

**CHRYSLER CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**The Westin Innisbrook Golf Resort**  
**Copperhead Course**  
**Tampa Bay, Fla**

**October 28, 2005**

**Second-round quotes**

**AN INTERVIEW WITH BERNHARD LANGER**

CHRIS REIMER: We have Bernhard Langer now, kind of an up and down round for you, a lot of birdies a few bogeys.

BERNHARD LANGER: Exactly, yes, very pleased with the 2's. I think I had three 2's, which is hard to do on this golf course. All good par-3s.

But a couple of bad shots. I hit one in the water on 16, a tee shot. I hit a 3-wood in for my third and hit the green. Made a good bogey. And just a couple of bad bogeys on the easy par-4's. One was on 12. Like a 3-iron off the tee, and I hit it in the rough. I chipped it out. I couldn't even get it over the water. That was a bad bogey.

And then another one on 7, I guess, which is a short par-4. Otherwise I was pretty solid, pretty decent golf.

CHRIS REIMER: With a round like that, can you take the positives away from the birdies that you made today and take that into the weekend?

BERNHARD LANGER: I'll have to. I just had four or five weeks off, so I didn't really know what to expect. You come here and you feel kind of rusty, and you're not quite sure that you are going to hit fades or draws or whatever.

I was pretty pleased with the way I played yesterday. And again today was just trying to hit fairways and greens because the rough is so punishing.

And I've achieved, you know, most of it, but I would still like to get rid of those two or three bad ones every day.

CHRIS REIMER: Which ones was it, fades or draws this week?

BERNHARD LANGER: Well, it's pretty straight so far most of the time.

Q. When did you last play?

BERNHARD LANGER: I was over in the German Masters and then I played one round at the Wentworth, Match Play and lost and that was it.

Q. This is your first tournament back?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yes.

Q. How did you do at home with last week? I imagine that would be somewhat of a distraction.

BERNHARD LANGER: Oh, definitely, we sat in the house thinking it wasn't going to be all that bad in Boca Raton and it was bad, much worse than we thought. It was scary at times. I wish we had left actually. But nothing -- the windows held up. One tree fell on the roof against the house and then when the wind turned it around after we were right in the eye. It was quiet for about a half hour, so I went outside and the tree was leaning against the house on the roof.

When I came out afterwards, when the storm and the wind blew the other way, the tree was gone off the roof and flat. It was a big tree. It wasn't nothing like you can pick up with five men.

Q. So the tree went down then the other way?

BERNHARD LANGER: First it went this way and hit the roof and the house, and it was leaning. And after the eye the wind switched, and it came the other direction and blew it off the roof and into the backyard or whatever you call it.

Q. Had you ever tried to ride one out of any sort previously?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yes, I rode the last one out last year, it was October or September, Frances, I think. That was bad, but not this bad. I think the winds then were about 60 to 80. This time we had 100. Close to 100, for several hours. So it was bad.

Q. The front and the back end?

BERNHARD LANGER: The back end almost seems worse than the front end. Even the palm tree went over. Snapped in the middle, which doesn't happen often, these things are pretty sturdy trees. A lot of damage everywhere. It looked like a war zone. I live on a golf course and couldn't get out of our area because trees were everywhere blocking roads. It looked bad. And then we didn't have power. Couldn't watch TV, couldn't take a shower. Couldn't whatever, cook.

If you don't have a generator you are pretty much helpless.

Q. And you still decided to come up here and play?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yes. Well, that's why. Well, I was going to come anyway. That's another reason, to come up here and have air conditioning, hot food and a shower.

Q. So your family came with you?

BERNHARD LANGER: They weren't going to come initially, but after the power didn't come on, they decided to come up here because they were talking two to four weeks. You don't want to be there for two to four weeks without power, and we have the opportunity, the means to come here, so why not.

Q. What do you have rest the left of the year now?

BERNHARD LANGER: Nothing. This is it.

Q. You just came back for one tournament?

BERNHARD LANGER: The fifth major father/son tournament, that's it's.

Q. How many years have you done that?

BERNHARD LANGER: The father/son?

Q. You are joking about a fifth major, but I have heard from IMG it's probably the toughest tournament to get into, a big waiting list?

BERNHARD LANGER: Maybe, I don't know. We have a good time we enjoy it. It is special to play with your son. It's almost a TOUR event sort of thing. They get a chance to play. My son played with Jack Nicklaus two years ago and he played with many other greats and practiced with them. It's fun to be inside the ropes and show them what I'm doing, or have been doing for 30 years. It's pretty neat.

Q. Does the sprinkler head story ever come up with him?

BERNHARD LANGER: He has heard it. He knows it's a rumor. That's okay. You got to have a good sense of humor.

Q. Having been away, not playing the tournament for several weeks, is it better to come to a course like this where you don't have to go real low, or maybe you can grind it out for a few holes and not have to make a ton of birdies?

BERNHARD LANGER: That's a good question. It's a golf course where you really have to hit a lot of good shots. It's not a course where can you get away with some wayward shots and scrambling around, I don't think. It asks for a lot of precision shots. I don't know. I'm not sure whether it's easier to come to a tough course. Or you think it might be easier on a golf course where you can spray it a little bit, and get away with it, you know.

