

ROUND 4 QUICK QUOTES
December 18, 2023



TRACE CROWE

Q. You're going to the PGA TOUR in 2024. How does it feel, and what does this accomplishment mean to you?

TRACE CROWE: Like I was saying out there, it's a dream come true. I don't think it's really sunk in yet. Just didn't really allow myself to think it was in reach today. Just tried to play hole by hole and just for this dream to come true, my dad, he's been with me every step of the way, and my sister has supported me throughout this dream.

Words can't really explain it. Very excited.

Q. What was it about this week in your game that allowed you to rise up and finish top 5 out of 160 plus players?

TRACE CROWE: I really wasn't feeling that confident really coming into it. It probably wasn't my most prepared week. But my short game was -- putts were just going in, chipping it, getting up-and-down from everywhere, and you kind of have to with these winds and these conditions. For the most part, drove it really great. Just kept it in play, kept it in front of me all week and just was relaxed. Really came out today.

Q. How did you spend yesterday?

TRACE CROWE: I went down to Jax Beach and watched football with some buddies and family.

Q. What games did you watch?

TRACE CROWE: All of them. Carolina got the win yesterday, big win. We're up to two. Just all the games, but yeah.

Q. There was chatter in the media about who would benefit from the off day. Do you feel like -- was your instinct when you learned the day would be off, were you happy? Were you bummed? Did you want to get back out there? How was that in your mind?

TRACE CROWE: Yeah, I think it could have been the best thing for me. My right foot has been really killing me the last few days. Really hurting to walk. I did a couple things yesterday that really helped it, and then I woke up today and it was -- it still hurts, but it was a little bit better, and it made walking a lot easier. So if anything it was probably the best thing for me yesterday just to hang out and rest it.

Q. How did it get hurt and what was the injury?



TRACE CROWE: Just happened Wednesday. I was playing nine holes out here. I was going to play 18, ended up only playing nine at Sawgrass. It just hurt when I started walking on the outside of my foot. Every time I put pressure on it walking, it felt like it was just like a knife digging into the side of it.

It didn't really hurt when I've been playing all week, just walking. Yesterday was a blessing in disguise really.

Q. What did you do to help it yesterday?

TRACE CROWE: I had these creams and get some Epsom salt and hot water and just some ice packs, and yeah, that stuff.

Q. Did it hurt today walking?

TRACE CROWE: Not too bad, no. In the beginning, and then I think the adrenaline of the day just made me not really feel it.

Q. What did you learn from the weekend at Evansville where you were close to a card and fell a little short that you think helped you this week?

TRACE CROWE: Yeah, like I said previously, understanding -- I don't know, just trying to be perfect and just forcing it too much. Did a great job today. I was very relaxed, as relaxed as you can be in this situation, and just really didn't get ahead of it. Like I'm saying now, it still hasn't sunk in. I can't wait for about an hour from now, and honestly, that first beer is going to be incredible.

Q. You mentioned your dad; did he teach you? What was his role, and how did he help you to get to this point?

TRACE CROWE: Yeah, so my dad, he's just -- he hurt his back when I was younger. Well, before I was born. Kind of worked part-time, and he just really took me to all the golf events. We didn't have a lot, and he poured his heart and soul into my golf to get here. I'm just so happy he could be here today to experience this with me.

Q. What's his name?

TRACE CROWE: Dale Crowe.

Q. Had he played golf before he got hurt?

TRACE CROWE: No, he played college basketball and he played a little bit of golf before he got hurt. He got me into it.

Q. What are your earliest golf memories?

TRACE CROWE: I started around like 10, played all the sports, still played sports growing up, and then just fell in love with golf. We got lucky where I grew up, we had a



bunch of buddies and everyone played golf around me, and we all went to events, and my dad would take us and drag us and we would go, and it was fun.

Q. The course you grew up, what was it called?

TRACE CROWE: Smithfields Country Club, Easley, South Carolina. Shout-out to Easley.

Q. What was the vibe there? What type of course was it?

TRACE CROWE: It was really tight, kind of -- pretty short, just really tight off the tee. You had to drive it really well. It was an easy walking course. Me and my buddies would just walk around about every day and wreak havoc, really.

Q. What do you consider the best part of your game?

TRACE CROWE: I'd have to think probably around the greens. And just mentally. I've always had a chip on my shoulder growing up, where I grew up, and just a lot of things in life just having to battle.

Q. Is there a course or tournament that you've got circled that you can't wait to play?

TRACE CROWE: Well, I would love to -- Wells Fargo is an elevated event, so hopefully I can play good at the start of the year and try and play my way into that.

Q. You mentioned chip on the shoulder. Why do you think you have that? Where does that chip come from?

TRACE CROWE: Just not having the resources like a lot of these people have out here and just growing up where I grew up, small town. Yeah, just a lot of life -- yeah, it's been hard.

Q. What do you think 12-, 13-year-old you would think about this day and this moment right now?

TRACE CROWE: You're going to make me cry right now. We did it, dude. This is what I've been dreaming of doing my whole life.

Q. When you think back to Huntsville, that Friday morning --

TRACE CROWE: Right, yeah. Chris Baker calling me saying my neck is hurt, you're going to be in. Played well and got in the rest of the year, won Chicago. It's crazy. That's not even -- I guess about a year ago now. Not even that. It's crazy to believe that we're standing here.

Q. Going back to the chip on the shoulder. Were there people who were telling you you weren't going to make it?



TRACE CROWE: No, people believed in me. It's just, like I say, going back to resources, I grew up with not a lot. Never played any AJGA events or anything. Auburn coach Nick Clinard, big shout-out to him, he took a big leap to come and get me. I think it's just everything in life led to that.

Q. What did you draw upon today do you think?

TRACE CROWE: Victoria National. I was like, we're just going to relax, be patient. Everyone is going to feel the nerves. Even like Spence said yesterday, no one is exempt from that, and just knowing that everyone is feeling this way, I feel like I'm very prepared for it rather than some people out here. I just relied -- yeah, just did that.

