

BERNHARD LANGER

Q. Bernhard, you've had a lot of success here in Naples, but this is a new course. What are your thoughts as you go into this week coming off last week's victory?

BERNHARD LANGER: Well, I was very pleased with last week. Played really well, putted well and got my 39th victory. So coming in here with confidence, but like most of the guys here, we don't know the golf course very well. I played it one time, that was yesterday, and one more time tomorrow in the pro-am. So hopefully I'll hit it where I'm looking and roll the putts in. That's what needs to take place.

The course is in phenomenal condition. Yesterday it was really, really good, and hopefully this rain will dry out, and as I'm sure it will, we've got four days of nice weather, so it will get better and better every day.

Q. I know when you play in Boca there's a little added thing good or bad with you being at home.

BERNHARD LANGER: Oh, yeah.

Q. How much did that help or how much did that make it gratifying to win, and then also with your daughter on the bag?

BERNHARD LANGER: It makes it very special to, first of all, have my daughter caddying for me and get our first victory as a team together, our first W.

Then playing at home is always cool because you have a lot of friends. We've lived in Boca now for a very long time, so I know a lot of people from neighbors, golfers, church people, just other friends that I've made. Many of them came out and cheered me on and that's a great support system I've got there, so that's always neat.

On the other side, there's a lot of distractions. We had a house full of guests, I had other commitments, playing a couple of charity pro-ams and things that I normally would not do when I'm traveling across the country. So there's added workload in a sense and things to do. But all that, I'm used to that. I've been around for a long time. I had the same issue years ago and same stuff when I play in Germany at home, so it's nothing new and you learn to manage your time.

Q. Who's in charge of all the ticket requests for last week?

BERNHARD LANGER: Well, that's partially --

Q. Is somebody in the family in charge of it?

BERNHARD LANGER: No. Part of that is me, myself, and then my wife was helping obviously and my daughter, too.

Q. So does your daughter get to go for two in a row?

BERNHARD LANGER: No, no. My professional caddie, Terry Holt is back. No, my daughter probably will caddie one more time this year in Newport Beach and that will probably be it.

Q. Chris said that you were asked Saturday, I guess, whether all of your kids have been on the bag or had a win, and maybe you weren't sure or not, or did you --

BERNHARD LANGER: I know three of them had wins. I think my youngest son, Jason, he's only caddied I think only once so far, or twice. We haven't won yet together, I'm pretty sure about that.

Q. Do you recall which tournament?

BERNHARD LANGER: We won the Father-Son together, but he wasn't caddying for me.

CHRIS RICHARDS: Do you recall which tournaments you won with which kids?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, some of them. Like my daughter last week and the other daughter was at the Dick's Sporting Goods. Then my oldest son, Stefan, we won a number of tournaments. I won the U.S. Senior Open in Seattle when I had that showdown with Fred Couples, he caddied for me there. We actually won a World Golf Championship tournament together, the World Cup, which was pretty cool for him, me representing Germany and winning in a playoff.

Then him and I won somewhere else, too. The one that was only one tournament, I think, Florida? Middle of Florida on the east coast. I see the trophy, the Ginn Classic, he was caddying for me there. That's one of the best trophies I've ever gotten, with the dolphins, really big, two or three dolphins jumping. So he's done very well.

Q. Sounds like Terry's lucky to have a job.

BERNHARD LANGER: Sort of, yeah.

Q. What goes through your mind when you keep having the success and it's like, okay, whatever is out there, it's going to start dropping off or whatever. I would guess that part of it motivates you that you don't want it to drop off, but how do you handle

everyone saying, oh, it's just so amazing, what do you continue to do? Does that help reinforce things?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, it reinforces things, but my -- how do I say this? My outlook is I've been one of the dominant players out here last year and the year before, so I don't believe it will just disappear just because I'm six months older or three months older or something. Sooner or later I understand Father Time will not pass me by without consequences in terms of performance, but right now I feel like I can still hang with the best guys out here and we'll see how long it lasts.

Nobody knows. I might get hurt, I might have a surgery, I might lose interest in the game, which I doubt because I love the game. We'll see what the future holds, I really don't know. At the moment, I feel I can compete at the highest level and I'm still enjoying it.

Q. Have you had to do anything tweak-wise to keep it that level, it's not just okay, my putting's bad, isn't working this week, I'm going to adjust this part of it. Anything body related?

