

FINAL ROUND PRESS CONFERENCE
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MICHAEL BRENNAN (-22)



MODERATOR: It's an honor to welcome Michael Brennan into the interview room, our 2026 Wyndham Championship winner.

Michael, your second PGA TOUR victory. I know winning in Utah was one that you'll never forget but also winning now in North Carolina 30 minutes from Wake Forest, if we can just get some comments on what's going through your head.

MICHAEL BRENNAN: Yeah, it's awesome to be here in the Winston-Salem area. Lived here for four years and loved my time at Wake Forest. Went to campus on Monday and just walked around for a while, it was good to be back.

Yeah, the first one was kind of surreal and this one was I felt more challenging, but it feels pretty dang good.

MODERATOR: And now your whole season changes. You jump up 58 spots to No. 47, you earn a ticket to Memphis next week for the FedExCup Playoffs. If we can get some comments on what's going through your mind with that and now sort of resetting and getting ready for the Playoffs.

MICHAEL BRENNAN: Yeah, I am glad to keep playing because I feel like I'm playing good golf right now. I've been playing good for a couple weeks. It's just great to get another opportunity playing against some of the best players in the world. I didn't want to go home and sit on my couch when I'm playing good golf.

MODERATOR: Just take us through the ebb and flow of the whole day but also like those three or four final holes where you had some adversity with some lies and different things like that.

MICHAEL BRENNAN: Yeah, Beau made a great birdie on 1. No, great par save on 1, good par save on 2, good birdie on 3, and I was a little behind the 8-ball through a couple holes. I tried today to just say, hey, you know what, no matter what happens I'm going to stick to my process and stick to my plan.

Ollie did a good job of reminding me of that, keeping me in the moment. You never know when you're going to make five in a row, like that's kind of a gift to do that in the final round when you're leading the tournament or close to the lead. Can't count on that every single week, but I'll take it.

Q. Can you tell us what happened on the approach on 15? You looked like you were



disgusted by it and it ended up on the green.

MICHAEL BRENNAN: Yeah. Nerves. I was nervous and I pulled it a little bit. Normally when you pull it, it goes far and I know there's a bunker back there. I thought I hit it in the bunker, but I didn't. It was nice to see that it stayed on the green.

Q. After winning in your -- winning your first title in your first start, what was the -- what was that like after that? How did you settle your expectations and what was your goal for this season coming in?

MICHAEL BRENNAN: Yeah, I got off to such a good quick and hot start that I thought it would be easier. I was like, oh, I've already won one, like this is going to be a piece of cake. That's probably why I felt like I struggled a little bit.

I felt like I battled pretty well, made some cuts. It was nice to play in all four majors, that was really special. But I didn't feel like I started playing golf like I was playing last year until the last month or so. I'm glad it's better late than never.

Q. What do you think, what was the struggle earlier this season and then what do you think was the turning point for you? What's going so well?

MICHAEL BRENNAN: Yeah, I hate to say a little bit of everything. I've driven the ball well all year and I kept it up this week, which was nice. But kind of tightened up the wedge play and then the putting has been so much better.

Started working with a new coach in Houston this year, which was, I don't know, three months ago. I've really noticed the last couple weeks. I don't know what I finished at this week, I was second going into today in Strokes Gained: Putting. Could have been -- could be my best ever through three rounds of a tournament, so that's really nice to see.

Been doing some work with my coach and Ollie on course management, just making sure I'm making smarter decisions into the green, not being quite as aggressive. I like to hit it over the greens to back pins and I make a lot of bogeys because of it. Trying to just be a little smarter into the greens and say hey, it's okay to have 20, 25 feet because I've been putting it really well and I've actually made some.

Q. Michael, what's the biggest difference in your game? I know you won eight times at Wake and then came out and got on Tour. Is there one thing that's really the biggest difference in your game 21 starts into your PGA TOUR career?

MICHAEL BRENNAN: Yeah, it's tidier, much more consistent. Felt like at Wake it was kind of feast or famine. I did win eight times, that's great, but also probably finished 40th a lot. I don't know the numbers. Thank goodness no one tells me how many times I finished 40th. Like I've just been playing more consistent golf. I think it's probably with how I practice and a little bit with how I train keeping things -- your golf game's going to kind of ebb and flow, but



try to keep that valley a little bit higher. I feel like I've done a better job of that as a pro.

Q. Big day for the Brennans. Your brother Shawn won club championship, I guess?

MICHAEL BRENNAN: Yes.

Q. How cool is that winning on the same day?

MICHAEL BRENNAN: Yeah, my brother, he just started working for Morgan Stanley. He doesn't play much golf at all. He's a pretty good player, but there's like a D-1 kid in the field at our club, D-3 player, some other mid-ams that play a lot more golf than him. He probably wasn't the favorite. He was the favorite for our family.

But the last couple days it was so much fun keeping up with the hole-by-hole scoring and watching him do it. Now it's only my brother and I -- my parents have both won the club championship and now Shawn and I have both won the club championship. Pretty cool, our whole family has.

Q. (No microphone.)

MICHAEL BRENNAN: I did, but he wins more (indiscernible) around the club, you know?

Q. Did you feel any different today on the last day of a tournament than you felt the last two weeks and what was the difference, do you think?

