

2nd ROUND INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: BERNHARD LANGER
Saturday, May 3, 2014



PHIL STAMBAUGH: Okay, Bernhard, 68 today and you'll carry a three-shot lead into tomorrow's final round. Another solid day. Maybe just talk about the day.

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, I got off to a really nice start with two birdies in the first three and another one on 6. I played really solid, you know, from tee to green; all the way through actually. Gave myself some opportunities. It was tricky with the wind early on. It was blowing pretty good most of the day actually. You know, my only bogey came on 12 when I actually hit two really good shots. I was posing over my 8-iron thinking it's perfect and it came up about 12 yards short because the wind switched. And then I had an impossible putt because the fringe came in and I had to go like through the fringe and a severe slope, so I ended up three-putting. But bounced back with a beautiful drive on the next and a fantastic 5-iron to about 15 feet and two-putted from there. You know, another really good birdie on 15 and I had a solid finish. I had another birdie chance there maybe on 16 and outside chance on 18, but it was pretty solid, no major sweat.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Do you want to talk about the three birdies in the first six holes?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, on 1 I hit a beautiful tee shot way down there, hit a 3-hybrid, finished on the back of the green about 20 feet away, 25 feet, two-putted. Then No. 3 I hit 8-iron to about 12 feet, made that. On No. 6, hit a good drive, good 2-hybrid, a full lob wedge from 80 yards to about four feet, something like that, three feet, four feet. And I told you the other stuff already, I think.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Yeah. You're going for win number 20 tomorrow and you've had good luck in Houston. Just some vibes about playing tomorrow?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, it's not over but I like this golf course. I know how to play it, I know where the trouble is, and I think as long as I'm hitting the ball where I'm looking and hopefully roll the putts in, I still need to play aggressive because there's a bunch of guys not too far behind bunched up and the wind's going to blow again, it's going to be hot, so you know, I can't go and shoot over par. I've still got to break par I think tomorrow to hopefully increase my lead or have a good lead coming down 18.

Q. You've got Monty looking over your shoulder. You and he have been in this position a few times maybe?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, many times. I don't know how many he's won, but I've won about 91, 92 tournaments over the world and he's won a bunch.

Q. He called you my good friend, I've been trying to beat him all year and it hasn't happened yet.

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, he's going to keep trying. I'm sure he will give it his best shot. He had the low round of the day possibly and that's a great score and hopeful for him, so we'll see what happens tomorrow.

Q. So kind of fun, I guess you'll be playing with him?

BERNHARD LANGER: I would think so, yeah.

Q. You've done that a few times, too, I'm sure?

BERNHARD LANGER: Oh, yeah, many times in Europe, and I think when he came out here I was paired the first three or four rounds with him as well.

Q. Ryder Cup time together?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yep, some of that.

Q. Obviously you played the last six holes very, very well. It's never terrifying to play your best golf coming home, right?

BERNHARD LANGER: No. I mean, yesterday was spectacular, I hit it so close. It was really fun. Today I played very solid. I hit a fantastic 6-iron into 18 today, just misjudged the wind and it went five, six yards longer than I thought just off the green, but it looked perfect in the air. Hit a good 6-iron into 16 and hit some really solid shots. It played a little longer today maybe and the pin was tough yesterday on 17 but it was just as tough today. I've never seen the pin there in all the weeks I've played here. It's pretty brutal, but that's what they're known for here at times.

Q. What would a third win mean to you here as far as your time on the Champions Tour?

BERNHARD LANGER: Well, every win is a thrill and it's exciting, and a third win here in this tournament is pretty unique. I'm not sure I've ever won any other tournament three times. You're shaking your head so you probably know, so that would be a first and that would be a lot of fun.

Q. On either tour?

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Yeah, did you win anything three times in Europe?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, I won the Irish Open several times, I won the German Masters, the German Open --

Q. Not on the Champions Tour?

BERNHARD LANGER: No, no, not on the Champions Tour. Haven't been out here long enough, I guess.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Thanks, Bernhard. Good luck tomorrow.

BERNHARD LANGER: Thank you.