

BUPA CHAMPIONSHIP AT TULUM

ROUND 4 QUOTES

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CLAY FEAGLER



PGA TOUR
AMERICAS

FORTINET
CUP

Q. Clay, congratulations, end of a very long week for you. Just what are the emotions having won your first professional event?

CLAY FEAGLER: Obviously very tired, but at the same time very happy. It's been -- was a rough last year with everything going on and for me to come back out here to do a Monday Q and get an opportunity to play this and come out and play the way I did, it was awesome, just an awesome week.

Q. You mentioned you got in the field as a Monday qualifier and now you are the champion. Can you put into words what this week has been like to go from nothing to now you're a winner?

CLAY FEAGLER: Yeah, I came in Saturday, played nine holes Sunday and obviously played the Monday Q on Monday. Yeah, it's definitely a different dynamic now going into tournaments now that I've won, I don't have to go Monday Q anymore. Just so excited to play this week and to eventually win it has just been awesome.

Q. A very difficult golf course, a playoff. What did you overcome to come out on top and to win?

CLAY FEAGLER: I think this golf course is just a very tough golf course. You're going to get punched in the mouth sometimes and sometimes you've just got to battle back.

I felt like on Saturday it was just tough with the wind direction and it changed from the previous days. To come back out here and play and making the eagle on 14 was huge, that really jump started kind of the back nine for me. And even the birdie on 17, that was just huge.

Then the playoff was just more golf, longer day. All in all, the course is not easy, just got to -- I guess you've just got to play one hole at a time, you've just got to keep going.

Q. The eagle on 14, what was the club you had, what were you trying to do and were you trying to make eagle?

CLAY FEAGLER: Yeah, I had about 265, hit 3-wood to about 20 feet. Honestly, I felt like if I can birdie that hole and birdie 16, take advantage of the par 5s and maybe sneak one on 18, I could win. Having the eagle on 14 was a huge bonus. It was a pretty special 3-wood to get



it in there to 18 feet. It was pretty awesome.

Q. Then you birdied 17, which is not a birdie hole, and that pin today was tucked. Talk us through that hole.

CLAY FEAGLER: Yeah, 176 yards, felt like an 8-iron wasn't going to get there so I hit kind of a sawed-off 7, went behind the hole about 30 feet. Putt looked good all the way. Happy it went in because I think it was carrying a little pace on it.

Q. On the back nine the leaderboard was very bunched. Did you know where you stood? Did you have a number in mind? What was your mindset coming down the stretch?

CLAY FEAGLER: I thought -- well, when I saw the leaderboard after 15 where they had the leaderboard on 13 tee kind of right there, I saw I was -- I made bogey on 15 so I knew I was one back. Felt like if I can just get one on the last three holes I could get in a playoff, two obviously I win outright.

I wasn't looking at the leaderboard today except for that moment, just needed to know where I stand and how to play the last three holes. Kind of a bad bogey on 15, bad three-putt and knew I needed to make something special coming down the stretch.

Q. You mentioned overcoming adversity and just staying patient. The playoff, I think it was the second hole, that was overcoming adversity. Just talk us through how you were able to stay in it and force another playoff hole.

CLAY FEAGLER: Yeah, just not a very good second shot, kind of a hot pull, pulled it long on the green. Obviously had a couple options where I can take relief with the grandstand there, I could have gone further right but I didn't think it was going to buy me anything, so I kind of just took my option, chipped it up there, two-putted. I knew Davis had a bunker shot and obviously a putt to win, but golf is just a weird game, you never know. Just felt like if I can just make bogey, maybe see another hole.

Q. How well do you know Davis? Have you played against him quite a bit over the years?

CLAY FEAGLER: Yeah, our college paths crossed. He went to Alabama, I went to Pepperdine. I graduated in '21, I think he graduated around there. I think I played with him in the amateur back in the day in 2017. So I know Davis not well, but I know him obviously to say hey and hello when we're playing out here. He had a great week, great player. Just unfortunate what happened on 10.

Q. Speaking of college golf, you have a number of teammates out here including Derek Hitchner.



CLAY FEAGLER: Yeah.

