

JOAQUIN NIEMANN (-10)

Q. Bogey-free through 36 holes, Joaquin, nice playing in the second round 69. How would you describe it out there?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: I played great obviously. I gave myself a lot of chances at the start and I didn't make birdie on the second or the third hole, but I know I'm playing good so just give myself a chance for the weekend is always nice.

Q. You say you're playing good. What parts of your game are good?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: Right now everything is pretty good. My putter, like I said yesterday, hasn't been on for the last three weeks and right now it's been pretty good. I think that's the best part of my game right now.

Q. First guy off this morning (inaudible)?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: The course? Obviously we got a lot of rain the whole week and it looks that we are going to be good for the weekend. Yeah, I think it's going to get a lot of -- it's going to get firm and it's going to be a lot more fun to play because it's going to play faster.

Q. How has having Mito here this week, how has that changed your week in terms of somebody to have dinners with or somebody to play practice rounds with? How has that changed thing for you?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: Yeah, it's been awesome because I got Mito here, I've got another friend from Chile right here staying with me. It's nice to finish the round, go back, chill in the room, talk with my friends. It just makes it a lot easier so it's nice having them here.

Q. Have you been to dinners with each other this week?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: I've been doing a lot of room service, too, but yeah.

Q. He's obviously a great player, but you have more experience out here. Have you taken him under your wing and said here's what to expect, here's what it's like on the PGA TOUR?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: He know what he needs to do. He got the game obviously, he just need to get used to it. I think he will get it pretty quick and he will start playing pretty good out here.

Q. Have you always been a little bit better since you were little kids?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: He was always a little bit better.

Q. Really? He was?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: Yeah.

Q. So somewhere you passed him, though?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: Yeah, I think the decision when I turned pro, when I got my sponsor exemption, I played really good in those invites and I think right there was like the difference between Mito and me. But yeah, I remember playing when I was a junior, playing with him and I was always looking at him like a really good player. Yeah, he's always been a good player. It's nice to have him here now.

Q. Obviously with all the rain, birdies, a lot of people have been coming off and saying they're gettable on these greens, but what do you make of this course and of your round today?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: Yeah, obviously it's playing a lot easier with all the rain we had, but the greens are -- they get a little bit more bumpy in the afternoon. Yeah, the course, obviously we got the preferred lies and I think the only tough spots are the rough where sometimes it's a little bit wet and it's hard to judge how the ball's going to come out. Other than that, you're hitting fairways, you're going to go pretty low.

Q. This tournament had so much momentum behind it in 2019 and then last year, like so many tournaments, no fans. What do you make of the environment here in Detroit?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: I didn't play last year, but I played two years ago and it was awesome. It was one of my favorite tournaments. The course was playing super firm, the crowd is amazing, there's a lot of people here. Having them back here is nice.

Q. What is the biggest key going into the weekend knowing that the greens will still be soft and it still may be wet in a few spots here?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: Yeah, I just try to play my game that I've been playing these two days and just have fun out there.