

ROUND 3 QUICK QUOTES
January 31, 2026



JOEL DAHMEN (-15)

Q. Are you pleased with how you played the game of golf today and do you like your chances tomorrow?

JOEL DAHMEN: That's so good, Doug.

I am very pleased with how I played today. You know, there's maybe a few opportunities earlier in the round, you've got to get after that front nine if you want to make some birdies. But the back nine I played really well. My only bogey, I hit it in a divot there, which is just kind of a bad break. But to birdie 16 was an incredible golf shot for me and then a nice wedge on 18.

So I can't really play a whole lot better and Justin's really good at golf right now.

Q. What did you hit on 16, what was the iron?

JOEL DAHMEN: It was a 5-iron. Kind of rode the wind in there and came off perfect.

Q. What did you see in his game in terms of management, selection, confidence? What did you see?

JOEL DAHMEN: A lot of confidence. He stood on the tee with a driver and wailed on it and it was going really straight. It was impressive.

And you would think with that big of a lead on this type of golf course it's hard to make up a ton of ground. I mean, I think 68's a really good score on the South Course.

He hit at some pins that I was very impressed at, but then they went to four feet and he tapped it in for birdie. So I was like, well, you know you're playing really well when you're doing that. And it was kind of one after another.

You know, 11 and 12 were difficult holes, he made some bogeys to maybe give us a glimpse and then he came right back.

Q. So you were the one just the other day about how few 40-year-olds there are on Tour, he's 45. How impressive is that given how hard it is to keep up?

JOEL DAHMEN: Yeah, it's really impressive. He's -- to still have the drive with the career that he's had is very impressive. I know he's got -- he puts a lot of work into his body. His ability to still grind and practice and spend the time on it when he's got everything you could

want is really impressive honestly. It's almost inspiring for me, I'm seven years younger than him, I'm getting outdrove than 30 yards. I've got to get in a little better shape to hang out with Justin.

Q. The shot on 7 that he hit, is that one of the ones you're referring to?

JOEL DAHMEN: Yeah. It's not a pin you aim at. It's a back right pin, there's no room to miss it. He's in the first cut. The wind's starting to puff up that canyon there so it always plays longer. So he's got to hit it high over the tree out of the first cut, so it could fly, come out dead, and he hits this thing to the moon, it comes down to four feet.

You don't hit that shot in a practice round let alone when you have a six- or seven-shot lead on Saturday and you're hanging out. At that point, that was just kind of like, OK, you win.

Q. What is your objective tomorrow? I can't imagine you don't have any hope.

JOEL DAHMEN: My only hope is if he doesn't set his alarm or he somehow starts hitting in the rough on the back nine maybe. I don't know. The way he's playing and what he's doing, I would be pleased with second place.

Q. But as it relates to you?

JOEL DAHMEN: I can't like defense on him. Yeah, like I can't really play better than 68 honestly, there's just not many birdies on the back nine for me.

Maybe I get hot early and maybe eagle 6 or something and maybe there's a little pressure on him. But you've got to get the lead down to maybe three at the turn because you're not going to make up too much ground on the back nine.

Q. As happy as you are shooting 68, is it a bit frustrating when you look and you didn't even gain a shot on him today?

JOEL DAHMEN: Yeah, I don't know if frustrating's the right word. It just shows how well he's playing. I've don't -- I mean, I gotta have one of the better rounds today I would assume. I don't know exactly what it is out there, but there can't be too many lower than what I shot today.

If he's going to shoot the round of the day every day, then hats off to him.

Q. I heard you say over there that you're playing great but you're not surprised, but I didn't catch the followup. Why are you not surprised with how well you're playing at this point?

JOEL DAHMEN: Well, because I practiced a little bit. It sounds terrible. Yeah, January 1 hit and I started to play some golf and work a little bit with the coach and put some time in on

my own and that was great.

I played really well last week. It clicked pretty quickly for me and, you know, when I make a few putts and the way I'm driving it right now, it all works out.

Q. I felt like, walking around with you early, that the fans were really behind you. Did you feel that?

JOEL DAHMEN: Yeah, totally. I noticed it, for sure. It's cool. Like I don't get to play in the final group as much as some other guys, and so I try to look around and I try to enjoy it a little bit. It's really cool that people like watching me play golf or are out supporting me. That's never going to get old.

Q. Sort of a deep question, but you told Jim Nantz "it's just golf." Where does that perspective come from? Is it family, is it that you've already had a successful career, or where does that perspective come from?

JOEL DAHMEN: Well, out on the golf course it is just golf. Like you can't do anything else. You can't do anything more, right? You can only hit the 7-iron as good as you can hit it. You can only go through your process as good as you can.

I mean, you try to keep it just golf. I mean, it's my career, it's my livelihood, it's how I take care of my family and it's been amazing to me, but you have to dumb it down a little bit when you're out there and try to just remember it is just golf. Then Sunday night you can add up all the cool things and all the neat things that happened after that.