Keenum returns to Abilene, co-hosts FCA Golf Tournament with Charles Coody

ABILENE, Texas — Arriving in style, former Wylie Bulldog and now current Denver Broncos Quarterback Case Keenum was all smiles.

"This is my home. Anytime we have a chance to come back it holds a special place in my heart," Keenum said.

Decked out in green plaid pants, a sunshine yellow golf polo and a grass-green Masters visor -- a tribute to co-host and 1971 Masters Champ Charles Coody -- Keenum rejoined former coaches and friends to benefit the Fellowship of Christian Athletes annual golf tournament to raise money for the organization that is near and dear to his heart.

"To come back and be a part of FCA and to help the community is really something that means a lot. "Making sure they're investing in the lives of children around here, Christian athletes, schools, and coaches from the area, it's why I want to give back," he explained. "People before me came and did the same thing and I've always tried to leave a place better than I found it and so I just continue to do that every day."

Keenum's father Steve is a big part of the Big Country FCA chapter, as it continues to help fund scholarship and other opportunities for area student-athletes and coaches to grow not just in the game, but in their faith. But Friday afternoon at Diamondback Golf Course offered a chance to get out and have fun with those long-time friends and neighbors that have shaped who he is today. Not to mention, perfect that golf swing.

"I grew up playing at Diamondback," Keenum said. "I swing with a lot of feel and sometimes it goes left and sometimes it goes right -- when I'm not trying to hit it that way," the former Bulldog explained. "I swing it hard though so it goes far, just sometimes not where I want it to."

There's a lot going on for the Keenum family these days. Case just finished his best season of his five-year career in the NFL. A back-up turned starter in Minnesota, Keenum took the league by storm, leading the Vikings to an 11-3 record during his starting role including to the NFC Championship game after a walk-off touchdown pass in the divisional round against New Orleans -- now dubbed as the "Minneapolis Miracle."

That success in 2017 that saw well over 3,500 yards, 22 touchdowns, and a QB rating of 98.4 -- his best in his career. That run turning into the opportunity of a lifetime as Keenum signed in free agency with the Denver Broncos to be its starting QB.

"To get introduced as a starting quarterback for the Broncos by John Elway, I mean it felt pretty special," Keenum said. "I'm always trying to get better, and when I'm not wearing crazy clothes on a golf course, I'm training to be the franchise quarterback that the Denver Broncos need. I grew up a John Elway fan so I know a little bit about what that means, but I'm learning more and more still about what it means to be that guy."

And it will be nice for the Keenum's to be a little bit closer to their Big Country roots.

"It'll be great to closer to home. I know my family can drive to more games and there'll be quicker flights too so it's exciting. Denver is a big-time organization with a nation-wide fan base and so it'll be exciting to wear the orange and blue.

And as his story continues to be written, the same drive keeps him moving forward.

"I've always just given it my best, I've worked extremely hard, and I give God a lot of the glory -- all the glory because without him, I wouldn't be here."