

**UNC HEALTH CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Presented by STITCH

**ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES**  
May 29, 2025



**SAMUEL ANDERSON (-7)**

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**Q. Great round, 7 under today. Just walk me through some of the highlights, especially the couple eagles there on the front.**

**SAMUEL ANDERSON:** Yeah, got off to a pretty good start. Obviously holing out for eagle on 4 was a nice way to get the round going. Then hit a good 3-wood in there on the par-5 8th to, I don't know, maybe a foot and a half, two feet.

Then was just kind of holding on for dear life on the back, got off to not a great start on the back nine. Hit in the rough and caught some jumpers out of the rough, led to some bogeys, but nice to make a couple birdies coming in.

**Q. What would you say was working sort of the best out there for you today?**

**SAMUEL ANDERSON:** I hit it really nicely, I gave myself a lot of opportunities. On these green complexes, Donald Ross features that they have and softer conditions, you have to be really accurate with your distance control, line and managing that spin into these greens. So I hit it nicely, made some putts, got the putter going a little bit too. So yeah, all parts of the game were pretty good.

**Q. We're in sort of that back-to-back Donald Ross stretch. What do you like about playing these kind of courses?**

**SAMUEL ANDERSON:** It's funny, I actually got into a club at home in Jacksonville called Timuquana a couple months ago and that's a Donald Ross golf course, so I've been playing out there a bunch and just, you know, looking at the different contours and way to play shots around the greens.

It's funny, I think when you look at a Donald Ross golf course, you look at short sided as being probably a bad place to be but with a lot of the complexes, if you are short sided, oftentimes you could have an uphill chip shot or pitch or a putt. So being aggressive to some flags that look to be in a really tough spot from the fairway, it's not always a bad thing to really go at it and be short sided in spots.

**Q. Where did you grow up playing in Wisconsin?**

**SAMUEL ANDERSON:** I grew up at a small club called Stoughton County Club, 25 minutes

outside of Madison.

**Q. What was it like playing at that course, like any particular features that you think sort of built your game?**

**SAMUEL ANDERSON:** Yeah, the golf course was built in 1923 so it's got a lot of old architecture features out there. It's short and tight with small slopey greens. I like playing fast, slopey greens, it's kind of what I've grown up on.

And it's nice being on bentgrass again. I grew up in Wisconsin, we have all bentgrass so I seem to like that and can get the putter going on bentgrass a little more so than I can on bermuda at times.

**Q. Did you have opportunities to sort of play your college golf outside the state and you just always wanted to go to Wisconsin?**

**SAMUEL ANDERSON:** Yeah, I mean, growing up, my family had season tickets to a couple different sports, basketball was the main one that we went to, so I grew up a Wisconsin Badger fan. As anyone who grows up in the Midwest, you aspire to get south to warmer conditions so you can play year long, but when it came down to decision time, Wisconsin was the best spot for me both academically and for my golf career. Yeah, it was a great experience.

**Q. I mean, what do you remember the most about your time at Wisconsin?**

**SAMUEL ANDERSON:** Oh, boy, there's a lot of good stuff. It was great, we played a good schedule in the spring because we needed to get down to the south so it was great competing against SEC schools. That was always great.

And our facilities we have there are awesome. I was practicing out at UNC's facility last week after I missed the cut in Knoxville. I was like, man, this place is incredible, and Wisconsin's got facilities that are just about as good as there. Obviously we need the indoor facility to be great, but our outdoor facilities were awesome as well.

It really helps you learn your golf game and mature as a golfer, but then at the University of Wisconsin it was great, it's a fun school, and it was tough academically so it really helped you grow up as an individual as well.

**Q. As far as like your progression in your professional career, where would you assess in terms of like how that's gone for you since turning pro?**

**SAMUEL ANDERSON:** Yeah, I mean, being from Wisconsin, you can only play golf for a few months, five months of the year, six months of the year so I grew up playing every sport you can imagine.

So I think it was -- my outlook on things was always let's just see how good I can get, and if I can take that to the next level, then I'm going to go to the next level and I'm going to see how good I can get there.

So I've always had a bit of the mindset of being a late bloomer and just seeing how good I can get and not really wanting to compare myself to other people who either grew up in Wisconsin or even buddies that I have now living in Ponte Vedre.

So my progression, yeah, it's been a steady, a steady progression, I think pretty typical of a lot of players. I mean, playing on the PGA TOUR Latin America and then the Americas Tour after those two combined, and then getting out here. So it's just kind of following the hierarchy and the chain that the PGA TOUR's put in place for us, which has been awesome, and hopefully the next stop's the PGA TOUR.

**Q. Who's your usual group when you guys are in Ponte Vedre and have an off week?**

**SAMUEL ANDERSON:** Yeah, I play a lot with Tyson Alexander. He was kind of -- I got to know Tyson when I was still in college. I think that was about the time he had those couple of seasons where he had some wins out here and he was on the PGA TOUR. I've known him for probably the longest. He's been a great older brother figure to me being in Ponte Vedre.

He's always welcoming me into the games with Hank Lebioda and Julian Suri, Tyler Duncan I see out there a lot, Joe Weiler. You could go on and on and on and name all the guys, but Tyson's been probably the guy that's really kind of taken me under his wing more so than anybody else.