

STEVE STRICKER

Q. Welcome back.

STEVE STRICKER: Thank you. Nice to be back.

Q. You've won two subsequent times on the Champions Tour. After winning here, did it kind of open the floodgates a little bit or took some pressure off or something?

STEVE STRICKER: Yeah, it did. Winning here for the first I'm out here on the Champions Tour at the Cologuard was a relief. I had some close calls, a close call a year earlier here and didn't get it done, so it kind of starts to weigh on your mind and starts to press a little bit. So to get that off my back was a big relief.

And then yeah, I played maybe six more times, won a couple more times after that. It got me going in the right direction, for sure.

Q. How's the state of your game right now?

STEVE STRICKER: You know, it's been a weird season so far. I haven't really done very well. I had a hard time getting the ball in the hole. Been working hard. Things are starting to come together, starting to see some more positive things, hitting the ball okay. But it's been about the putter really. The first part of the season here, the first five or six tournaments I played in, I haven't really putted that well. Saw some go in last week at home, so hopefully keep it going.

Q. When something like that happens, what kind of -- what do you do to change that up so that you get your putting stroke back?

STEVE STRICKER: Just continue to work at it, that's the only thing I really know how to do. Stay positive, believe that I'm a good putter and I've done it before and I've gone through little ups and downs with my putting before. Everybody does in this game. It's just a little blip on the radar I think and just continue to work at it, go back to my basic fundamentals that I work on all the time. I continue to pound those in and just practice. Then hopefully start to see it go in. That's the biggest thing, you've got to see it and I haven't been seeing it, and it's starting to look a little bit better when I get on the green at least.

Q. We're doing a story on David Berganio making his PGA TOUR Champions debut. What do you know about him? What makes his game good? Have you ever been in a pairing with him?

STEVE STRICKER: Yeah, it's been a long time since I've played with David, but I like David. Haven't seen him for a while, but excited to see that he gets to tee it up here. Does he live here? I know he went to school here. Does he live here?

Q. He lives in L.A.

STEVE STRICKER: Well, it's great to see him, that he's playing in front of his college home fans and I'm sure he'll have a great time and have fun with it. I'm sure he played a thousand rounds around this place back in school. Good to see him playing and wish him the best this week.

Q. He's had numerous injuries.

STEVE STRICKER: I don't know his injuries.

Q. Not talking about his injuries, but overall as golfers coming back from that, how hard is that?

STEVE STRICKER: Yeah, I know David's gone through a bunch of injuries over the years. Sound like maybe hopefully he's got things in order that he can play and play without pain and practice. That's the biggest thing, if you can practice without any pain.

But yeah, it's a process. You have to go through it, and most everybody deals with it at some point, some worse than others, and his have been pretty bad it seems like over the years. It's good to see that he's getting another chance, you know, at this professional golf and hopefully he can take advantage of it.

Q. You're in the news lately being named the U.S. Ryder Cup captain for 2020. How will that sort of change your life over the next year and a half?

STEVE STRICKER: Yeah, you know, I'm busier already. It's been a busy couple months already just trying to get things in line for the announcement last week, and then since the announcement, you know, there's been a lot going on, which is what I expected. So I'll have to manage that better if I want to play good. That's the bottom line. That's my focus, is to manage that because I still enjoy playing and competing and trying to win golf tournaments. But looking forward to the challenge and being a part of that process. It will be here before we know it, I'm sure, 2020, but excited about it, for sure.

Q. In terms of managing the time, multitasking, et cetera, what's kind of been the most important thing to make sure everything kind of runs smoothly?

STEVE STRICKER: Yeah, just not to let it get in the way of what I need to do out here. Try to compartmentalize and keep the thing separate and deal with that outside the golf time. It's hard. I run into a lot of friends out here and they say, "congratulations" and you talk and that's wonderful, I enjoy that.