

PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW
August 29, 2019



RETIEF GOOSEN

JACKIE SERVAIS: (In progress) media center and welcome to the Shaw Charity Classic. This is your first time playing this event. I know you haven't seen the course yet, but what are some of the things you've heard about it and what made you decide to commit?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Well, I mean, I played in Canada many times over the years; a couple of times in Vancouver, but many times in Toronto. So it was nice to come out here to this part of the world. I spent Monday and Tuesday up at Lake Louise and did a bit of the sightseeing stuff and climbing up and down the glaciers. It was pretty exhausting.

But no, it's a wonderful part of the country and the golf course, I like the look of it. I hear it's in great condition, so very much looking forward to getting out there and getting hopefully get the putter warmed up. The last couple of weeks I had a cold putter, so hopefully.

JACKIE SERVAIS: You've had a great run so far, though, winning the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS. What has this year looked like for you the more deeper you get into the schedule?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Well, obviously a lot of the golf courses are new for me, but, you know, you've still got to go out there and hit the fairways, hit the greens and make the putts.

So far the rest of the year, I'm looking forward to what's coming up. Hopefully, you know, stay in touch a little bit with the leaders and see what happens in the last few events.

Q. You said you spent a couple days out at Lake Louise. What did you get up to there? How did you spend your time?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Well, my wife's up here with me. Yeah, she said, you know, we've got to go and do it. So we were there on Monday morning and all that we had to do, the canoeing, hiking, going up the mountains in the cable car. We had great weather, too, which was nice. We got back in town here around 12:00 yesterday.

Q. What did you think?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Oh, obviously it's beautiful, yeah. I'm not going to show you my pictures, but no, we had lots of fun up there. It's a pretty part of the world. Unique, the lake, especially the color of the lake, that sort of emerald green. It's a pretty place and the hotel is very nice, too. We stayed at the Fairmont there.

Q. Have you always tried to do that throughout your career?

RETIEF GOOSEN: No. Generally we don't have that chance. Normally in between events you try and get home and then back out here on a Wednesday. So this just worked out perfect. Coming up from Seattle is easy and there's no use flying all the way back across to Orlando. No, it was good to do that little bit of sightseeing. There's a lot more to see up there, but just ran out of time.

Q. At what point does it start to sink in for you that you're a World Golf Hall of Famer now? What's the process of kind of digesting that?

RETIEF GOOSEN: It's a great feeling getting announced on the tee now as a member of the World Golf Hall of Fame. It's a great feeling. You know, you'd like to add to that with a few more victories. It will be good fun.

I hope I start finding a bit of feel on the greens. You've got to make putts around here, especially on the PGA TOUR Champions. If you have a bad first round or something, you feel like you're out. You need to really, from the first hole onwards, make birdies. Yeah, when your putting is off, it adds pressure to the rest of your game. It feels like you have to hit every fairway, you have to hit every iron shot within a foot to have a chance. Last week was a horrible time for me on the greens. I don't know, I must have had 40 putts every day. I like the greens here, the bentgrass. Hopefully I can get some putts going in.

Q. Scott McCarron's on quite a roll. What's it going to take to beat him?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Well, it's obviously a golf course he's very comfortable on.

What it's going to take to beat him? One shot, that's it. By the end of the week if I can be one shot better than him, looks like you're going to probably be the winner.

The way he plays around this course, today's practice round obviously is important and get a bit of a feel of the course, but from what I hear it's pretty much in front of you and you've just got to make birdies.

But yeah, it's a wonderful place and it's a wonderful sponsor. Last night we had a function with the Shaw family and really I sat with Mr. JR Shaw at his table and what a wonderful character. You know, the amazing thing about this event, the amount of money that they raise for charity, which is unbelievable. So weather looks good, so we're going to get big crowds and raise some more money.

Q. Your being relatively new to this tour, (inaudible) when you see somebody that you turn to for advice?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Well, I don't think Bernhard's going to give any of his secrets away. Why would he want to do that, you know. We all know he's just very mentally strong on the golf course and that's probably the strongest part of his game. Of all the putting issues and

whatever issues he's had in the past, to come back and still play the way he plays definitely shows how mentally strong and how much he believes in what he has, the same the guy has played for many years. Since I've known him in the early '90s, nothing has changed. He gives it all, but in a week if he wins, it's great; if not, he's happy that he's given it his all. And a wonderful guy, too.

Q. Does it seem like (inaudible)?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Yeah, I don't know what it is about the Germans. Obviously German engineering seems to be pretty good. Yeah, like I say, he hasn't changed at all. He's got a few more wrinkles, but otherwise the body hasn't changed. He's lucky, one of those guys that hasn't had any serious injuries over the years and be able to play so consistent week in and week out.

Q. You're eighth on the Schwab Cup Money List now. Do you kind of -- obviously it's your first year, but do you kind of maybe over the next eight events or whatever's left in the year, do you really try to go for it?

RETIEF GOOSEN: I would like to get another win in at least before we start those last few events. Then hopefully, if you can play well in those, then maybe pull off winning the Charles Schwab Cup.

Yeah, I need to just get a little bit more consistency going and giving myself chances on Sundays now.

Q. But it's something you're aware of?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Obviously, yeah. It's not that many events left. What is it, six, seven, and then we're done for the year. Yeah, you're going to have to put your foot down in the next few days.

Q. You're basically called a rookie.

RETIEF GOOSEN: Yeah, it's nice to be a rookie again. Putter doesn't feel rookie, but it's nice to be the youngster out here. A good friend of mine, Michael Campbell, is playing this week, I think, and he's also a rookie. So it's nice to have him around.

JACKIE SERVAIS: Awesome. Thank you, Retief. Good luck this week. Good luck to your putter.