

Cognizant Classic

Sunday, March 2, 2025

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, USA

PGA National Champion Course

Luke Clanton

Quick Quotes

Q. Maybe not the finish today you wanted but quite the week. Just take me through the energy level for you right now.

LUKE CLANTON: Yeah, I mean, it's just golf, at the end of the day. Again, I know we got up there pretty close at one point and we knew we had to finish strong. But again, it's PGA National. The Bear Trap is hard, and I'm learning every step that I take. Again, I'm just blessed to be here. To be able to say I have my card now and, not really relax, but to enjoy it for a couple days and to realize that, again, it was an awesome week. I did what I wanted to do and put myself kind of up there on the leaderboard going into the back nine, so it was awesome.

Q. Are you tired?

LUKE CLANTON: Of course. I'm always tired. But this is what we do. This is what we train for as college players, what we have to do to get out here. Again, it's nothing to complain about because everyone would want to be in this position, so I'm very thankful to be here.

Q. Your teammates had to be out at a tournament this week, so they weren't on-site. What are you looking forward to about getting back to seeing all of them?

LUKE CLANTON: Hopefully they win at Cabo. That's the goal. I talked to them a couple days ago, and they're just my brothers, man. It's awesome to see. The supportive from them, they weren't just texting me congratulations, they were texting me a few other things. But they're amazing, and I'm excited to go back and hang out with them and spend some time.

Q. You'd mentioned earlier that you didn't come just to get your card, but you went out there to compete and win the tournament. At one point you were tied for second today. What's going through your mind at that point?

LUKE CLANTON: Nothing really. We teed off so early in the morning at 11:00 that we knew those guys behind us



were still going to make birdie. We were tied for second at one point, but we knew we had to finish 18- or 19-under to even have a chance. Again, it was amazing to learn out there, to have that stretch of golf. The first 10 holes was amazing.

But I'm still technically an am, so I'm still learning a little bit, and every week I'm out here, it's awesome.

Q. First thing that comes to your mind when you think about Friday, now two days later?

LUKE CLANTON: It's done. Kind of one of those, I'm still -- I still haven't really realized it yet, I guess. We've just kind of been trying to lock in for the last two days. Probably when I'm done here, get to spend some time with the family and hang out with them, it'll probably hit me a little bit harder. But it's just done, thankfully.

Q. Any congratulations from a person or player you weren't expecting to hear from that kind of stood out?

LUKE CLANTON: I had one. Tim Tebow was pretty cool. He's a Gator. He texted me that, as well. But it's so cool to see those kind of people reach out. I look up to those people.

To even have that kind of influence a little bit on the world is amazing, and I hope to keep spreading the message of my Lord and savior. That's the No. 1 goal.

It's amazing to be out here and to learn.

Q. What was that process like of that high on Friday and then knowing you had to come back out Saturday and Sunday and still compete? What was that process like for you?

LUKE CLANTON: It was cool. It was cool. Again, it was amazing to get my card, but we knew what we had to do the last two days.

I didn't really fully understand it yet, I guess, so now that it's done, I will definitely look at the card a few more times rather than just once and put it away. It was just an awesome week.



Q. How much did it mean for you to not only do this but do it in your backyard, so to speak, with your family here and everything?

LUKE CLANTON: Again, just amazing. To see mom and dad and my sister is here, everyone here, what an incredible experience to kind of do it at a golf course I've played a few times.

Again, I knew it was in His timing. I kept saying that over and over at Waste, but I knew it would come sooner rather than later, so it's pretty cool to come here.

Q. Where is that card going?

LUKE CLANTON: I gave it to my caddie. I don't want to sound rude, but --

Q. You're not going to put it in a frame?

LUKE CLANTON: Mom will definitely put it in a frame. I'm not a very big collection guy with stuff like that. It's an honor to get that card and it's amazing, but I'm pretty bland with that kind of stuff.

Q. If someone qualifies for their TOUR card during the season, you still have to play out your season; you can't just run away -- I'm sure you wouldn't have done that anyway. Do you like that rule? Can you imagine ever considering, okay, I'm out, I'm going to be a pro next week?

LUKE CLANTON: I want to win a national championship, plain and simple. Again, it's awesome to earn my card, but those guys have fought so hard for me and I've fought hard for that team. We have one goal in mind, and that's to win.

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