

ROUND 1 QUOTES
July 11, 2024

RICO HOEY (-8)



Q. Rico, 8-under par 64, excellent round. If we can get some comments, please.

RICO HOEY: Yeah, it was a great day. Yeah, I knew the scores were going to be low today so I wanted to go out and start firing and that's what I did so I'm happy to do that.

Q. What were the conditions like? We were expecting a lot of heat, but yesterday and now today, not too bad.

RICO HOEY: The weather was really nice. The wind wasn't too crazy, it was swirling a little bit but it was pretty calm out there. Greens were soft enough to where you can go attack and yeah, conditions were really good. So it was one of those days where you had to take advantage and that's what I did.

Q. Yeah, you did that. You started your round on No. 10, you had five birdies there in a seven-hole stretch. Sort of take us through that stretch if you can.

RICO HOEY: Yeah, so trying to remember where my first birdie was. Yeah, I think it was on 12, I hit it to a foot there. That just kind of started my round where I hit it a foot, made birdie.

Then next hole made a 12-footer, so I was just hitting great iron shots, I was giving myself chances on the par 5s and executed those birdies there.

Yeah, rolled over to the front and just kind of kept it steady. Had some good looks, but I mean, kind of get hot sometimes and there's times where you just kind of mellow out and that's what I did. Found a way to get back into it and made an eagle on 8, so nice to cap off there.

Q. Yeah, take us through that hole if you can.

RICO HOEY: Yeah. So I hit a drive in the middle of the fairway. Was trying to hit it to the middle of the green but I pulled it, but it was a good pull at the pin and hit it to 10 feet and made the eagle.

Q. You must have carried a bit of confidence coming in here this week. The last couple of weeks you had a couple of good finishes, haven't shot over par, had some good low rounds. What has that done for you and what did you kind of find the last few weeks?

RICO HOEY: I've just really been working hard, been grinding out the last year. It hasn't



really shown, but I just kept sticking to the game plan of like my routine and I think things are starting to click a little bit. I'm not saying I figured it out, but it was just nice to, you know, last week got to play with Jordan Spieth, he's kind of a guy that I've looked up to, so watching him and being in that kind of surrounding, I really want to be in it more. So just keep doing what I need to do and hopefully I can be like him or see where it takes me this week.

Q. Last one, your bio says you have aspirations of writing a book someday. Is that a real plan? What subject would you come up with if you did that?

RICO HOEY: I was a history major, so I've read a lot in college and yeah, I mean, I haven't written anything yet. I would love to. I've been procrastinating I would say. It would probably just be my life story of all of the ups and downs of golf. Everyone has their own story to tell and it's always fascinating for me to hear other players going through the good and the bad. I think my story's a little different and hopefully people will read it one day.

Q. Have you kind of been keeping a diary of the interesting things that happened in your career so far so when you do get --

RICO HOEY: Yeah, I would say so. There's a lot of core memories, for sure. Luckily I have my coach and girlfriend and everyone to remind me of the other times, too. Yeah, we'll see where it takes me.

