

**East Lake Cup Men – Match Play**  
**October 28, 2025**

**BEN JAMES**  
**Virginia**



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**Q. Just got the winning point for Virginia. Walk me through your match. Seemed like it was kind of two sided a little bit?**

**BEN JAMES:** Yeah. Started off both playing good golf. The wind was up so it was tough. I think I made nine pars on the front, maybe a birdie in there but nothing crazy. I just told myself I need to make some more birdies, he's playing pretty good and pars are not gonna get it done. So was lucky to do that and made some putts down the stretch and closed it out on 15.

**Q. Walk me through the shift in mindset going from stroke play yesterday to match play today.**

**BEN JAMES:** That's a good question. I didn't really change much. We're always just trying to make birdies and shoot as low as we can. At the end of the day we still have to put the ball in the hole, so making a birdie, hard to beat that.

**Q. You're one of the senior leaders on this team, you guys are very tight knit. What is it about this Virginia squad that's so special?**

**BEN JAMES:** Yeah, I mean, we've played a lot with each other. We grew up playing junior golf together, I live with four of the guys, we see each other a lot. We have great chemistry, everyone believes in each other, we've got two great coaches that we believe in and they believe in us. It's a pretty good thing we've got going for us.

**Q. What's the message to the team as one of the senior leaders going into the championship match tomorrow? East Lake Cup is just a privilege to be here, but it's also something that's really important to you guys to keep this win streak going that you have.**

**BEN JAMES:** Totally, yeah. I mean, yeah, it's special to be here. We earned our spot here from our great play last year. I'm just going to tell 'em to have fun and make a ton of birdies because that's all we need to do.

We have to enjoy this week. I'm not ever coming back, so I'm going to just make sure I have as much fun as possible and I know the other guys will, too. So we're going to have a lot of fun and make a ton of birdies.

