

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES
February 19, 2026



PIERCESON COODY (-3)

Q. Pierceson, it's your first round at Riviera. How would you kind of characterize it and how do you feel like you played?

PIERCESON COODY: It kind of felt like two different days, to state the obvious. Super heavy rain this morning, really cold, kind of cold to the bone kind of day.

But got off to a nice start, kind of managed through some of the tougher stretches of the golf course. Different wind this morning. Felt like I played a bunch of holes into the wind. Came out this afternoon and felt like I teed off into the wind again. Everyone's going to have kind of their two cents on how the course is playing just kind of depending on what side of the tee time wave you were.

But the course is still gettable. The ball's stopping wherever you land it. There's birdies to be had and felt like I did a good job managing the tough holes, and made a few birdies out there.

Q. You birdied all three par-5s. Do you feel like you did a really good job executing the game plan that you had?

PIERCESON COODY: Yeah. I definitely wasn't as clean as I would have liked to be off the tee. I hit it to the fairway on 1 and the other two par 5s I missed the fairway.

But yeah, scrambled really nice. I got up and down from about 60 yards on 11 and then 17 had to lay up and got up and down from about 90 yards or so. As far as my strong suits I would like to be in the fairway and be able to hit those greens with some type of long iron or wood, but yeah, really nice that I managed making a birdie the traditional way.

Q. What's the toughest part of the conditions, on how soft the greens are?

PIERCESON COODY: Yeah, it's just different. You're just expecting things to do a certain thing. I left a pretty easy chip on 18 10 feet short. I didn't think I did much wrong, it's just you're straight downwind, you know, you don't want a six-footer above the hole. You're really just having to adjust your expectations, adjust where you want to see the ball be aggressive to the hole and yeah, you're just trying to adjust on the fly.

Q. Did you reach out to anyone for any advice on how to play this? I mean, you have a lot of Texas resources that have had good memories out here. Anyone you talked to in particular?



PIERCESON COODY: No. I mean, I would say this is probably a very different version of Riviera everyone's seen. Yeah, normally I would ask some guys on the range, maybe their two cents or joke around and see what some guys had to say, but feel like this week was going to be a very different Riviera and what I was seeing in the practice round with the soft conditions was what we were going to get all week.

Q. So do you remember when Texas won here in 2012? You would have been 11 or 12?

PIERCESON COODY: Yeah, I would have been 11 or 12, maybe 12. I don't remember vividly. I know they won. I probably did watch it, but I just, I don't remember watching it vividly.

Q. Do you hear stories about it?

PIERCESON COODY: Yeah, hear stories, just kind of the culmination of how good that team was, especially kind of with Spieth being on that team and his head-to-head match with Justin Thomas out here Coach talked about a lot and kind of how pivotal that was for the program for him at the time to kind of get the ball rolling with kind of how consistent the program's been the last 10 or 15 years now.

Q. I was going to say any more validating -- obviously played well throughout the year but to do it at a Signature Event, I mean obviously just one round, but validating to do it, you know, at one of these --

PIERCESON COODY: Try not to put too much talk into it. You know, if I go, if I'm coming down 18 and I'm one or two back and I have a chance to win the golf tournament, I'll think something other than I was playing my best against, you know, the top-50 players in the world, top-100 players in the world on a really historic course. But until that moment comes, it's just kind of another round on Tour and happy to be playing this week.

Q. Were there any particular difficult shots with the wind up at the end there?

PIERCESON COODY: I mean, you play 12 through 16 straight into the wind and you're not hitting short irons into the greens, you're hitting a lot of 7-irons, 6-irons, a couple 5 irons. And it's Riviera, there's not a lot of margin to miss. You can have 80-foot putts, you can have crazy long shots over up huge slopes so it pays to hit the fairway, it pays to hit your irons even better. So yeah, you're just kind of grinding it out.

Q. When did you and your brother first go to the Masters, do you remember?

PIERCESON COODY: I don't have a year for you. Probably '06 would be my guess. I'm pretty positive that would be our first year. Maybe '08. We would go every other year.

Q. Do you have any favorite memories as a kid being there?



PIERCESON COODY: Yeah. I mean, I have a bunch. We played in the par-3 contest with Lucas Glover so I sometimes give him a hard time how old he is.

But, you know, it's kind of at the same time like you're really good at golf, you've been out here a long time if I was playing in the Masters par 3 contest with you in 2010 and now we're both on Tour.

Yeah, I have great memories of walking down the range, good interactions with a lot of the older players and whatnot.

Probably my favorite one, my brother and I, my grandad would let us putt on the greens. I would say back then that was not normal, but he would just, he would hit the shots and we would hit the putts. Parker made like, I don't know, a 40- or 50-footer on I think 4 and then I made a 40-footer above the ridge on 9. It was like some type of ESPN highlight.

So at that point in time like seeing myself on ESPN, I was, you know, i was probably around 12, maybe a little younger or older, that was really special and also because I had the moment with my granddad and got to celebrate with him.

Q. Did you ever discuss Riviera with your grandad in the last few weeks when you found out you were playing?

PIERCESON COODY: After Torrey he knew that I was going to get into these two events and him and I talked for a while on the phone, but nothing, you know, nothing overly specific, just him saying the stuff that he always says, go play well, hit a bunch of fairways and I'll be watching.

