



2026 Walmart NW Arkansas Championship presented by P&G
Pinnacle Country Club | Rogers, Arkansas | September 25-27, 2026

Thursday Pre-Tournament Notes

September 24, 2026

ON-SITE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Matt Jesus, LPGA

Matt.jesus@lpga.com

(402) 957-4674

Mallory Kinahan, LPGA

Mallory.kinahan@lpga.com

(631) 796-9459

Jeremy Friedman, Outlyr

Jfriedman@outlyr.com

(407) 721-9752

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Tournament: @NWACHampionship (X, Instagram)

PRE-TOURNAMENT AVAILABILITY HIGHLIGHTS

[Rolex Rankings No. 14 Gaby Lopez](#)

[Transcript](#) | [Video](#)

Lopez on how her game has changed since her first start at this event in 2016

"Oh, gosh. I mean, too much. I would say that when I got on Tour I was not prepared with that many tools that I -- that you need, especially under pressure couple shots that you really have to know how to hit. Yeah, back then I had no idea. I was just trying my best. When you don't know, honestly sometimes it's better. The more you're playing -- I would say the first year on Tour the easiest one and the second and third, they become harder because you know exactly what's going on. You're tagging different things and you know what golf courses you like and which ones you don't like. So it's really it's important to kind of freshen up the mind and not having all the scar tissue with you, being able to clear the path and go forward with a clear mentality."

[Rolex Rankings No. 43 and 2026 U.S. Solheim Cup Team Member Yealimi Noh](#)

[Transcript](#) | [Video](#)

Noh on how she resets after a busy week like Solheim Cup and get back into her routine of a standard event

"Yeah, it was funny. After Solheim week we were all like having withdrawals. We were spending every day together and hanging out. Back to home it was kind of tough. From what I've heard from other players it's a bit of a rough coming back home, getting sick and having the off week. It was rough for me. I got sick, too just with

the weather and all the stuff going on. But, yeah, just getting back into the groove. This is what we're normally used to, so I think the week of Solheim was very special and now it's back to work."

Rolex Rankings and 2026 European Solheim Cup Team Member No. 63 Carlota Ciganda

Transcript | Video

Ciganda on what keeps her coming back to this event year after year

"Yeah, I love coming here. I think it's a great community. Everything is about Walmart here and I think it's just nice to see how supportive they've been of the LPGA. It's a three-day event. It's pretty easy. Yeah, always enjoy coming here. I remember my first year probably in 2012 or '13, I can't remember, but there wasn't much outside the gates and now coming and to see how much it's grown, Rogers, the whole town. And even yesterday going to the pro-am party at Top Golf and then the concert. There is a lot going on. I think it's just nice to see. Yeah, I always enjoy the golf course. It's low-scoring week so you can be aggressive and try to make some birdies. Yeah, I enjoy coming here. Yeah, it's always a fun week."

Rolex Rankings No. 104 Brooke Matthews

Transcript | Video

Matthews on coming into this week at home off her best finish of the year

"Yeah, it was great. I kind of struggled this year just flat out I'll say it, so it was nice. Been working really hard and hadn't seen any results. To get a good finish at Boston felt really nice. Definitely different golf course that week to this week. I'm hitting it better, yeah. Don't know what's going to happen this week, but I like the way my game is trending no matter how it goes. So, yeah, we'll see. Hopefully I can bring some good stuff this week. I'm going to do my best, but regardless I'm going to enjoy the energy that's out there."

Current Razorback and Sponsor Invite Maria Jose Marin

Transcript | Video

Marin on how she handles the expectations and pressure of being a top amateur

"So expectations and handling expectations as athletes is something we have to live with. Just kind of remind myself that I have to perform for me, and, yeah, just keep reminding the reason that I play golf is because I love it, I have fun, and I don't know what I would do without it. Yeah, just keep those little things in the back of my mind, and, yeah, using that pressure if you can call it or expectations of people to just try to be better every time. Of course there is always going to be a comment, so, yeah, just put it in the back of my mind and just go out there and do me for me."

Former Razorback and Sponsor Invite Reagan Zibilski

Transcript | Video

Zibilski on earning her Epson Tour card through the LCAP program

"Yeah, I feel like college golf is growing and it's become so much more competitive. For them to kind of create a pathway for women in college golf is super important. I know it's been around for the guys for a while now. But, yeah, LCAP was super, super special, and to be a part of the first class was super fun. Kind of getting to be around the other girls on Epson and have the shared first experiences with them is super fun. Yeah, I've made friends out there. Some of us are the same age just figuring it out together. Yeah, college golf is in a great spot. I know it's super, super perspective this year with ELAP. I've been keeping up and watching to see who might be the next crew that comes out. Yeah, it's been a super fun great learning experience for me just to know

what I need to get better at, what I need to be better prepared for. So to get opportunities like this, it's very important for me to just learn and listen and take it all in. Figure out, yeah, what I need to do to get to that next step."

Former Razorback and Sponsor Invite Maria Fassi

Transcript | Video

Fassi on the significance of this event over the years for her

"think for me it all started as a goal. When I was in school it was the No. 1 player on the team would get the exemption into the event, so it started as a dream, as a goal of wanting to play here and learn from the best in the world. With the years, obviously now being this is year seven on the LPGA, it's changed a little bit, but there is still the dream of wanting to win this tournament one time. Obviously we have now a tournament in Mexico, but until couple years ago this was the closest thing to winning at home that I could ever have. So that's now the goal and the dream of hopefully being able to hoist the trophy on a Sunday afternoon in front of our people, in front of my community, and in front of all the awesome Razorback fans. It's just kind of changed every year obviously with the foundation and with how much we do throughout the week. That has a huge piece of my heart. Just every day of the week there is something awesome happening and something that I'm grateful for and something that we're being able to impact people and kids. So, yeah, it's just an amazing week and I'm happy I get to be a part of it. The last ten years I've played in it have been awesome.

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