BERNHARD LANGER: No, not body related. My work out is a little different because I can't do the things I used to do. I used to do 10 pull ups, I can't do two of them now. I've got to just stay away from it or just accept it that I don't have the strength to do that. So those are the adjustments.

And then we constantly tweak the technique, the golf swing trying to -- that's actually an area where I can get better and everybody can get better. We can all improve our technique, which is a big part of the game of golf and maybe even improve our thinking, our mental fortitude.

Q. Steve Stricker was named an assistant captain or vice captain for the Presidents Cup yesterday and he's made no secret he would like to be a Ryder Cup captain in 2020 with it being in his home state and everything else.

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, it's a perfect fit. I think it's a perfect fit. Steve is very well respected on all tours and he's smart. He's got a great record in general in the game of golf. He's been captain or vice captain I think before, right, in some of those things?

Q. Yeah, he was Presidents Cup captain in '17 and vice captain with the Ryder Cup.

BERNHARD LANGER: He's got some experience in what that means. He's played under a number of other captains in Ryder Cup or Presidents Cup teams, I would imagine. Yeah, it seems like why wouldn't you pick a Steve Stricker?

Q. It's popular conversation nowadays with players, the new rules changes. Do you have any that you don't really like or do you have any that you really like?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, there's a couple that I really don't like. First one is the yardage book.

Q. Yeah, Scott McCarron went off on that yesterday.

BERNHARD LANGER: Then you know. It just seems ridiculous. It only affects 4,000 people and they're all professionals and caddies.

Q. It affects a small group of people.

BERNHARD LANGER: Well, what, 4,000, 5,000 out of how many play golf, 400 million around the world? So what's that about?

And then the other thing I think is terrible, what happened to Rickie Fowler when he placed the ball and without him causing any problem, the ball rolled in the water and he gets penalized. That's not fair, that's not right. Something needs to be done about that.

I do like a lot of the other changes they made.

Q. For example?

BERNHARD LANGER: Well, you know, many of them. I don't mind the dropping issue because I think the ball will stay closer to where it's supposed to stay than dropping it up high. And what other changes have there been?

Q. Flagstick in.

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, the flag is not a big deal to me because it can speed up play. But it can actually slow down play, too. It depends what's going on.

Q. Have you left it in?

BERNHARD LANGER: Not yet. I'm not a big fan of leaving it in, but I always have a caddie. See, if I play at home when I don't have a caddie, I'll leave it in just to speed up play most of the time. It just depends. And I've left it in to tap in. If I hit a bunker shot this close or a chip shot, I'll just go up and tap it in with the flag. I don't have to, "Hey, caddie, pull out the flag," don't need to do any of that. That's a no-brainer. But then my greenkeeper where I live says people damage my cups all the time because they instead of grabbing the ball, they jerk on the flagpole and then the whole thing comes out and it destroys the cup. I didn't even think of that part.

Q. That is an interesting point. Thank you, that's good. There's good and bad.

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah. Most of the rules changes I like, more consistent with the dropping and the half-moon circle and all that kind of stuff. I like most of the things they've

changed, but there's a couple more that need to change.

Q. Final question, I was listening to Dubai where DeChambeau won and he was talking to his caddie, we've got 26 degrees here on this shot, it's 135 yards and we've got to hit it 26 degrees.

Have you ever gotten into that type of metrics in your playing? He's very unusual that way.

BERNHARD LANGER: Oh, yeah. Well, we all know he is. He's got three books in his pocket and he checks something constantly. Then he walks off how far his putt is. I've never walked off a 12 yard putt to know how hard I have to hit it. But it works for him. Heck, look at his record, so who are we to criticize him.

He's different. He plays different. Every club is a 6-iron length wise except the driver and he putts different. He does everything a little different, but that's who he is and that's what works for him.

Q. Well said.

BERNHARD LANGER: I mean, another rule that is kind of weird is the one when we take a practice swing and our caddie is behind us, that we would get penalized. I'm not lining up in my practice swing, I'm not quite there yet.

Q. It's going to be like guys will be afraid to be around.

BERNHARD LANGER: We are. I'm constantly aware, especially with my daughter who doesn't know all the rules and that. I'm going, "Get out of here, you can't stand there." Or she's watching me hole out a putt, I'm like, "No, you can't be in the extension of that line, move." It makes you really aware of what's going on.