

ROUND 2 QUICK QUOTES
November 8, 2024

NICO ECHAVARRIA (-12)



Q. Nico, terrific afternoon. You got on fire early, had a great round. This is your lowest round on Tour?

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Nice. That's good to know.

Q. We would love to have your thoughts on such a great day.

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Yeah, it was a very, very good round. Obviously everyone knew that the scores were going to be lower. Different wind, we've never played this wind, so I thought it was cool that no one has practiced this wind. We play a lot of holes into the wind or downwind that we didn't play even last year, so it was interesting. You never think like people will make eagle on 6 and we had two in our group. Straight downwind par 5. We were hitting three shots into it yesterday and the last year, so different wind. We played well. The putter was hot, I drove it beautifully. This is probably the best I've felt with the driver in a long time. Got to take the positives and make a good weekend out of it.

Q. In a seven-hole stretch you shot 7 under, holing from the bunker on No. 6. Take us through that stretch.

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Well, it's such a momentum game that if I don't make par on 3, I had like, I don't know, a 10-footer for par on 3 that I made. I kind of got things rolling, made birdie on 4, made birdie on 5, eagled 6. I think the par on 3 was even more important. Then I hit some close, I made some long putts, I made one out of the bunker. Luck's in your favor, but you've got to use that momentum.

Q. And great birdie to finish here on 18 making the up-and-down from the bunker. Tell me about that.

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Yeah, we didn't know where the ball ended. We knew it was a little left, we thought it was going to be in the bunker, but we just didn't know. It was so much worse to miss it left of the bunker or short of the bunker on the left than actually in the bunker. I hit an OK bunker shot and made a good putt. So good to finish that way and happy, dinner's going to taste even better.

Q. Golf is a funny game, it's about taking advantage of momentum, you have momentum coming off a victory and the way you've been playing you're riding that wave.

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Yeah. I didn't know how I was going to feel on Thursday when I teed



off. After my win in Puerto Rico I said I felt awful the next few weeks or even months. This time I guess you're older, you know what to expect and really it's going very well.

Q. What do you think you found in your driver?

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Just something we've been working on for a while. I tend to hit off my right foot, it's hard for me to get the weight into the left side. I just committed to a certain movement trying to almost hit it like a J.T. movement hitting it up on the heels, which is something that I'm never going to do but it's something that I want to feel. I was hitting in the middle of the face and it was going a long way.

Q. You had a hole-out today?

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Yeah, I made it on 6 from the bunker from 30 yards, 25 yards.

Q. (No microphone.

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Claudia obviously played golf in college, she's a good golfer, she knows what she's doing out there. It means a lot to have a partner every week, every day on Tour. Sometimes it gets lonely out here and having that support and having her there is super important for me, so I'm very thankful.

Q. Do you feel like you're a local? Obviously --

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Mexico.

Q. Do you feel like you have local support? There isn't a tournament in Colombia, this is the closest thing.

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Yeah, I would say so. In general the Latinos you would call it are friendly people and having the language in common and the culture makes you feel like home. So yes, I would say this is almost home for me.

Q. Would it feel more meaningful to win here?

NICO ECHAVARRIA: Yeah, yeah, you would say so. It would be very meaningful to win here. I mean, it would be meaningful to win everywhere, but yeah, Mexico is a beautiful country. Like I said yesterday, I'm very happy to be playing here. I wish one day I would play golf, a tournament on the PGA TOUR in my home country, but it's hard for that to happen, but we'll see.