Q. Yesterday, Tom Lehman was in here and he was telling us that he would love to qualify for his own team next year and have the decision to make about being able to play. He would love to if he could. Having been there and knowing what the job entails, could you have ever imagined playing in it? If I'm not mistaken, you were pretty close to the level where you could have be on the team yourself?

BERNHARD LANGER: Well, I started off well, but then I hurt myself. I hurt my left wrist so I didn't play for three months, and by that time it was pretty much history.

That's tough, you know. I mean I could see where he would rather play because it means that he would have a great year as a player, and he as great competitor and still a good player.

On the other hand, he is going to put a lot of effort and time in to his captaincy up until that stage and then to hand it over to someone else is kind of tough, too.

But, you know, he has to make that decision if it comes to that. He needs to figure out what he would rather do. And if his vice-captain or co-captain is happy to take over at whatever stage, then that's great.

Q. Monty sounds like he's all credit to you, for the Eighth Order of Merit. He takes it all the way back with you taking him on the team, improving his confidence. How much are you paying attention to what he's doing in Valderrama and what kind of achievement would that be?

BERNHARD LANGER: Well, we have actually come a little closer the last few years. For some reason I don't see him all that much, but when we see each other I will talk to him a little more. We have had some private conversations and stuff. I was trying to just be a friend to him, not just a

competitor in the sense, not just a golf course, a colleague. But I know he went through some difficult times with his divorce. I was just trying to be there to help him a little bit.

But I always felt that he was a good enough player, and he has had past experience and whatever it takes to come through under pressure and that's why I picked him the last time around.

And, you know, obviously that helped him a little bit because for the British press, it would have been -- or Britain in general, it would have been very difficult for him personally not to make the team because there is so much pressure, so much talk constantly, is he is going to make it? Is he not? It's a thing they wrote about for three or four months continuously.

So I know that he must have felt a lot of pressure. It's not easy to play that way, play well. I thought he did fairly well. He was very close to making the team. I had a very tough decision just picking two guys when I really had five guys that I wanted to pick. But that's the rules, so I had to go with somebody, and I know that I disappointed two, maybe three others. But I can't help it. I didn't make the rules.

But I'm glad that he's back. He is playing great now. He's got his confidence back and I think that's all that took. He has probably gotten over his personal problems as well and there is no reason why he shouldn't play good golf for another 4 to 10 years or whatever.

Q. I think if he wins he could lock up a spot already?

BERNHARD LANGER: I would think so, yes, having won the Dunhill, that's a pretty big money event there.

Q. (Inaudible.)

BERNHARD LANGER: Yes, I think he will be on the team anyways if he just plays some decent golf.

Q. Now, is that any kind of a goal of yours?

BERNHARD LANGER: It was at some stage and still is but it's maybe not realistic. I play very little. I just got into the world -- the American Express Championship a few weeks ago, but I had already made a prior commitment which had nothing to do with golf, so I didn't play and I really needed to play that.

If you want to make the Ryder Cup, I can only make it by world ranking points. I can't make it through prize money because I don't play enough Europe. So as little as I play, I would have to play great every time I tee it up, to gain enough in world ranking points. So it is possible but very unlikely. Let's put it that way.

Q. Go to the Masters?

BERNHARD LANGER: That would help, yes.

Q. Do you ever go back to Augusta before the tournament, or do you just wait for the week?

BERNHARD LANGER: I usually wait for the week, I just show up three or four days before and just enjoy my practice round and looking around, that kind of thing.

Q. I spoke to Ben Crane this morning, who went and played for the first time and said he hit a 3-wood into No. 4. I'm sure you have heard of the change.

BERNHARD LANGER: I've heard of the changes, yes. It's pretty brutal I think.

Q. What did you hit in there normally, a 4, 5?

BERNHARD LANGER: It was anywhere from a 3-iron to maybe a five or 6-iron depending where the pin is. Sometimes I remember hitting a 5-wood in there if the wind is against. That green is not built for a 3-wood. And neither are some other greens built for 4-irons or 3-irons. So that will be interesting to say the least.

(Scorecard.)

Q. You didn't play in the Pro-Am, did you?

BERNHARD LANGER: I did.

Q. I'm not suggesting you're old by any means, but you did come from the Persimmon era, did you give that club a crank?

BERNHARD LANGER: I did. We had to hit it. It was fun hitting it, but that was not made for me. I had a big slice. I thought the club was too flat. When you look at the lie, it was really flat. It just went nowhere. But, I mean, I was a Persimmon lover. I was probably the one that hung on the longest.

Q. When did you give it up, do you remember?

BERNHARD LANGER: I won the Italian Open in 1997 with a Persimmon driver. Then I switched shortly after that.

CHRIS REIMER: You're not going to go back to it?

BERNHARD LANGER: I haven't been back. I'm not going to, I don't think, unless we have a fun event with a Persimmon driver.

CHRIS REIMER: Thank you.

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