MICHAEL BRENNAN: Yeah, for part of the day certainly. In Minnesota I just, I was a couple shots back, I was in a little bit different situation. I think I was 4 back to start the day and felt like I just needed to get off to a great start to have a chance because I knew Jackson was playing good golf. And I didn't get off to that start and I was just really pressing, wasn't playing my game, kind of got out of my way a little bit and that was problematic.

Last week in Detroit I felt it was a little different. I started actually pretty well, I was 2 under through six and had a two-shot lead and was playing really good. A couple poor swings.

My golf coach and I cleaned up a few things from my driver swing from last week to this week, so I felt I could rely on it a little bit more.

I was pretty nervous over my 3-wood on 18 but I smoked it and so that was a nice relief to see that ball going straight. And being in those situations I felt like for 10 holes today, I really felt good out there. I was kind of oblivious to what was going on to an extent and just playing really solid golf.

It did catch up to me a little bit on the back nine, got pretty nervous. It's tough when the feeling in your hands starts to get a little funky. I forgot what hole it was, but I was talking to Ollie. I was like, "Ollie, I'm getting pretty nervous." He was like, "All right, man, like just stick



to our process."

I was like, "All right, but I can't feel my hands so the process is a little different." Normally I can feel my hands when I'm hitting the ball.

But I don't know, made some really nice par putts, made a few nice birdie putts on the back nine and I'm just really happy that I was able to kind of hold it together and play good golf.

Q. You mentioned the five birdies there in a row and your answer just now might have changed your answer here, but you really took control of the tournament there or at least today when you made those five in a row. Is there a sense that you had taken over the tournament and this is yours to lose? What's the mindset after you really grab it by the throat there?

MICHAEL BRENNAN: Yeah, good question. I think there's -- I try not to think that way, you know. I've lost tournaments with bigger leads in shorter amount of holes remaining before. So I'm trying to just remind myself when I'm out there like, hey, there's a lot of golf left to be played.

I mean, like you saw, I was four shots over Beau with, I don't know, three, four holes to go. I know I was three shots clear of Ben James who was in the clubhouse. So I was like, all right, I know I at least need to stay above 18.

Yeah, I felt like I was kind of in control and all of a sudden Beau makes some really great birdies, plays good coming down the stretch. I put myself in a tough spot on 17. Like it can really switch quickly.

So just trying to remind myself that, hey, it can switch quickly not to try to psych myself out, but to say, hey, you have to stay focused on what you're doing and you can't relax for one second because I've done that before and lost the tournament as a result. Just trying to really stay focused on our plan.

Q. Obviously you weren't pleased with the tee shot I guess on 17, but it was dramatic looking to see where your ball ended up. What was your reaction when you saw it?

MICHAEL BRENNAN: Yeah, it was in a divot and I was kind of thankful for it to be in a divot because the rough is really thick. When it sits down to the bottom, the ball comes out so dead and you can't really hit it very far. It doesn't mean to seem how hard I swing at it.

And the fact that it was in the divot meant there was no grass behind the ball. So it was just a little tricky, I felt like I couldn't ground my club because I thought the ball could move just sitting on some real thin dirt, but I actually think it was beneficial.

Q. Circling back to the Playoffs and making the Playoffs, were you aware of the finish that you needed to have coming into this week and at some point this week did that



become a goal for you?

MICHAEL BRENNAN: Yeah, I needed like a three-way tied for second or better. I knew it from the start of the week, that was my goal going into the week. I mean, the goal is just to play good golf, you never know where that's going to leave you. You can hit great putts that don't go in, you could hit bad putts that do go in. There's a little bit of variance we could call it in golf. So like definitely the goal was to try to go win the golf tournament, but that's kind of my goal most other weeks. But I knew I was coming in this week in good form, I was playing good golf. Just trying to do what I did the last few weeks this week.

Q. That lie on 17 looked like at Old Town somewhere, right?

MICHAEL BRENNAN: I don't know.

Q. The billboard, they had all Wake Forest golfers, good luck this week. Did you ever see that this week? Talk about the support from Wake Forest people.

MICHAEL BRENNAN: No, did not see that, that's cool. We actually had five Deacs playing this week. Yeah, Lorenzo Mondayed in.

No, I didn't see it, but it is awesome to be in Wake's backyard, heard so many Go Deacs out there.

My caddie Ollie's English so he doesn't quite get the American university program and he's like, Why are we getting so many Go Deacs? What is Go Deacs? I was like, I went to Wake Forest. We were getting Go Deacs in England for The Open, so it's really cool to get the support.

Q. You didn't yell "FedExCup Playoffs" when you won, you yelled about the Masters, I guess. Was that the most important --

MICHAEL BRENNAN: Shhh.

Q. Was that really the first thing that came into mind when you won?

MICHAEL BRENNAN: Well, I was so excited about the Masters because I had been thinking about the FedExCup Playoffs the whole week, like I knew that was coming. I swear, I didn't even think about the Masters until my mom told me behind 18 green. After playing this year, I was like I need to come back and play it again, so it's nice to know that I am. But it was more probably shock value of remembering that a win gets you in.

MODERATOR: Anything else? All right. Congratulations once again, Michael.

MICHAEL BRENNAN: Thank you.

