



JOAQUIN NIEMANN (-3)

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: Today is really -- so my mom's, how you say, (inaudible) is for me from my mom. She has a 20-days old baby that was the diagnosed with, I don't know how to say it in English.

Q. We know what it is, yeah.

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: She needs the more expensive medicine ever that is like 2.1 million to keep living and then yeah, she got 100 days to get the medicine.

Q. One hundred days?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: Yeah, that's like the goal. I mean, the earlier she does is the better because there is some cases that people, they don't do it older than two years old because it doesn't work and the younger kids, the better it works.

So we did a -- we got a foundation, like an Instagram page, they're doing it in Chile, having a lot of followers. They've been getting like \$100,000 in Chile and I found that I could do like a big help here in the U.S. because being here on the Tour, there's a lot of people that is really interested in this kind of stuff.

If I'm able to help, it would be amazing, it would be a dream for me come true. That's why this week I'm going to donating \$5,000 for every birdie I make and 10,000 for every eagle, and also my purse from this week.

Q. So Rafita's father is the brother of your mother?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: Cousin.

Q. It's your mother's cousin?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: Mother's cousin. Rafita's father is primo with my mom.

Q. And they live in Santiago?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: They live five hours south of Santiago, but they are in a medical center right now in Santiago. So he's right now with a mask and he got to deal with a mask all the time until he get the medicine. There is a medicine out there that is the DNA and that way he can get the (inaudible) on his muscles so his muscles doesn't shut down.

Q. Is your mother close with her cousin?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: Yeah, they're really close. Yeah, so they're really close. And I also grew up with Felipe. Felipe's the dad. He help me a lot growing up, we played together.

Q. Felipe, how old is he?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: Mid 30s, yeah.

Q. When you heard about this, did it surprise you that a drug would cost that much money?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: When they told me that he is going to have like a really bad disease I didn't realize what it was, like I didn't put like much attention on it.

Then a couple days wore on and they tell us the bad news that this medicine was this much amount of money and is crazy how many people, like all my brothers, the couples of my brothers, they all helping out. They're doing like this campaign and they've been on the news in Chile, a lot of followers in Israel, like soccer players from Chile like sharing everything on the social media, so it's pretty nice that they're getting all them. After they told me that news, I probably would seem like I was going crazy, like what can I do to help out.

Q. What is the health care system like in Chile? Is it similar to here where it's mostly private insurance?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: Yeah, they've got insurance, but yeah, but it's not -- I don't think any company will cover \$2 million medicine, so that's the part. Yeah, they do it with basic stuff and not stuff like this.

Q. And it's all private companies rather than the government covering it?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: They've got both, but what they are right now is the insurance.

Q. Have you ever been around any type of family member who's dealt with something like this?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: No. I mean, none of my family has any other like different disease. This is like the first, yeah. And I doing some research, it's crazy, the odds of getting this disease is like one out of like 10,000 kids, so it's pretty --

Q. Very rare?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: Yeah.

Q. It's interesting, the big story this week or one of the big stories, Camilo and

everything that happened to his daughter. It's a similar theme here of kids getting sick. Is there any part of that that affected you or that played into this at all or does it relate in any way?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: I mean, the thing is I don't know, just thinking about him. I love him and his family, they're really nice. And he's said things like this happen, so I think it's kind of like a mission that for me to help out for them (inaudible) since I grew up since I was kids. So I just feel good like helping back.