

## SIMMONS BANK OPEN for the SNEDEKER FOUNDATION

**ROUND 1 QUOTES**  
**September 12, 2024**



**DANIEL SUMMERHAYS (-6)**

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**Q. Daniel, 6-under 64, great start to the week. What was clicking for you today?**

**DANIEL SUMMERHAYS:** First off, got I think pretty lucky with the weather to get as much golf in as we did. It still was pretty dicey out there for us in the afternoon wave with wind and rain. I drove the ball really nice, was in the fairway most all day long and then I putted great. So you put those two skill sets in one round and you end up shooting a really low number, so it was really nice.

**Q. What was it like in terms of the Tuesday, Wednesday preparation? Was there anything that you honed in or tweaked or felt good about?**

**DANIEL SUMMERHAYS:** Yeah, I had a really good long putt practice yesterday, which was nice. I got here three hours early before the pro-am and putted for almost two hours straight. So it was really fun to be able to get that going, figure out a couple little things with my shoulder alignment that has helped me there.

Then the driver, two weeks ago in Boise I wasn't quite launching it how I wanted to and we made a couple tweaks on the loft with the head and the driver's been awesome. Yeah, been able to work on a couple things and it paid off today.

**Q. How did you spend the two off weeks?**

**DANIEL SUMMERHAYS:** So it was a very full couple weeks. It wasn't very relaxing. Well, physically it wasn't relaxing, mentally and emotionally it was amazing. Had a lot of high school golf, junior golf and amateur golf following my kids around. My son Jack and his buddy made it to the finals of our UGA four-ball championship against all the old guys, so I was out watching that, spectating.

My wife and I went to Paris for four days, so there was a nonstop Salt Lake to Paris. We went and did as much as you could in three and a half days in Paris. So it was just an amazing thing to go with her, get some good alone time.

Yeah, feel refreshed mentally, emotionally and not so much physically quite yet, but it's almost there.

**Q. Paris was last week?**



**DANIEL SUMMERHAYS:** Yeah.

**Q. You went from there to Nashville?**

**DANIEL SUMMERHAYS:** Well, no. So we went like Labor Day weekend. We left on a Friday and came back Tuesday after Labor Day.

**Q. Had you been before?**

**DANIEL SUMMERHAYS:** You know, it was kind of funny because my wife's 40th birthday was this year and I wanted to do something special for her. It just worked out perfect, honestly.

I'm not very good at -- when I've done something, like a gift that I've been proud of, I don't have a very good track record, I just want to give it as soon as it happens. So we're watching the Olympics. She's so hyped about it, she watched all the opening ceremonies. "We've got to someday," and I had already bought the tickets like six weeks earlier. "We should go." I'm like, "When are we ever going to fit that in, to go to Paris?"

So I was kind of able to keep it a secret. We went, we had an amazing time. Took a deep dive into the European history. We loved all the architecture, the history. Grateful for our country, too, and where I live now. So it was a great couple weeks off.

**Q. Just to wrap it up, these three weeks, it's a chance to get back to the PGA TOUR and you've been through a couple different arcs the last few years. What keeps you motivated to kind of keep chasing that dream of getting back to the PGA TOUR?**

**DANIEL SUMMERHAYS:** I'd say my biggest motivation is honestly kind of self achievement, being able to test myself and push myself. There's really nothing that -- like you said, I've had a couple different arcs in my career, a couple different paths, but nothing I found makes me more curious about myself, how I click physically, how I click mentally, how I work emotionally than professional golf. That's kind of been the driving factor.

I feel like earlier in my career I did a lot of good things obviously. I wouldn't have played the big tour for eight seasons straight. But there were times when I didn't piece everything -- I learned different lessons throughout those 12 years, a few Korn Ferry and then PGA TOUR seasons. Now I feel like I'm putting all those lessons and truths that I've learned and putting them together, which is part of the reason that I came back as well, to see if I can do it the right way, how I feel like is the right way. Playing with a lot of joy, playing with a lot of gratitude, not beating myself up so much. So those are kind of the driving factors why I'm still going after it.

