf course, you're staring bogey in the face, if not worse.

I hit a 9-iron to like two feet the first time, so I had that picture in my head when I stepped up to the tee. It was a good wind and honestly it was a great number, it was one where I could just full 50 degrees, 158 pin but 15 of help, try to land it 5 short so 20 under the number, a perfect full 50-degree. Yeah, just executed it and got a little bit lucky that it actually landed where it's supposed to. Then Carl had a great read on, it was a tricky five-footer, but Carl had a great read on that and it was nice to make one, yeah.

Q. How did it feel just to end that way?

SAHITH THEEGALA: Yeah, yeah, it was great to reassure that I will most likely -- I know nothing's taken for granted, but it looks good. Don't have to sit around and stress the rest of the afternoon. Probably just get some practice in. The great thing about this course, well other than Tony's 62, it's really hard to go low out here. So a couple of good rounds on the



weekend and, you know, I'm not going to say in contention but could definitely backdoor a really nice finish. It's nice knowing that, it's nice knowing that just a good round on Saturday and you could still be in the hunt for top-20, top-10 come Sunday.

Q. How does the approach change living here and just driving in and showing up at the course rather than maybe another week?

SAHITH THEEGALA: It's pretty bizarre because I've never had like a hometown event feel on Tour. Even a year and a half ago I was in a different place in the Woodlands and it was a little too far in a weird way. It was like 10 minutes longer than it is for me now. And I had the rookie tee time so I was like super early. I guess it wasn't the rookie tee time; it was last year, so I had super early and first off in the afternoon. Either way I would have to get up at 3:45 or right during rush hour.

It's weird, getting up, in my own bed, doing my morning routine, having a cup of coffee, getting in my car and driving here, it's nice, it's nice, it's a good feeling. I know a bunch of my friends and family will come this weekend, which is nice. I was a little nervous, that back nine I was like shoot, I can't miss the cut, all my friends and family are going to come this weekend.

It's a different feeling. Honestly maybe it was a little bit of I let my guard down a little bit maybe during the practice days, like, oh, I'm just here in my hometown just kicking it. Once I got to game time it felt like a normal tournament again. It's great, I'm going to go back and sleep awesome tonight.

Q. Sleep in your own bed, right, so there's got to be a little bit of a comfort in that?

SAHITH THEEGALA: 100 percent, yeah, 100 percent.

Q. And talk to me, you played at the Masters, some of the highest pressure events, what's it going to be like tomorrow when you throw out the first pitch?

SAHITH THEEGALA: It's probably the most nervous I'm ever going to be. The most nervous I've ever been is probably a pretty close tie between a putt I had on Korn Ferry Finals and then the first tee shot at Augusta last year. It's pretty close between those two. I'd probably lean the Korn Ferry Finals one. It's just a whole different animal when you're trying to play for your career. At least at Augusta it's like, dang, I've made it here, this is so cool.

I'm going to be nervous. My caddie, Carl, bought a couple mitts and a ball last night at Dick's, so we're going to go to my gym at home and get some shots up, loosen my shoulder with some basketball because I've played basketball my whole life and get a couple tosses in because I cannot go into that without prepping. I'm going to be nervous. And 55 or 60 feet, I'm going to cheat all the way to the front of the mound. Whatever it is, 55 feet, it's a long way. If anything, I'm going to sail it, I will not put it in the dirt. I hope I can keep that promise.



Q. Have you thrown a baseball? What's your experience --

SAHITH THEEGALA: Zero. It's the only sport I've genuinely not tried or played at all in my whole life. Luckily, I feel like I've got a nice like -- I have a -- I have long arms so I feel like at least I can throw with some power, but my accuracy's going to be very suspicious.

We'll see if my very average athletic ability can pull through for me one time. But no experience. I've played catch like three times in college just like soft tossing a baseball. That's about it. I've tried to hit baseballs off a tee and it's just not good.

Q. Not at all?

SAHITH THEEGALA: No.

