

KPMG Women's PGA Championship

Thursday, June 25, 2026

Chaska, Minnesota, USA

Hazeltine National Golf Club



Kim Paez

Quick Quotes

Q. Kim Paez is with us now at the 2026 KPMG. Kim, how would you summarize your opening round?

KIM PAEZ: Overall I would say I'm pretty happy with my start. I was really nervous the first hole, first few holes, but as soon as I got into my groove, settled down a little bit. I was fighting the lefts today, so just trying to figure it out, but I was able to -- I'm proud of how I was able to manage it.

And considering everything and not really playing in these conditions every week, I'm happy with how I played today.

Q. You've played this before. Curious were the nerves at the start different than past or why?

KIM PAEZ: No. The nerves were as if this was my first major again. I would say it's just because I really care about doing my best and making everybody proud at home, all my whole team.

And, you know, I just want to see how I can stack up to this challenge and that's really what I was focusing on all day today.

Q. Wondering from being in this context and playing with the LPGA players, does to bring you back to when you were competing full time? Does it feel good?

KIM PAEZ: It does. It does. I believe I'm like -- I might be the oldest person in the field, but, you know, I would say I did a good job keeping up.

You know, all I can say is that I'm proud that I stuck to my process today. Even if there were some positions where I was a little uncomfortable, I just trusted my game.

And it was fun. My group, I had a great time with my group. Dewi and Pornanong were amazing. Really nice, welcoming. You know being it made the round a lot more pleasant.

Q. Did the birdie at 6 and then the birdie at 15 do a lot for you?

KIM PAEZ: It did. It -- you know, I would say in the past maybe I would go down a little dark tunnel with a few stumbles, but gave me some encouragement to keep fighting and keep sticking to my process, and, you know, one shot at a time and keep giving myself chances.

I was proud that I didn't let myself get discouraged.

Q. Is this the coolest temperature you played golf in quite a while?

KIM PAEZ: Yes. This morning -- I'll say this morning was pretty chilly. I was a little surprised. I thought my light sweater would be enough, but I think the walking helped a lot.

Q. You knew you weren't in Frisco.

KIM PAEZ: Yes. It's been so humid back home.

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