

PRINCIPAL CHARITY CLASSIC

ROUND 2 QUOTES

June 1, 2024



BERNHARD LANGER (-13)

Q. Bernhard, 63 today, you broke your age by three. Just how great did that feel?

BERNHARD LANGER: It always feels good to play well, especially breaking your age by three is pretty special this short after my Achilles surgery so it's pretty cool. I had some good starts the last few rounds I played and then often didn't finish well because I don't know whether the leg is swelling up so bad, my hip tightens up and my back feels stiff the longer the day goes. So it was nice to finish today with three birdies.

Q. You mentioned those low rounds recently, low one at the Senior PGA last week. Did you feel like something like this was going to come?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, I still hit some poor shots, especially when I'm in awkward stances. The feet are high or low or sidehill, downhill, my balance isn't there because my -- the foot that was operated on just doesn't have the support or the flexibility to stabilize my swing and my weight during the swing. Therefore, I hit it thin, I hit it fat, whatever. Anything can happen now. I tried a driver yesterday off an uphill lie and I just about topped it almost. I'm not there, but I'm grateful I can use a cart to get me around.

Q. After renovations here, is it still about hitting fairways here?

BERNHARD LANGER: It always is, I think hitting fairways and making putts. It's actually, the way they renovated it, it's even more of a bomber's paradise. Or it wasn't before. Before it was the type of course where a Jerry Kelly or somebody that drove it really straight, Joe Durant, those type of players. Balls coming out of the rough is not easy here, but now they've -- like I'm looking here at No. 10 and No. 8, the biggest fairway in the world, and 18, the long guys can drive the green. Someone like me, I drove it as good as I could just to get it over the bunker, things like that. They can reach all the par 5s, I struggle to reach some of them. So length is always important, but yeah, this used to be about precision and it's a little bit less about it but still important.

Q. Can you walk us through what's next for you today besides (inaudible). Is it therapy? What have you got going?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, I have therapy every evening. They're open until 6:00 p.m. so make sure I get in there about 5:00 or 5:30. My lymph nodes or whatever you call them are not working properly, it's all clogged up. So they're trying to drain my lymphs and get the fluid out of there, get the swelling down, loosen up my hip that by walking like this, my



right hip is just shot every day and my lower back tightens up. So all of that, just stretching. And then I usually go and exercise in the hotel and do my Achilles work that I have to do to get more flexibility in the future and more strength.

Q. Bernhard, Bob was just talking about some of your accolades, things you've accomplished. Your ankle has to be the first question. Is it feeling that much better or are you just figuring out how to play on it a little bit?

BERNHARD LANGER: It's a little better than what it was a couple months ago, but it's funny, I can play golf on it as long as it's a flat lie, but walking is not possible. I don't have the range of motion to have my gate and so I still struggle severely when it's hilly. I can't go up any slope or down, it's very difficult.

And playing golf, it's been good for nine to 12 holes and then often fall away at the end, just don't have the stamina or whatever it may be. It swells up real bad at the end of the day and that might affect my hip and my back a little bit. It's all it takes, a little bit, and you hit it 20 yards right or left.

Q. And you broke your age by three today so we're not feeling too sorry for you, and you birdied the last three holes as well. So you bring up an interesting point. This is a very hilly golf course. Are there lies out there if you get a little off the fairway that give you a hard time with your ankle?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah. I drove it in the bunker today, not in the sand, into the edge in the grass a bit on No. 5 and I almost couldn't play the shot, it was so severe. I was very, very careful inching my way into the stance and make sure my right foot was solid because my left has no support. Yeah, there's a bunch of lies where I need to be extremely cautious and I hit some poor shots when I'm in tough lies.

Q. So maybe as you look forward to the round tomorrow, the ball position off the tee is really the most important thing for you?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah. This course was always about driving it straight, keeping it out of the rough, then you can attack the pins. If you're in the rough it's difficult, you don't know the spin and distance and all of that, so driving was always important.

But got a new putter a few weeks ago and that seems to be working fairly well. That's the most important club anytime, right?

Q. You can't finish a hole without making a putt.

BERNHARD LANGER: True.

Q. Tremendous round of golf today, congratulations. We look forward to watching tomorrow.