Q. Just talk about what it's like to have, whether it's Davis or teammates out here kind of learning your way as a professional out here on PGA TOUR Americas together?

CLAY FEAGLER: Yeah, obviously I had three years with Derek and then I had two years with Joey out, so it's great to have some familiarity with college teammates when you're playing out here. You can stay together and obviously play some practice rounds. Just shows you how good our team was at Pepperdine when I was there from 2016 to '21. We had such a deep team from my senior year and my fifth year there. Just shows you how good we are. Derek's a phenomenal player and same with Joey, so awesome to see them out here.

Q. I think your first answer you said after everything you went through last year. Care to share with us like what you went through?

CLAY FEAGLER: Yeah, I lost my dad in March last year. So I was on the Korn Ferry Tour last year, just did not play very good golf. Out there just when you don't play well, you don't get through the first reshuffle, the second reshuffle, you kind of have to find different avenues to play.

So I went up to Canada, played well, but I think last year I wasn't really into it, golf wasn't there. Personally, I wasn't into it. Dad passed, I was trying just to like get through that, then play golf on the side. So there was a lot of stuff to juggle.

I know he's up there definitely smiling down at me. It was a great week and felt like he was out there with me today. I think everyone that's been in my corner, my mom, my sister and obviously Meredith, she's just been an anchor for me for the last year, so it's been great.

Q. I'm assuming Meredith's your girlfriend?

CLAY FEAGLER: Yes.

Q. She said that this was maybe the sixth time she caddied for you?

CLAY FEAGLER: Yeah, yeah.

Q. What does it mean to have your girlfriend, someone you're so close to on the bag and share all these experiences with?

CLAY FEAGLER: I just think, yeah, it's about the experience, like we're sharing an experience. If I didn't win this week, if I won, it was just so much fun being out there with her. It is a grind for her and for me. We're just kind of taking one step at a time, playing one hole and we're having a few laughs out there trying to keep it easy.



Q. Your future's a little bit more certain now that you've won. Has that sunk in that you now have a firm place to play for the rest of the year?

CLAY FEAGLER: Note yet. I would imagine it will probably sink in later tonight. Just what a great week. Played very well, took advantage of every opportunity I had. Sometimes it just starts with a Monday and sometimes it just, you know, teeing it up on Monday, playing well and just having the opportunity to play here, that's all I needed. I've been very close with Mondays, lost in two playoffs. I just needed something just to play and hopefully play well enough. I was looking at top-20 just to get through to next week, now winning is a totally different feeling for sure.

Q. And lastly, you will go down in history as the first winner in PGA TOUR Americas history. How cool is that to be associated with being the first in the tour history?

CLAY FEAGLER: I think the first for everything is pretty cool. Yeah, it's awesome, what a great week. It's great to be in the history books as the first winner of PGA TOUR Americas.

Q. I would like to go back to the Monday. You had a playoff to get in?

CLAY FEAGLER: Yeah.

Q. Six players for three spots.

CLAY FEAGLER: Um-hmm.

Q. So you almost didn't make it in.

CLAY FEAGLER: I can give you a little bit more background. I made birdie on 8 and 9. I also made like a 40-footer on 9 to get into the playoff. So 18, six for three.

The playoff, got in there, made birdie on 18, but two people already made birdie on 18 so I was kind of the last one in. I had a five-footer, just felt like I had a free roll at it. If obviously I missed we go to the next one, but it was great to make that one and then get through a playoff, especially two, I've lost the last two, so just wanted to be on the right side of things this time.

Q. Double playoff.

CLAY FEAGLER: I know.

Q. Talk about a stressful week.

CLAY FEAGLER: I know, so much going on. It's worth it though. It's worth it to go through all the hard work and obviously the tears and everything. It was great, a great week.



Q. And you mentioned there are some folks from Houston here. How are you going to celebrate tonight?

CLAY FEAGLER: I imagine I'll probably have a few cocktails, a few beers, whatever that is, whatever that looks like, to be honest. We are in Mexico, a margarita doesn't sound bad, maybe some salt on the rim. I think we're just going to have some dinner, keep it light and we have to get up early to catch our flight. That's pretty much it.

