



**PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW**  
**October 10, 2019**

**FRED COUPLES**

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**Q. So, Fred, how's the game feeling right now?**

**FRED COUPLES:** It feels okay. It's nice to be here. Got great weather and, you know, I'm looking to make a little push, see if I can keep moving up this thing and make it to Phoenix if I can play three tournaments in four weeks. But my goal is to play well here. I do like the course. I think I played, I don't know how many years ago, but played fairly well.

**Q. Beyond the course and how you played the last time you were here, any recollections of spending time in this area, or have you spent any other time in this area?**

**FRED COUPLES:** I lived in Charlotte for about a year and enjoyed that. I've been down here a little bit. I've been wearing Peter Millar stuff and now Moss stuff, the G Force stuff, so I saw a couple people there. I know they're right down the street.

So I don't know much about the area. I know how big an event this is in this area, and why I don't support it all the time is just it's later in the year and to be honest with you, I don't play that much and I live in California and it's a long way to go.

But I'm here this week, so hopefully I'll play well and come back next year, too.

**Q. Do you feel like certain events have a certain brand, and if so, even though you haven't played this one much, do you hear about it from the other guys?**

**FRED COUPLES:** This is always a top purse, which I think is very important to a lot of people. For me, I have to be honest, I don't even know what the purse is. You asked, I'm telling you what I hear all the time. I have been here, the course is always in great shape. We're going to get, knock on wood, great weather and they get a lot of people.

So for me, when I play a lot of the tournaments -- I live in Newport, that's a really, really good one. I'm from Seattle, which they get a few people to try to walk on a very difficult course. But, you know, I know all about the SAS and one thing I know, you have to play very well to win here. It's got some holes that are very, very difficult. I'm sure they play overall, some of the holes here rank pretty high on toughest holes on the Senior Tour.

**Q. How are you feeling physically going into this weekend?**

**FRED COUPLES:** I feel pretty good. I've had a year without too many problems. I was playing kind of poorly, so after a long delay after Augusta, I went out and played and I

started to practice a little more. Then that certainly helps. As they say, the more you practice, the better you're going to get. I think that showed.

I had a really horrible round in Seattle on Sunday, but up until then I had the bright side, 63, 65, 63 in three rounds in a row and then I shot 76 in my hometown, which was really sour and just a bad day. But I feel good, I feel like I'm going to play well.

**Q. When you get playing, do the juices feel like they did competitively earlier in your career? Do you get similar --**

**FRED COUPLES:** You know, that's a great question. I think in a different way. I think we all want to play well even if you're 60th on the Money List and you're a nice player because you come out here and you get your card and you play, or if you're Scott McCarron or Bernhard Langer, who wins so many times, is the No. 1 player, your juices will get going because you want to keep doing that.

For me personally, you know, the last few years I've started to play less and less, but the only important thing is really to go and play well. When I really stop doing that, then I will be gone. I played a few times with like Tom Watson, who rarely plays, but he's in his 70s and he still plays a great game. But if I was 65 and I play 20 times and maybe I only played well a couple times, I wouldn't do it at all.

So I have a lot of years before I get there, and a lot of tournaments. But the juices for me get going tomorrow morning when I come to the range because I know five hours later I've got to sign a scorecard. It wasn't much fun signing it a couple times in my life and other times it's a blast. So you've got to take all those good things with the bad and that's what golf really is. I've been doing it 40 years and I've had so many great days, but you always think, just like when you guys play, you always go home and think of the crappy shots. We're really no different, we think of all those, too. Even though I made a hole-in-one the day before in Seattle on Saturday's round, that was out the door Sunday night. But I made five holes-in-one in my life and I've shot a lot of 76s, but I remember the 76 a heck of a lot more than five little holes-in-one.

**Q. Have you heard about the guys playing golf for 24 hours tomorrow straight for the Folds of Honor in the last group?**

**FRED COUPLES:** No.

**Q. I want to get your thoughts, how would you hold up 24 hours straight?**

**FRED COUPLES:** You know what, in Santa Barbara I played with Scott Puailoa at the Valley Club almost 20 years ago and we did it for charity. He does it every year and I said, "Can I join you?" I think we played, it was over 200 holes and we did putt. I don't know if we took any time at all to do that. It will be fun to hear about, but I did not hear about it until you just said that. What a great thing. Is he a local guy?

**Q. One of them's right here.**

**FRED COUPLES:** So what are you going to do, run around? Are you a runner or do you just play?

**Q. I do do speed golf as well.**

**FRED COUPLES:** Because I will say, I've gone to Peter Jacobsen's tournament a few times and while we're doing the clinic, two guys will go and they'll run up the 18th hole 48 minutes later or something like that while he's still talking. It's pretty fun. I mean, it's amazing. So you do that also, yeah. Have fun tomorrow. Is it tomorrow?

**Q. Yeah, Friday and Saturday.**

**FRED COUPLES:** You're doing it both days?

**Q. Hopefully we'll be finishing up behind you in the last group.**

**FRED COUPLES:** You wear Ecco shoes, I hope?

**Q. What advice do you have for him tomorrow?**

**FRED COUPLES:** He doesn't need any advice.