

Justin Timberlake Shriners  
Hospitals for Children Open  
TPC Summerlin  
Las Vegas, NE

October 15, 2009

### INTERVIEW OF JEFF KLAUK

(Interview by tape.)

Q. Jeff, 6-under par 65 today, very nicely done.

**JEFF KLAUK:** Yes, thanks I played well. I got off to a good start, made some good putts and, you know, today the weather conditions are so much better than they've been Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. So it was nice to get out there to play with no wind.

Q. Jeff, how much desert golf have you played as a Florida boy?

**JEFF KLAUK:** Oh, not too much, just the occasional one or two that we'd have on the Nationwide Tour a year. Then, you know, not very much. Once or twice a year, that's about it.

Q. So how do adjust? Obviously the ball goes a little bit farther. It's a totally different animal than playing Seaside golf course down in Ponte Vedra?

**JEFF KLAUK:** Oh, gosh, the ball goes so much farther. I mean at home in the morning, the ball goes nowhere. Out here it carries farther than what you expect. So that's a little adjustment. But I enjoy it. You know, these firm fairways out here are nice. It's been pretty wet lately, so it's nice to get some roll.

Q. You haven't gotten to play golf lately, a couple of playoff events, and then just a miserable week for everybody at Turning Stone where the weather was so bad, what have you been doing with yourself?

**JEFF KLAUK:** Trying to get healthy believe it or not. My left ankle has been pretty bad probably about half the year I would say. It's pretty hard to finish my swing the way I want to without being in pain. I'm just trying to take care of that thing as best as I can and get through the year and get it healthy.

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Q. Jeff Klauk with us, a 6-under par 65 in his opening round at the Justin Timberlake Shriners Hospitals for Children Open. Jeff, talk a little bit about your rookie season so far on the PGA TOUR, how is it going for you?

**JEFF KLAUK:** Yes. It's been great. I got off to a really nice start, it's been my dream. I played seven years out on the Nationwide Tour, and finally, you know, to get out here and to play against the best is what we all want for do. Just soaking it all in, learning every week, and you know, it's been a blast. Next year obviously it will be a lot easier. Knowing the golf courses and the practice rounds will be a lot easier and stuff. The main thing is just learning the golf courses which is the most challenging thing.

Q. You had the benefit of being around some of the guys at least, the guys who live down in Jacksonville, was some of the awe factor early in the year not there for you that it may have been for other guys who grew up in other areas and who really may have not been around too many TOUR players?

**JEFF KLAUK:** Oh, no question about it, I've grown up around, you know, Vijay. And when David Duval was No. 1 in the world. All of those guys. They've all helped me out a lot, whether it's just them personally, or just watching them practice the way they do things. Yes, the awe factor was not as nearly as big for me. It was more the fact of getting used to the golf courses and just learning basically a new TOUR. The Nationwide Tour I knew everything about it. It was going back to school again.

Q. Jeff, this is going to be the second winner in a row where there is no qualifying school, after a long run at the fall Fiesta?

**JEFF KLAUK:** I've donated enough money to The Tour, that's for sure.

Q. How does that feel? Did you even send in an application? You didn't need to.

**JEFF KLAUK:** No, no, I didn't even bother. I don't even want to think about filling that thing out. Two years in a row, I wouldn't know what to do with myself the latter part of November and the beginning of December. But it's great, I look forward to it.

Q. What's the matter with your ankle?

**JEFF KLAUK:** I mean there is some tendonitis in there and it's just, you know, not very comfortable. But I feel like I can still play at a high level, so that's why I'm out here trying to compete?

Q. Just out of curiosity, does it affect you more off the tee box, because I notice today in terms of statistics you were only 6 of 14 in fairways hit, is that something ankle related or just one of those days today? That's Chuck bringing up the bad stats. John said to do it by the way.

**JEFF KLAUK:** It's all good. I just didn't finish my swing on a few of them. You could say it's related or not. I got to do a better job of finishing my swing tomorrow.

Q. Jeff, also in terms of your stats, you are 14 of 18 in greens hit, you did have 27 putts, you played extremely well?

**JEFF KLAUK:** Yes, it was good. Nice to finally have a decent round it's been a little while.

Q. Well you have had more than a decent year. It has been a lot of fun to watch one of the good kids from the Nationwide Tour done good on the PGA TOUR, great to see Jeff and, you know, there is a few more opportunities out there to hoist a trophy out there?

**JEFF KLAUK:** For sure. I'm playing them all. I'm definitely going to play two more after this one. That's the goal. It's been a blast. It's nice to finally be out here.

Q. Jeff welcome to the TOUR. Enjoy the run, make it a blast as long and you can and continued success for the rest of the weekend.

**JEFF KLAUK:** All right, guys, thanks a lot.