

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES

November 21, 2024

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN (-8)



Q. Michael, can you take me through the knee injury a little bit? You had a good top-10 finish at Sanderson, you had a pretty good first round at Black Desert and then you WD in the second round. What was the injury and did you need rehab or surgery or how did you fix it?

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: I did not need surgery, which was great. So before my tee time on Friday, I was just kind of going about my normal routine. I was in the gym, I was on the table before getting out to practice and warm up for my round.

Just before I started to hit balls, I was doing a stretch that I've done ever since I started playing golf, kind of trying to stretch out my hips a little bit. Like heard a really weird loud pop, felt a pop in my knee. Didn't really bother me too much hitting balls. Kind of just felt a little unstable, mostly just felt weird.

I thought OK, maybe if I walk a little bit I'll feel better, it'll get better, but kind of on that first hole I noticed OK, it's kind of a problem to walk. Then, I mean, I was thinking OK, it will get maybe a little bit better if we get some blood flowing there, keep walking. And through the first five six holes, that's when it kind of got worse.

We thought to ourselves what's the point in kind of pushing it. We have the whole back nine to go and then we have two more rounds to go after this. Who knows if I would be able to make it on Saturday or Sunday.

We got an MRI a couple days later and I sprained my ACL and LCL. So really glad that nothing was torn. I thought I might have torn my meniscus or something like that. Yeah, we've just been doing rehab and PT for the past three, four weeks now.

Q. And wearing a pretty big brace?

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: Yeah, I was wearing a brace. It's actually kind of funny, I was practicing with Ludvig a little bit back in Sawgrass and we both had like matching left knee braces. It was a little embarrassing, it was kind of funny. Yeah, I think this is my third day playing golf without the brace on so it feels good.

Q. Are you surprised at all to go out there and throw out an 8 under round?

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: Not really. I mean, I feel like I've been putting in some really good work these past couple days, or these past couple weeks, making some new swing changes. I don't know, I really like the course out there. I've been working really hard on my

putting, too, with my putting coach. We've been seeing some good results and I'm a lot more confident over the ball and it kind of shows today, definitely made some putts.

Q. Did you guys compare knee braces, you and Ludvig?

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: A little bit. His was a little better than mine, so I had to go and get a better one.

Q. What makes a good knee brace, like fancier?

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: Yeah, like the fabric I guess, if there's a little bit of metal in there for more stability, how tight it is. I don't want to call myself an expert, but I've had two or three different knee braces I've been kind of dealing with. The first one I just got at Target and the second one I ordered online.

Q. So you had knee brace FOMO?

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: No, my knee might miss it here and there after a long day, but it will get used to it and it will get over it.

Q. Do you have to go ice it or anything?

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: Just some table work. Got to definitely get off my feet, be horizontal for a little bit. Yeah, kind of sleep and rest is the best thing for it.