PNC Father/Son Challenge Pre-Tournament Interviews Dec. 13, 2018

Bernhard Langer Jackie Langer John

Bernhard, your 14th appearance this week, but first with your daughter, Jackie, what keeps you coming back to the PNC Father/Son Challenge?

Bernhard Langer: I have always said I love this tournament, I love the idea of playing with your kids and being around other families, around other legends. This is a real family atmosphere, it's convenient for us to drive up and it's a great time of the year when everybody is relaxed and I enjoy the idea of team golf, especially with your kids. I didn't play much team golf growing up, I was never an amateur, I turned pro and then in professional golf there isn't much team golf, there's the Ryder Cup, The World Cup.

You've obviously won this event with your two sons, Stefan and Jason, and you've played with Christina, it's your first year with Jackie, how did she manage to muscle her way in to this family tradition?

Bernhard Langer: Initially, Jackie didn't pick up the game until later in her life, well her childhood, but she didn't play a whole lot of golf. She played everything from soccer, swimming, basketball and tennis, she loved everything and was good at everything but not really great at anything like for example Stefan was concentrating on golf full-time in his teens, Christina did the same and did college golf, then she got injured and got married. Jason then got really in to and Jackie was always here, watching or caddying. She always had fun and when she started playing better and a little more, she thought she was up to it.

This is a real family event, have you had much support from your brothers and sisters or are they jealous that you are playing?

Jackie Langer John: They are excited. I don't think that they saw that I would want to play. The three of them all played college golf so they a little more avid at practicing, too bad none of them could make it to caddie but it is going to be a lot of fun.

Bernhard Langer: You know, there's a lot of pressure out here as well, she has to play in the two days pro-am then be on live TV, you don't want to make a fool of yourself, you have to have some kind of game to be out here and I think she's at the point where she feels comfortable with that.

I am curious how you got Jackie in to the sport, what were those first lessons like and then Jackie, is there something you can do for your Dad this week?

Jackie Langer John: The most important thing for me is to be out here and have fun. He's been doing this for over 40+ years, he knows what he's doing but maybe I can help with some putts or give him some reads. I don't think I'm going to be pulling too many shots on my own though.

Bernhard Langer: Jackie has a great personality, she's got a wonderful smile, a great attitude, and she's personable, loves to talk and interact with people, she'll keep us loose I think. That will be one of the real positives she'll bring to the team. We probably realize that we might not be contending this year

but we are here to have fun and that's what this tournament is about, it isn't about who wins and who doesn't it's about having a great time as a family and being with all these legends of the game and their kids, that we have known for many years. We lived on a golf course for the last 26 years so all our kids had the opportunity to play, I never forced any of them to play, they had the golf course there and they had clubs, it was just a matter of do they want it or not?

Jackie, what's it like to watch your dad play, you've obviously watched him a lot?

Jackie Langer John: To be honest I don't know any different, it would be unusual to not watch him compete and be in the top ten. It's a blast. I can't travel as much as we used to but it's fun to tune in on live tv when I'm working and see it happening.

Do you see this as just another round of golf with Dad?

Jackie Langer John: Absolutely, just another round of golf with my dad.

We just mentioned there how possible intimidating it could be playing in the pro am, on live TV etc. I noticed you had a young lady playing with you. Was that a surprise to you or was that a more comfortable feeling?

Jackie Langer John: I loved her tee box, way up there. I was envious of that. It was fun, she had a great swing and really nice to meet her.

Did that make you more comfortable?

Jackie Langer John: I was comfortable with the group that was all guys too, it doesn't make a huge difference to me. It was nice playing with a female in the group too.

Do you have a golfing idol apart from your Father?

Jackie Langer John: I don't really have one. There's guys with different attributes that I could say but not the whole package. Sorry.

Bernhard Langer: At the Masters we followed, Rory.

Jackie Langer John: That was Chrissie.

Bernhard Langer: she dragged me out there for a couple of holes, which wasn't too much fun for me,

you know how it goes.

Jackie, tell us a little bit about yourself aside from this event, what do you do, when did you get married?

Jackie Langer John: I got married a little over 4 years ago to Jeff and I've been in real-estate for about 8 years and my husband has his own hospitality company, for about 15 years now. We have a concert hall, two restaurants, speak easy, couple of bars, another restaurant in a few weeks.

Tough to negotiate a week off for this?

Jackie Langer John: (laughter) no, never.

Next year, you have a couple of milestones in reach, how much are looking forward to next season?

Bernhard Langer: The milestones comes with playing good so I'm not focusing on those, just trying to play good golf and get better if possible, if I can do that I'll be competitive and win tournaments or finish up there. The rest will come along with that. Staying healthy is important too. I've had a couple of things this last few months that almost stopped me from playing, stupid stuff like toe nails but if you can't walk you can't play golf. The key for me is stay healthy and I can play for a few more years. I have a good attitude and a good outlook in total, I know what is good for me, how many tournaments I can play so that is what I will focus on. First I'll enjoy skiing and getting away for a few days.