

John Deere Classic

Thursday, July 3, 2025

TPC Deere Run

Silvis, Illinois, USA

Aldrich Potgieter

Quick Quotes

Q. 67, highlighted by two eagles /-P talk me through the two eagles?

ALDRICH POTGIETER: Yeah, it was nice to get a little rewarded. My drive on the short par-4 was probably not the best out of the day. Luckily hit a little spinny. I thought it was going to get close to the bush and got pretty close. It was an easy chip. A lot of green to work with. Happy to see that one go in.

The other eagle, I got to think now even where that was.

Q. 10.

ALDRICH POTGIETER: 10, yeah, made a really long putt, so that was a nice highlight to get the round going to get a bit of momentum.

Q. You kind of took an interesting route to a 4-under on this course. How is it playing out there this afternoon? What were the conditions like for you guys?

ALDRICH POTGIETER: Yeah, the start was a little different. It was kind of windy to start the day. Wind was kind of all over the place. Couldn't make up our minds if it was being constant with what it was showing on the website or online. It was kind of all over the place.

It was tough to get into a groove where you can trust the wind. I think some holes on the back nine opened up a little bit so you kind of are not protected by trees so you can feel what it's doing and you can trust it a little bit more.

That's what we felt out there. That back nine played a little easier where you can feel the wind a bit more.

Q. Did the morning scores affect your mindset this afternoon at all, seeing what those guys in the morning wave did out here?

ALDRICH POTGIETER: Yeah, it was interesting playing the course for the first time, taking it really easy after last



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week, arriving late Tuesday, kind of just playing a really late afternoon game and playing pro-am on the other nine.

So it was a really fresh golf course for me. It was kind of looking at what last year's scores were like. I heard the greens are getting a little bit firmer this year, so to see the low scores coming in this morning I thought, okay, we can kind of just get a repeat of last week. Go out, shoot a really good score.

Yeah, I was happy with how today went. If we can hole a little bit more putts and hit the ball a little closer, should be good.

Q. Feel like having the morning round tomorrow sets you up well for one of those scores to shoot up the leaderboard?

ALDRICH POTGIETER: Yeah, I haven't looked at the weather yet. I don't know what the wind is going to do tomorrow morning. We should get out here on fresh greens. The greens are really good this week, so really happy with the speed and how the balls are rolling.

Yeah, getting on fresh greens, it should be nice to post a good score.

Q. Talk about this whole week in general, coming off Detroit and the win last week. What has this week been like for you? Has it been difficult handling being a PGA TOUR champ?

ALDRICH POTGIETER: I mean, I can't stop smiling when people talk about it, so that's a good thing. The big thing is coming off the win, I've never played a tournament after I won such a big event, so I really didn't know how today was going go.

Quite happy how I did and how I handled it. I didn't know if I was going to be tired coming into the this last little stretch. With the heat we had today, probably made a mistake wearing black and dark red. Won't be doing that tomorrow.

I'm happy how it went today coming off the win. The first two days, Monday and Tuesday, were quite tough. Took it easy, traveled, and came and walked around a little bit.

Q. Did you change the routine, your normal routine

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this week because the exhaustion factor?

ALDRICH POTGIETER: I have to say Tuesday we played nine. We were only going to walk the nine to see where tee shots need to be hit and what the slopes on the greens kind of look like. We only played about seven holes and we walked the last two trying to get off the courses.

We only tee'd off around 3:00, so it was getting a little cooler and it was a temperature that time of day to not play in the heat.

So, yeah, yesterday pro-am; that was a normal thing. Today, yeah, just trying to stay in the fairways out here and roll some putts in. That's the game plan we got for the next three days.

Q. Because of last week's win, do you feel like people recognize you and kind of know who you are now after that win?

ALDRICH POTGIETER: Yeah, I mean, we had a lot of people following us the last couple hours. The group that were walking with us, it was quite good for a Thursday.

It helps playing with two other good players that are quite well-known to have a nice group following you for the day. Yeah, it should be nice having a big following this weekend hopefully.

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