

ROCKET MORTGAGE CLASSIC

PRE-TOURNAMENT PRESS CONFERENCE

June 26, 2024



MILES RUSSELL

MODERATOR: Welcome in Miles Russell for pre-tournament press conference here at the Rocket Mortgage Classic. Miles is playing on a sponsor exemption this week, also his PGA TOUR debut.

Miles, what have the last couple months been like going from Korn Ferry Tour, making the cut, the youngest player to do that there, and now coming here to make your PGA TOUR debut?

MILES RUSSELL: They've been just a complete blast. I don't know how to describe it other than just kind of a rollercoaster and it's just been a rollercoaster of just fun.

MODERATOR: How much have your plans changed over the last couple months when you probably planned on making the one start on the Korn Ferry Tour and now it's turned into a few extra ones?

MILES RUSSELL: This has always been the goal, to play at the highest level. Don't know, kind of just happened a little faster than I was thinking it might, but it's just what happens when you have some good play.

Q. Just curious, what was your reaction when you got the phone call from the Rocket that you were going to be making your PGA TOUR debut?

MILES RUSSELL: I was pretty excited. I was speechless pretty much at the time. It's always been a dream to play at the highest level and compete with the best players in the world and I get to do that this week, so really looking forward to it.

Q. And if you could just expand on how your life has changed in the last few months?

MILES RUSSELL: It's been busy. I'm lucky to have a good team around me to keep it pretty quiet in my little circle. It's just been busy.

Q. You said it's always been the goal to play at the highest level. Like, at your age, you know, that might not be that long of a time. When did this kind of start to become a realization that something -- that things were happening this quickly?

MILES RUSSELL: I think when I played well there at the Korn Ferry in Sarasota, definitely



kind of a confidence booster. Then to get this opportunity to play in something like this was really just a dream come true.

Q. And can you kind of like talk us through everything that's flying at you, right, from endorsements to being able to play in events like this, just how you're able to kind of I guess process things and then also focus on playing and practicing and things like that?

MILES RUSSELL: Like I said earlier, I have a good team and they make it real easy to -- I mean, to just get around and then all I have to do is just focus on playing good golf. That's what me and my caddie-coach try to do when we're out on the golf course, that's really my main focus.

Q. How much of the course have you seen so far and how do you think it fits your game?

MILES RUSSELL: I've seen it all. I like it. It's tight, got to play well. It's tough in some spots, but pretty simple, too. A lot of good wedges and just be very disciplined.

Q. Are you setting goals for yourself going into this event? Are you trying to keep it simple, just play golf, kind of see what happens after that or are you allowing yourself to kind of set some parameters for yourself?

MILES RUSSELL: I have my own goals, but my goal is just to come out here and have fun. That's my main goal, have fun, maybe learn something, take something to my next event.

Q. If you weren't here this weekend, what would you be doing?

MILES RUSSELL: Identify be playing the North-South Am up in Pinehurst. Would have been a pretty cool week seeing they just had the U.S. Open two weeks ago, but much rather be here.

Q. Miles, a couple questions. You mentioned your team around you. Can you give us an idea who that includes?

MILES RUSSELL: My agent, Allen Hobbs. My coach, Ramon Bescansa, also caddie. My family, and then just a couple good buddies that I play with at home, they always keep it real.

Q. And then lastly, I know you were out at Oakland Hills earlier this year, you're going to be playing the Junior Am there. I'm curious if you can give your thoughts on what kind of test that's going to present and how excited you are, looking forward to that?

MILES RUSSELL: I can't wait for that. I love the golf course. I think it's going to be a good test, it's hard, especially that South course, that rough's going to be pretty gnarly. It's going



to be a good test.

MODERATOR: Thanks, Miles.

MILES RUSSELL: Thank you.

