

PRE-TOURNAMENT PRESS CONFERENCE
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MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN



MODERATOR: We would like to welcome Michael Thorbjornsen into the interview room, making his first start at the ISCO Championship.

Michael, welcome to Lexington. If we can get some comments on being here this week.

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: Thank you. Yeah, excited. This is the fourth week in a row after turning pro. Feeling good after last week's finish. Game's in a good spot. Last time I was here in Kentucky was for the Junior PGA like I want to say six years ago, so good to be back.

Haven't quite seen the course yet, going to go and walk this afternoon. Yeah, I've seen some great things. I remember watching this tournament on TV last year, so excited for a good week.

MODERATOR: You pretty much just answered all of my questions. Let's talk about that four weeks in a row. How are you feeling? Feeling healthy? Just talk a little bit about the grind of four in a row.

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: Yeah, the past two years I've done some similar stretches on tour playing as an am. I feel like that's been good practice, good reps, good experience, kind of gear up to actual professional life. We have a few more events lined up after this as well.

Yeah, I think the biggest thing is resting when I can and just making sure that the body is in good form even if that means giving up some practice rounds or a little less practice reps out there during the week, prior to the week. Yeah, body's No. 1 priority now.

MODERATOR: Just recap last week for us. You closed with a 63, just a great atmosphere all week. Just comment about the John Deere Classic and what that week meant to you.

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: Yeah, means a lot. Played John Deere last year. I really enjoy the golf tournament, hospitality's amazing. Then being able to play with Luke on the last day, fellow college player, I guess not so much anymore, but it was really cool to see him do well. We were pushing each other for a good finish. Yeah, last week was tremendous, best finish as a pro and can only get better from here on out.

MODERATOR: How much does it mean to you after finishing No. 1 in PGA TOUR University to have full membership now on the Tour?



MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: Yeah, means a lot. A lot of other guys go through Korn Ferry or go through Q school. I'm extremely honored to have earned the PGA TOUR card for the next 18 months. I'm going to try and take full advantage of it, play as much as I can this summer and then obviously, yeah, gain more experience and kind of learn from that, see what I have to improve on and then we'll take that on to next year.

MODERATOR: Sort of the same pathway as Ludvig Aberg as well. You know Ludvig fairly well, too, don't you? Have you talked about it with him about it in terms of being a pro, what it's going to take out here?

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: Yeah, I played with Ludvig at my pro debut at the Travelers those first two rounds, so that was a lot of fun, I really enjoyed that.

We text back and forth here and there. I know he's overseas playing the Scottish and going to play the British Open. He's a role model for all us college players or coming out of college and turning pro. Yeah, we have a lot to learn from him and we're trying our best to kind of follow in his footsteps.

Q. And before questions, you mentioned a little bit about being here at Keene Trace. How does this golf course suit your game?

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: From what I can tell, it's obviously going to be some pretty low scores out there, especially looking at the last couple years. I mean, the John Deere, we took it pretty low there last week, so I'm guessing it's going to be pretty similar where you're going to be attacking at some pins. Obviously try and get the ball in play and give yourself the best possible look at birdie off the tee. I think that's the biggest thing, just setting yourself up for the next shot.

Yeah, it's going to be a putting contest out here, too. If you can make a lot of putts you're going to be up at the top of the leaderboard. We'll just see where we stack against the field each day. Yeah, just really trying to get the ball in play off the tee and kind of go from there.

Q. I believe your mom played college golf; is that right?

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: Yes.

Q. What about your dad, did he play?

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: My dad did not play, no, he did not. He's a big fan of the game, he loves it. He's a golf nerd, he's always looking at swings. He's my swing coach, so I've worked with him for at least 15 years. He has a lot of knowledge on the game. Yeah, definitely go to him for a lot.

Q. So if he's your swing coach, what sort of input does your mom have? Does she give you any advice?



MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: Yeah, my mom gives me some advice here and there. My dad was actually her swing coach when she was playing a little bit, too. Whatever my mom has to say it kind of comes from dad, too, back in the day. My mom's been a big supporter, so she's always texting me after each round and after each tournament encouraging me.

Q. Not sure if it's been shared already, but what sort of goals do you have before the end of this year to achieve?

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: Honestly, just play as many tournaments as I possibly can. I want the body to hold up throughout these next few weeks as well. That will be a big confidence boost going into next season knowing that my body can take the toll of being a professional golfer, whether it's traveling, playing all these golf rounds.

As for something tangible, obviously we're going to try and make the Playoffs. Last week definitely kept us in form for that goal. We have three, four more events left, so a couple good more finishes and who knows, we'll see.

MODERATOR: Michael, thank you, sir. We appreciate your time.

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: Thank you guys.

