

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
January 24, 2019



XANDER SCHAUFFELE (-3)

Q. Tiger said you hit two fairways, but I think it was three.

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: He said two? He knew it was three. It was three.

Q. He was impressed with the score given the fairway count. What did you think?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Yeah, it was a rough day off the tee. I hit one right, I flew one out right on 15. He said -- we were walking down. He said, "Congrats." We both started laughing. He said, "It didn't go left." So obviously I have a little bit of homework to do this evening.

Q. Was left much of an issue for you in practice?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: I hit -- yesterday I had a bet with my putting coach and his buddy, it was beers for fairways and I hit six of seven yesterday. We had the same bet today, so I think the tides have turned for my buddy over here. It's fine, it's Torrey South, you're not going to hit many fairways in general. I was smiling and having fun, so do a little bit of range work.

Q. You got a lot out of it?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: I got pretty much everything out of it. There's maybe two putts I would like back, but I mean, it's poa annua and I'm happy with my 3 under.

Q. Playing with Tiger and this is your hometown, that big gallery and most of the noise is for him. What is that like to be in that?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: I thought I got more cheers than he did, honestly. I was hearing more things than -- I'm just kidding.

Q. Toward the end when the folks were well lubricated.

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Yeah, okay. Truth came out, right? They were actually pulling for me.

Yeah, you know, it is what it is. It's white noise to all of us I think out here on Tour. It wasn't that big of a deal.

Q. It's not something that you kind of have to get used to, it's just part of the

background?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Yeah. You know, I'm not bothered by a whole lot. Fortunately, I don't have mouse ears. When people are running around, I don't really think much about it.

Q. Was there a moment there, Xander, when you think, I'm playing with Tiger for the first time?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Yeah, on the first tee, you know. It was like, we're going to tee it. But he's a cool dude. We were just chatting and hanging out. There were a few waits, we were just talking about everything but golf. We had a good time.

Q. The North course, obviously really low scores?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: I saw that, yeah. 10 under, Jon.

Q. Yeah. So does it put more pressure on or does it get you more excited about getting over there?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Well, if I hit two fairways tomorrow I would love to shoot 3 under again. Torrey North's rough is just as thick as the South. Yeah, you know, it just shows the course is gettable. I don't know where the pins are, but I'm assuming they're not too crazy considering the fact that the first five scores are from the North course. We'll have some fun.

Q. Did you notice anything that Tiger did and learned from it or you were focused on yourself?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Yeah, you know, I like to look around a little bit. I always check out my competitors and see what they do well. Obviously Tiger's tempo and his iron play is incredibly smooth and consistent. He doesn't miss too many iron shots, so that's a beautiful thing to see. Besides that, yeah, he rolls it well, he does everything good. He's Tiger Woods, so come on.

Q. On 13 when you followed that putt in, was that a confidence walk or were you --

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: No, that was a thought-I-missed-it-right walk. Tiger's ball actually slid across the hole from a different angle, almost missed low. I asked him if he knew that was going to happen, he said, yeah, I've had that putt before. I was like, makes sense. I haven't had my putt too often, so I can't really think it was going to go in, but now I know.

Q. How about that ovation you got on 13 when that did fall in?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: I was kind of embarrassed that I early walked just so horribly thinking I missed the putt, so I was just happy with a 4.

Q. Thoughts on playing with Tiger, and do you want to talk about the Presidents Cup at all?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: No, no, it's too early. I think he knows I'm really hoping to be there. He hasn't asked me that question.

Yeah, it was an awesome -- it was a really chill, fun and relaxing day. Torrey South can be a beast and Tony, Tiger and I just sort of fed off each other a little bit here and there and I think we all enjoyed each other's company.

Q. You've got to think with two wins you're feeling like that's definitely something you can be on this year?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Yeah, it's a dream start. Definitely expecting to be on it versus not with the two wins. Just need to keep playing how I'm playing and we'll see where the cards fall.