

117 VISA ARGENTINA OPEN
Presented by Macro

ROUND 4 QUOTES
March 3, 2024



MASON ANDERSEN (-17, won 2nd playoff hole)

Q. Mason, could you talk to me about why you got so emotional at the trophy ceremony and what this means to you?

MASON ANDERSEN: Winning is just so hard in golf. You never win, you never win. And you come close a bunch of times, but yeah, winning's just so hard.

So to do it and to do with my dad here -- we've come close a few times. To do it with my dad here and my girlfriend here, yeah, I mean, pretty emotional.

Q. Two over in the first six and, I mean, when did you start looking at leaderboards and wondering like am I -- what am I going to have to put together on the back to get in this thing?

MASON ANDERSEN: I knew I'd have to post a number. Luckily, what happened through 11 and 15, 11 through 15, that was where the tournament changed for me. That's where I went from top-10 to a win.

Q. What really changed during that stretch? Was it just putts, ball-striking?

MASON ANDERSEN: I really haven't -- wasn't able to make that many putts the last three days. Today, they all went in at the same time.

Q. Waited for what probably felt like hours. What did you do during the wait and what was your -- what was going through your mind the whole time?

MASON ANDERSEN: Just kind of hung out in the restaurant. I'm lucky to have my girlfriend and my dad here, and one of my best friends, Matt McCarty, and Doss. Just it was cool to surround myself with people who really don't care how I finish, they'll love me no matter what.

Q. And going to The Open, did you watch the tournament a lot as a kid? Do you have a special like memory of watching like an Open Championship or anything?

MASON ANDERSEN: Yeah, Phil and Henrik battling, that was epic, one of my favorite majors I think I've ever watched.



Yeah, I'm excited. It's a different type of golf than I'm used to. I don't play links golf, I've barely experienced it, so we're going to have to gear up and get ready for that.

Q. And you talked quite a bit about Arizona State, you really credited them. How did you wind up going there in the first place and what specifically did you develop yourself as a player there?

MASON ANDERSEN: If it weren't for Matt Thurmond and Armen Kirakossian, I would not be playing golf right now. I lost interest in it for a little while. I was kind of a mental midget, per se. Was never going to get too good, good enough to win golf tournaments like this.

They were able to change my attitude. Howard Twitty as well, those three guys were able to change my attitude, change the way I approach the game, just complete overhaul of what I was doing off the course, and mentally as well, that sent me to where I am right now.

Q. Can you pinpoint like a moment where the big switch happened?

MASON ANDERSEN: Yeah, yeah. I was at Grayhawk. This is probably my junior year of college and Howard Twitty sat me down and said, "If you keep acting the way you're acting, you'll never make it." This is a guy who's won two or three PGA TOUR events, so really thankful that he was honest with me.

I've had the same conversations with Thurms on my college career. I just woke up one day and was able to turn it around.

Q. And last year, I mean, at the Korn Ferry Tour Championship you had a chance to get a Tour card. What was your biggest takeaway from that week and how did you feel like being on sort of the wrong side of that?

MASON ANDERSEN: Yeah, that one still kind of stings. I mean, obviously first two rounds was kind of in complete control, even partially during the third round. I had my entire family there. It was just like too good to be true. I just wasn't ready, I wasn't ready.

Now I feel like I'm ready.

Q. What did you learn the most from that experience? Was it just going through it and being in the moment for the first time?

MASON ANDERSEN: Just hard, it's hard. There's lows, there's highs. I'm going to have lows, right now I'm at a high. It's just the game of golf, up and down, up and down.

Q. Mason, you told us when you finished your round that you're tired of top-5 finishes and that you want to win the golf tournament. I mean, you're here.

MASON ANDERSEN: Yeah, yeah. I came to win. I think it's a little different, this year's a



little different than previous years. I want to win. Last year I was still kind of getting settled in and didn't really know what to do. I kind of got the hang of it now.

Q. And at the restaurant, too, you were sitting there saying, "All I need is a chance, all I need is a chance," and then when Darren came out to you, you said, "Man, I've got a chance."

Is that kind of what was going through your mind all day, just give me a chance?

MASON ANDERSEN: Yeah, yeah. Anytime you can control your own destiny, that's all I want.

Q. And then the opportunity to play in a major, The Open, like you said, links golf is a little different for you, but did you think starting this week that you would now be playing in a major?

MASON ANDERSEN: I thought it was possible, but once it happens, it's wow. Yeah, it's unreal.

Q. What were you thinking as that ball was sailing toward the crowd in the second playoff hole?

MASON ANDERSEN: "Please don't kill somebody," that's kind of what I was thinking. I can't, you know, lose in a playoff and have murder on my hands. Neither of those things happened, so that's great.

Q. And what did your pitch look like that you had left to the green?

MASON ANDERSEN: This rough, this dormant bermuda, you just kind of chop it. You come in with a lot of speed and you just kind of leave it there. I did a great job just opening the face, leaving the club in the ground. Popped up, rolled out. Anytime you're in this kind of grass, this dormant bermuda, it's a lot of luck but also the way that you can read lies.

