

93 ABIERTO TELECOM DEL CENTRO
presentado por Zurich

ROUND 4 QUOTES
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RYAN GRIDER (-16)



Q. What a turn of events, what a day. Can you put it into words?

RYAN GRIDER: Not yet. I think that I was around the lead all week and playing well, hanging in there and I just finished strong on a tough day. Made two birdies in the last three holes and somehow found a way to get it done.

Q. At the start of the day you were in the last group with Butler, who was leading by 5. What were your thoughts heading into today with him playing so well and having a big lead?

RYAN GRIDER: Yeah, I knew that I had to play well, but I also needed help. I had to go out there and make birdies. As soon as we stepped on about hole 3 we figured birdies aren't out there in the wind, so it was more just holding on, making pars and finding your opportunities when you had them. Unfortunately he had a tough day and I was able to grind it out in the wind.

Q. You make a bogey on 15. Did you know at that time what was your situation?

RYAN GRIDER: I was looking on hole 13, the scoreboard there, and I saw there was a big pack at 15 under. I knew that I needed to at least get to 16. And on 15 it was a good bogey, I was stuck behind a tree, had to go out sideways, so I had 6-iron in for my third shot and had to get up and down. So I was actually happy with the bogey there, but I knew I had to make some birdies coming in.

Q. Tell me about the birdie on 16 and the birdie on 18, was a clutch putt to force a playoff.

RYAN GRIDER: The one on 16, it was downwind today down off the left and I hit a great drive, had 8-iron in and I thought I hit a good shot. I did hit a good shot, we just misjudged the wind a little bit, came up short, but it was an easy up-and-down.

But then on 18 I didn't hit driver all week and my caddie looks at me and he said, "Driver." I was like, "All right, I'm going to hit driver, I'm going to swing hard, though." We got it up right next to the green and it was still a tough up-and-down. I had so much green to work with that it actually made it a little tough. Kind of hit it about 10 feet by. I knew I had to make it.



I've been using a ball marker that says "trust" on it all day. I took an extra second to look down at it and just trust myself. Whatever happens, like trust this is the line, and it was.

Q. Playoff, hole 18 with Joey, take us through the playoff.

RYAN GRIDER: Yeah, he went first. He hit a great drive and I knew that I had to hit another good one. I pulled it a little bit. I didn't know if it was going to be OK. We get up there and there were two options I could go with and they were kind of dependent on his shot. He didn't hit a great one. I was more so going to take a little less aggressive approach and kind of bump it through the fringe because I was thinking about going high with it and trying to get it to stop.

Yeah, the correct decision going low. From there I just needed to two-putt from five feet. It just went in.

Q. What does this mean?

RYAN GRIDER: So much, because I feel like I've been working really hard and my game has improved a lot. I've never really been able to get it done. I'll be around after two or three days and I've never really been able to get it done.

Last week I was in contention in a mini tour event after three days and I shot 80 the last day. So I wanted to make an emphasis on I want to stay in it all four days and finish strong. Like all the people that were close to me knew that and just to be able to do that and prove to myself was very cool.

Q. When you missed out on second stage of Q-School, you were probably sad, disappointed, but I don't know if at the time you knew that that will get you into PGA TOUR Americas. So you got in through the Next 10, so that criteria ended up being something huge?

RYAN GRIDER: It was amazing. I shot like 7, 8 under the last day in second stage. I had no idea that was to get me an America's card. I'm a competitor even if -- I want to get as close as I can to making it. It seems more painful coming up that close. I just wanted to play my best. Yeah, I didn't know this was out there. That's amazing, yeah.

Q. Now you're leading the Fortinet Cup after tournament one. Our fellow guy from Baylor, Johnny Kieffer, was Player of the Year, he walked away with a big trophy last year, so shout out to the Baylor guys.

RYAN GRIDER: Shout out Johnny, shout out all the team, shout out Coach McGraw. Johnny's younger than me, so I'm like the old guy. Just try to keep up with him, he's so good. He's going to have a long career on -- he's on Korn Ferry, but he's going to be on the PGA TOUR, he's going to have a great career. Yeah, I'm just trying to keep up with him.



Q. You played a couple of seasons with him. What's your relationship with him like?

RYAN GRIDER: I love Johnny, he's so funny. We always have a good time together, always laughing, especially around the team and the guys. He's the most chill guy that you'll ever meet. For him to be like that but also amazing at golf, it's really cool.

Q. You mentioned you've never really been able to get the job done before. Now that you have got the job done, what does this do for your confidence and self belief going forward?

RYAN GRIDER: Yeah, I think that next time I'm in a spot like this I can look back at today and be like I was able to get it done. Like even though I'm not always the most confident in myself, I still found away to get it done. I think every time I'm around the lead, I'll be thinking of today.

Q. You talked about family in the closing ceremonies. Who were you thinking about today, how much did they help you along the path and what's it like to share the news with them that you're a champion in Argentina?

RYAN GRIDER: Yeah, they mean the world to me. I love my family and my girlfriend. They support me so much. They've seen the lows of the low and they've seen a couple highs, and nothing as high as this yet. Just the phone call with my mom and then my girlfriend after, that meant the world to me because they're the ones that -- honestly, they're the ones that made me -- not made me, but they wanted me to keep playing after I missed second stage last year when I was kind of debating what to do. They said just keep trying, you're right there.

But yeah, my family's everything to me.

Q. How forward are you looking to Rio?

RYAN GRIDER: I'm so excited. I've got a 2:15 flight tonight. I don't know. I'm looking forward to it. It's going to be hot, try to play good golf.

Q. So if I ask you how do you like Latin America so far?

RYAN GRIDER: Yeah, like outside of golf?

Q. Yeah.

RYAN GRIDER: Yeah, the people are so friendly, the food's amazing. Everywhere you go, people are making sure that you're doing OK. Even though there's a language barrier, they still always are trying to help. That means a lot, especially here in a foreign country, you aren't necessarily sure all the right ways to navigate things. Everyone here has been amazing.



Q. I see you had an Argentine caddie. What was the communication like? Did you learn any Spanish? Do you speak any Spanish?

RYAN GRIDER: I know like "si" and "no bueno." That's "no good" for when I hit a bad shot. That's really about it. He knew a little bit of English, but he said on hole 6, he said, "This is the most English I've spoken my whole life." I taught him a couple words, like "range finder" and all that stuff. We had an amazing time, he was awesome, so supportive. Every time I made a bogey, he would say, "Smile, smile, we're having fun." I told him our two goals this week are to trust ourselves and have fun. We did really good at that.

