

VIKTOR HOVLAND (-14)

Q. Viktor, five birdies your first seven holes, you really had it rolling. Getting that birdie at 18 made up for some lost time there on the back nine.

VIKTOR HOVLAND: Yeah, for sure. After that start I felt like there's something special out there today. Had kind of a rough half portion of the round, definitely felt like I gave up shots on 14, 15, 16, 17, but it was nice to finish with that one on 18 to kind of hopefully start something off tomorrow.

Q. You're driving it beautifully, ball-striking looks to be pretty good. Is it just a matter of getting a couple more putts to roll in for you?

VIKTOR HOVLAND: Yeah, overall I feel like I'm hitting it pretty good. There were a couple of bad shots here and there today, missed on a couple wrong sides I really shouldn't have. But yeah, if I could make more putts, that would really help, but it was nice to see some going in earlier in the round and I feel like that kind of gave me some more confidence.

Q. You know what you need, you're in a position where you know the Korn Ferry Tour Finals are already there, you kind of know the math. Obviously a win takes care of things, but I want to know, Matt's got a win, Collin's got a win, your buddy Kristoffer Ventura is winning like crazy on the Korn Ferry Tour. You're sitting here going, wait a second, winning shouldn't be this difficult, right?

VIKTOR HOVLAND: I don't know if I'm thinking it quite that way, but it's really cool to see what they've been able to do because it's not easy doing that out here, there's so many good players. To see them do that has obviously inspired me a little bit. I feel like if I play really well, I can do that as well, but there's nothing given to you, you have to go out and earn it.

Q. Game plan for tomorrow?

VIKTOR HOVLAND: Just hopefully I get off to the same start as I did today and just keep it going, just enjoy it and try to execute the shots.

Q. Viktor, excellent start and you end up with a 64. Just talk a little bit about your round.

VIKTOR HOVLAND: Yeah, I got off to a really nice start birdieing number one and two, and after three birdies in a row on six, seven, eight, I was really feeling it. Or five, six, seven. Five under through seven is a good start. I was a little disappointed that I wasn't able to

keep that going because I was thinking something special was out there, but after birdie on 18, was nice to kind of give myself some confidence going into tomorrow.

Q. What kind of motivation do you have when you see guys like Matt, Collin and those guys winning?

VIKTOR HOVLAND: Obviously it does help because not even two months ago I played with them in a tournament in a national championship. I played with those guys for two, three years now and it's cool to see them do really well. Obviously that kind of inspires me to think that I can do the same things as they've accomplished, but it's not going to be given to you and you have to go out there and earn it.

Q. Is there a difficulty tomorrow to keep the math out of your head of what you need to get a card?

VIKTOR HOVLAND: I mean, a little bit, but I just try to tell myself that I don't have anything to lose. I'll be on the Korn Ferry Tour no matter what happens kind of unless I play really well tomorrow, and to be in the spot where I am right now after college, that's a pretty good spot to be in. I just try to take advantage of it.