

## BYEONG HUN AN

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**KATHIE SHEARER:** Thank you, Ben, for coming in. You just had a bit of lunch, time to reminisce on your day, a great day today. It was such a funny morning. I mean, it's windy and then it was warm and then it started to rain.

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Yeah, it was weird. When I started, it was nice and I guess sunny. It was a little breezy, but it wasn't that bad, it was playable. Then got to the last hole and it came out of nowhere, it starts blowing a little harder and it started raining a little bit. So glad I finished before all this came.

**KATHIE SHEARER:** It looks with the weather and what they've predicted this afternoon that your 5 under will really hold up through the day. Have you been playing well coming into this tournament?

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Have I played well?

**KATHIE SHEARER:** Yeah.

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Yeah. I had two weeks off after the HSBC in China. I was hitting it better. I was home the last two weeks and I was hitting it better. And today I putted a lot better than the last couple weeks, so I think that kind of helps.

Yeah, I feel pretty good. Like I said, I got here late. I was supposed to get here Monday, but I got here Tuesday and didn't get to hit balls for like three, four days because all the travels and stuff. Because what I shot today, like I'm quite happy with it.

**KATHIE SHEARER:** Questions, please?

**Q. Ben, just in terms of writing your name, how do you prefer to be announced, is it BYEONG HUN AN?**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Yeah, Ben's fine. I just write down my full name because just keeps the record and everything. But you guys can call me Ben is fine, absolutely fine.

**Q. How much do you play the (inaudible) 8th hole, two eagles (inaudible) 25 feet or so?**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Yeah, I hit a good drive and a 4-iron in, and then yeah, 20, 25 feet, yeah, about right. Then slightly uphill putt right to left and just perfect pace, perfect line, went down the middle.

**Q. You've had a few good chances to win this year.**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Yeah, definitely. This will be great, because I've been close this year. I've been playing a lot better than last year and had some close calls and I didn't get the win. But a win here would be amazing, I think. I played pretty well, I missed out the last FedExCup events, but I finished 42nd, so it's a lot better than last year. But just didn't have the win. Then a win this week definitely will -- I can forget everything from what I did last year.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Well, especially Memorial when I finished 2nd, it's one of the biggest tournaments of the year. It's a really strong field and a lot of good players were playing that week. And it's such a tough track when you're struggling, but that gave me confidence that I can play.

This year was my second year as a full member, so it was definitely giving me confidence because I can play on the PGA TOUR and then maybe one day I'll get a win. Yeah, I think that gave me a lot of confidence and that led kind of to the 2nd place finish again in Canada. Unfortunately, DJ played really well. I feel like it's coming if I keep doing what I'm doing and just need to tighten up little things.

**Q. Can you tell us about your background in terms of where you went to school, and were you raised in the U.S. or Canada?**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** No, I was raised in Korea for 14 years and I moved to the States when I was 14. So half and half. I'm 27, so half in Korea and half in U.S. Went to high school in U.S. and went to college for one year, and then I've been living in U.S. since I was 14.

**Q. Where did you go to college?**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** U.C. Berkeley for one year.

**Q. One more for me. How would you describe today's round? Those conditions out there this morning, while better than they are this afternoon --**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Yeah.

**Q. -- they're still pretty demanding. Would you put this down as one of your better rounds for quite a while?**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Yeah, I think so. It was good overall, everything was good. The tee ball's good. And it's quite tricky. There are a lot of holes with the side winds and you have to judge it perfectly. Then I think I did that pretty good. There wasn't any shots being really

short or really long and missed in the right spots. So yeah, overall it was tricky, but it wasn't -- because I played on Tuesday and it was blowing a little more than this. I think I got lucky with tee time today playing the back nine first when the wind was a bit less than on the front nine, like the real front nine. So I got quite lucky with tee time, I think. That back nine's a little harder when it's blowing wind.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Yeah, table tennis, they only can play until you're 30s, early 30s. It's quite short, so my parents didn't like me to play that. And then my dad liked the golf, so he kind of took me to the range and hit some balls, and that's when I got started golfing. And I wasn't the fastest, I wasn't that quick, and they saw that I wasn't good enough to play table tennis. It turned out pretty good. I'm happy with what I'm doing right now instead of table tennis, so I think they did well.

**Q. Did your parents put pressure on you?**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Oh, not at all, because they won the medal. It's harder to keep up with them. Better get a gold medal one day or win a couple majors, it kind of equals to them. But they've chased so many things in their life and if I keep -- if I compare myself to them, it's just going to be really tough. So I try -- I'm playing golf, I think that helps because they're playing different sports, or they play different sports than what I'm playing right now, so that helps. But no pressure, no, not at all.

**Q. The Presidents Cup must be on your radar, yes?**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Yes. Got about a year left, I think. Missed out the last two President Cups by a little bit, so hopefully I'll be back here next year about the same time.

**Q. (Question about military service in Korea.)**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** No, that doesn't exempt me or anything yet, but I got my green card. In law, I still can postpone it for a couple more years. That's why I'm still here playing. Like my age they all go to the military service, but as of now I don't need to go for now, but I'm just doing what the law says.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Yeah, definitely a piece of my mind. I've got Olympics coming up in two years, so hopefully I get to play in that. And the medal, that will get me exempt in the military service, so that's definitely in my mind.

**Q. Just wondering, you said you spent your time between Korea and the U.S. growing up. What players did you look up to? Did you look up to Korean players like K.J. or --**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Like I'm sure it's all the same for everyone my age, it has to be Tiger when I grew up. Because I started playing golf when I was 7, so that's 1998 when Tiger just started to come out and destroying everything. I grew up looking at him. That's -- because that's time of the year I think K.J. was still in Korea. I think K.J. played on the PGA TOUR in 2000, I think. When I started golf, I definitely was watching Tiger. And then it was like, well, hopefully I'll be good one day like him. But he's really good now. He has some impressive record since.

**Q. If you win a medal for South Korea in Japan you're exempt from service?**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Yeah.

**Q. Pressure much?**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** No. I mean, winning a medal is a huge -- it's no pressure. It will be nice if I can win it. It's good for obviously my country, but it's a bonus that comes with it. Like exempting military service, that's like a bonus. Just winning the medal first kind of definitely is a pride because my parents won it and hopefully, you know, that's my priority is win for my family so I don't -- so at least I am somewhere up there.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Not really, no.

**Q. Any medal, a bronze medal?**

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Yeah, any medal you get exempt from military service.

**KATHIE SHEARER:** Any more questions, ladies and gentlemen? Thank you, great round today.

**BYEONG HUN AN:** Thank you.