

**PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW**  
**August 15, 2019**



**FRED COUPLES**

---

**Q. Fred, welcome back. We're so excited to have you here in Endicott. Can you just tell us what you remember about your success here?**

**FRED COUPLES:** Well, I'm just looking down this hole, it looks the same. No. 1 looks a little tight. I used to love playing here. You guys, probably none of you were even born yet, but they used to have a player-caddie softball game which was the highlight of the year for everyone until I think Dan Pohl blew his knee out. So we stopped that and then it just became a golf tournament.

I happened to win. I came to play in '91, the week before the Ryder Cup, so I could keep playing and happened to win. I don't know if that's the last time I've been here. I don't want to bet on that, but I've not played a Champions Tour here in, this is my 10th year. So I'm excited to be here. I really do like the course, it reminds me a lot of where I grew up in Seattle, same fairways, same greens. I need to play a little bit better.

**Q. What made this year the year to come back to En-Joie?**

**FRED COUPLES:** Well, to be honest, I haven't played that much. And I grew up in Seattle and next week is Seattle, so since Augusta I played two events and I think that was in early April. So to take another three or four weeks off after the British Senior Open and then go to Seattle, I probably wouldn't play very well.

So my goal is obviously to play well here, but really to get some rounds of golf in and then go to Seattle and play, and then my year's kind of over. Just come support Dick's and play and try and get a little better than the way I've been playing the last month or two.

**Q. What are your thoughts on that opening pairing tomorrow with Davis and Jay?**

**FRED COUPLES:** Yeah. You know, people ask me all the time what's the best thing about the Champions Tour and I always say it's the pairings. I've known Davis since we were -- well, I'm a little older than him, but since he was 25 and got on the Tour, and I've known Jay for close to 35 years. So that will be a blast, and that is the whole ball of wax for me. I love to play golf, I love all the pairings out here, but to get Jay and Davis is going to be a fun day.

**Q. How's it going to feel comparing with the rest of the field, with John Daly (inaudible), the big names that are here?**

**FRED COUPLES:** The Champions Tour is very strong, so you always start out with

Bernhard Langer, who is probably our best player, Scott McCarron's up there, and John Daly's a huge draw everywhere he goes.

But as far as the guys that are out there, David Toms, Retief Goosen, there are several more. I think Kenny Perry's here. So it's a very good field, it is every year. Most of our champions tournaments are. This is no exception, this is a very good field on a good course. It will be fun.