

## NV5 INVITATIONAL

### ROUND 4 QUICK QUOTES

July 27, 2025

#### JOHNNY KEEFER ( -26)

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**Q. Johnny, entered the day with a four-stroke lead, taking on your second Korn Ferry Tour event, just how's it feel and how were the nerves out there once the field kind of caught up to you a little bit?**

**JOHNNY KEEFER:** Yeah, no, obviously the nerves were there. The game wasn't quite as sharp as it was yesterday but that was kind of to be expected. I knew it was going to be a tough battle and I'm really glad that I pulled out and, you know, finished strong.

**Q. What's it say about your game when you know you might not have your best stuff that you're still able to grind out a solid round and in this case pull out the win?**

**JOHNNY KEEFER:** Yeah, no, for sure. I think it's a big confidence booster, for sure. There were a few putts out there, a few chips, a few drives that kind of got away from me. I just kind of settled myself down and told myself, look, I'm good enough, I'm here in this position for a reason. Yeah, I just continued to believe in myself.

And I'm glad I had my caddie there, too, to kind of vent to and for him to kind of talk to me as well and get me back to the finish line.

**Q. This is an event that highlights caddies. What does Joe mean to you on the bag?**

**JOHNNY KEEFER:** Yeah, Joe means a lot. We started our relationship in December at Q-School and since then it's been pretty smooth sailing. We've had our differences on clubs and all different stuff, but at the end of the day we both know that we're trying to work for the same goal and glad to see that goal come to fruition today.

**Q. Earlier in your round when you had those back-to-back bogeys, were you peeking at the scoreboard to see if anyone was moving up to you or do you just kind of do your own thing out there?**

**JOHNNY KEEFER:** Yeah, no, I was mostly doing my own thing out there. Obviously I knew kind of for the most part where people were. I knew that regardless of whether I was going to make birdies or not, people were probably going to try and catch up and probably would catch up. So yeah, you know, I put my head down and just kept swinging. I'm really glad to be in this position.

**Q. How do you describe yourself as a competitor? Seeing you around, you're always**

**smiling and happy. Do you feel like there's more to you than just with that on the outside, maybe more of a stronger instinct than that than what we all see?**

**JOHNNY KEEFER:** Yeah, no, I mean, I like to brighten everyone's day but at the same time I like to beat 'em down, too. On the inside I'm really, really competitive. You can ask my fiancée, I hate to lose in anything, even, you know, to anyone. Anytime I'm out here competing I'm always going to try and beat whoever I'm playing with and whoever's on the other side of the course. I always try and do my best and I think at the end of the day what else can you do than just kind of smile and compete.

**Q. You move up to No. 1 on the points list now, second win. Are you starting to look now at that three-victory promotion? Is that in sight or what's kind of the thought now?**

**JOHNNY KEEFER:** Yeah, no, obviously it's definitely in sight and it's become a lot more possible now that I'm two-thirds of the way done. But at the end of the day still looking for that No. 1 spot at the end of the year, still have a few events left and hopefully finish strong.

**Q. You mentioned your fiancée out here. What does it mean to have her out for these moments when you get wins like this?**

**JOHNNY KEEFER:** Yeah, it's been great because she came out to Veritex and then she came out for this one. So it's been great having her here and great seeing the success and having her here for that. She was there for the low last week when I missed the cut. Highs and lows, she's supported me nonstop and has always supported me. Yeah, it means the world.

**Q. And along those lines, your family and your team, what's your support system like and just what do they mean to you?**

**JOHNNY KEEFER:** Yeah, I haven't called my family yet but I'm about to real quick. I'm sure my dad is waiting for that call and same with my mom. Yeah, I've got a lot of people to call and a lot of people to thank again to just help me get to where I am between coaches in college and swing coach, obviously my family who's always supported me, highs and lows. It's always nice to have a great support system and great team behind me.

**Q. Pretty much since you've turned pro you've really had just almost straight success for the most part, at least on the outside. Where do you feel like you've maybe grown the most this year on the Korn Ferry Tour, your game or personally?**

**JOHNNY KEEFER:** Yeah, no, I think obviously a lot's happened since I turned professional. I got engaged, I've played in majors when I honestly didn't expect to play in majors that quickly, I've won. A lot has changed. I think the biggest part about me that I've learned is that I stay pretty much the same for the most part. You know, Hitomi keeps me grounded, my family keeps me grounded. We love riding the highs, but I always know that they're going to

be there for the lows.