

ROUND 3 QUICK QUOTES
July 26, 2025

MICHAEL LA SASSO (-13)



Q. Make your first PGA TOUR cut on the number, first group off early in the morning and a nice 63. How are you feeling?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: Good, yeah. We had a blast. It's nice being first out, nice and calm, greens are fresh. Definitely a little faster today. Yeah, I had a good time. Kind of blitzed it there kind of middle of the round. Yeah, it was a lot of smiling so it was good.

Q. Was it a huge relief knowing that you made the cut and just kind of whatever happens today?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: Yeah, it feels a little bit more free. You don't really have that lurking in the back of your head so you can kind of just go out and play golf. Kind of worked out today, I feel like that's a little bit more normal. Kind of been struggling a little bit this summer but kind of been starting to pick up my stride.

Q. What was working this week that hasn't been the past two weeks maybe in your game or your mindset? Does anything feel different?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: I actually, so I got a late call in the Barracuda. I actually was calling my coach saying I thought my game felt pretty good, just kind of first time playing at altitude, didn't really know what to expect. Kind of had three caddies this week, but I really like the guy that I have now. So it was just kind of something that we're getting used to each other, I feel like it just started to click this week.

Q. (No microphone.)

MICHAEL LA SASSO: Dynamite? Yeah, his name's Dynamite, he's great. He's very easygoing. Normally he caddies for Kizzire but he kind of had an off week these last two weeks so luckily enough I was able to get him and we've had a good time so far.

Q. Do you think it's a good course fit here for you?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: Yeah.

Q. Have you ever played the course going in?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: I have not, first time. I think this is my second time in Minnesota. I got my first collegiate win on bentgrass so I'm kind of used to it a little bit. It's kind of where I played growing up back home, I was kind of in between bent and bermuda but I definitely do



like bent. Yeah, I think the golf course kind of suits my game.

Q. And then what were your goals going into the week after a few missed cuts?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: Just trying to stay positive. Been like a little bit of a learning curve this summer so just trying to be able to go out and enjoy it. Kind of feels like everything's amplified with everybody watching, so kind of just try to get used to it. Yeah, kind of just trying to learn, play good golf and kind of take away as much as I can from these guys because hopefully I'll be here in a year to two years, so I'm just trying to learn how to do it and make the transition a little easier.

Q. And seeing the U ranking come out preseason one and all the success and then guys like Luke and David Ford have had, is that motivating for you? Do you talk to them at all about their experience?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: For sure. I spent a lot of time with David earlier in the summer so kind of just like piggyback off of kind of like how he's done.

And I mean I've played a lot of golf with Luke Clanton recently and I play a lot with Jackson Koivun as well. Just to be able to know that I'm just as good as them and just kind of having -- kind of pacing myself in a week, right, and just trying to go out and have as much fun as I can, I think I'm very capable of playing with them and being able to do what they do.

Q. How many times in your career have you been first off the tee?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: Not many. Yeah, I think that's the earliest tee time I've ever had. My alarm went off nice and early this morning.

But I think it's nice, kind of same thing like nice and calm this morning. You really can get into a good groove especially with two guys, kind of find your rhythm pretty quickly. I thought it was great.

Q. (No microphone.) Why were you in Minnesota previously?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: I played the U.S. Am at Hazeltine last year.

Q. (No microphone.)

MICHAEL LA SASSO: I did not. No, just barely. Actually, I missed it by a lot. It's different up here, the rough's a little thicker. Normally down in Mississippi you're used to bermuda rough, not really used to this lush green grass, so kind of just trying to get used to it.

Q. We were all complaining about the heat Thursday but a Mississippi boy doesn't mind that at all?



MICHAEL LA SASSO: No, I don't think this is too bad at all. Normally you can't go out past 11:00 in Mississippi, especially in the summertime, so I think the weather's perfect here.

Q. (No microphone.) with good memories, was that this March that you stepped on the (inaudible)?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: It was. Cabo's also a very nice place to go play golf. I'm very grateful that we get to go play that event every year. Kind of being able to go down there, I still think the memories were pretty good. It was a little rough patch there for a while.

Q. Were you in the water or was it in the sand that you get a sea urchin?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: No, it was on the beach. When we came out in the morning, the tide was definitely higher and when we came out in the afternoon, the tide was lower. So I was kind of just walking on the bank going to get towels for a couple of our teammates, didn't really think much of it, thought I stepped on a seashell and --

Q. Were you able to play (inaudible)?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: I did, yes, sir. I think if it was walking I probably wouldn't have a chance, but I taped it up pretty good. Luckily enough, there was a doctor on site and he was able to help.

Q. College players there (inaudible.) What is their theory about the PGA University thing is pretty neat, isn't it?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: Yeah, we love it. I think everybody's a big advocate for it. I've been lucky enough to talk with some guys that have been out here for a while and they said they were never really able to get status right out of college, they always had to go to Q-School. So having the ability to kind of go out and have the opportunity to go play like a full summer on Korn Ferry, PGA, even Americas, I mean, I think it's a blessing for a lot of kids and I think what they're doing is great.

Q. What's your home course at Ole Miss? Do they have a course?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: We do. So we have the Ole Miss University course and then we have the Country Club of Oxford, which is very, very nice. We go out there a lot. Definitely plays a little bit challenging in the wintertime. But yeah, we are very fortunate to have two courses. And we have Memphis that's right around the corner and Old Waverly down in West Point, Mississippi.

Q. Who defeated you in the team match this year in the NCAA tournament? You guys made the Final 8, didn't you?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: We did. We beat Arizona State in our first match and then we lost to



Oklahoma State.

Q. And they won?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: Yes, sir.

Q. So what -- did the soft conditions on Thursday bother you at all or no?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: Not at all. I think it's kind of just something to get used to. I know it rained a lot on Wednesday so actually kind of being able to come out here and have the course not be under water I think is pretty unbelievable. I know it rained pretty hard. Kind of just shows how good the greenskeepers are and what they're doing to the golf course to maintain it.

Q. So what do you do with being done golfing? You got family here or what?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: I do not. I think they're coming up though, funny enough now that they have some time off of work. Yeah, kind of relax. There's a baseball game going on tonight that this gave us tickets to, so I think I'll go try and watch the baseball game and just relax and enjoy where I am.

Q. And you hit 333 on 18, got to make sure you hit it far enough left there?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: Yeah. Actually it was funny, I hit it pretty far left yesterday and was able to go for it in two. I hit a pretty good shot. So just kind of knowing if I'm aggressive up that left side, if it goes in the fairway, great, and if not, you're just laying up, trying to get a good wedge number.

Q. Funky hole though, isn't it?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: I think it's great. It's risk-reward for sure and I think that's a good thing.

Q. Your eagle putt was a little hot. What did you leave yourself, six feet or so?

MICHAEL LA SASSO: Probably five. I hit a lot of putts firm today. I think just being first off, greens are a little bit faster than what they were yesterday in the afternoon so trying to just adjust for that on the course. I thought they rolled amazing and were very smooth.

