

U.S. Senior Women's Amateur

9/30/2023
Scottsdale, Ariz., USA
Troon Country Club

Kim Eaton

Quick Quotes



Q: You said you didn't even know if you were going to be able to play?

KIM EATON: I was in a car accident Wednesday morning- Pat and I were. My car got totaled, I hurt my hand- as you can see, it's still a little swollen still, bruised. But it's gotten a little better the last few days. You know, and better living through pharmaceuticals.

Q: That's definitely some resilience to be out here at all...

KIM EATON: It's hard not to. I was like 'I have to play, this is in my backyard. I have to play.'

Q: First round, how'd it go?

KIM EATON: You know what, I hit the ball so well today, it kinda amazed me even. I made one really bad chip on nine because I was two under going into nine, then I took a double. Hit a bad chip and it went into the bunker and got up. I had two three putts that cost me two bogeys on the back, missed probably two four-foot birdie putts. But I hit the ball well today.

Q: At media day, you told me you're not one of the younger seniors anymore who can still bomb the ball. But that didn't stop you from being atop the leaderboard today?

KIM EATON: The thing here is if you don't hit it in the fairway, you're going to be in trouble, and I think that's what happened to some people. And the greens out here are a little tough, depending on where you get on the green. I mean, my three putts were just long putts. On 10, I was all the way in the front of the green, the pin was in the back. On 14, I was in the back right, the pin was in the very front. It just depends on where you put yourself on the greens, too.

Q: What's the key to tomorrow?

KIM EATON: Greens and fairways. Greens and fairways. Hit it straight. It's going to be a little cooler tomorrow so the ball might not go as far tomorrow. I don't think we'll have the wind. The wind played a big factor today because it's gusting at times and we weren't sure what to hit. It was hard sometimes in the sun, I was taking maybe two clubs more and maybe trying to hit it a little easier than jump on a club. But I saw some shots, I hit up into the wind and they just stayed up there and they got knocked down.

Q: How was the wind throughout your round? Pretty steady, coming and going?

KIM EATON: It was pretty windy throughout.

Q: I know we talked about having a hometown advantage...

KIM EATON: The only advantage is that I get to sleep in my own bed. You still have to come out, even if it's in your hometown. Sometimes, playing in your hometown or your home course is not a good thing because you try too hard. You want to play good for everybody who you're representing, but I just went out and swung today and it went well.

Q: What does it mean to you- at least through 18 holes- to represent Arizona well?

KIM EATON: Good. I feel great about it. Let's hope we can keep it up tomorrow.

Q: What does it mean to you to be in your 14th U.S. Senior Women's Amateur?

KIM EATON: Just the fact that I've made it to 14- every year that I could play. They didn't have it in 2020, so that's why I only have 14 and not 15. But I felt really bad after last year because it was the first year I hadn't made it into match play, so I'm kind of getting revenge.

Q: Feels like you're getting revenge?

KIM EATON: Revenge on getting better.

Q: Did that leave a bad taste in your mouth last year to not make the cut?

KIM EATON: Oh yeah. It did. I was mad at myself for playing as bad as I did.

Q: Would it get rid of the bad taste to make match play this year?

KIM EATON: It would help. I'm in a good position to make match play.