PATRICK CANTLAY (-14)



Q. Patrick, so tomorrow you've got your buddy in the final group. What do you anticipate that will be like? I guess you're used to that by now, you've gone head to head in the final round in tournaments and you're 1 and 1.

PATRICK CANTLAY: We've had a few final rounds together, so should be a comfortable pairing, I'm looking forward to it.

Q. Do you play much against each other in practice rounds or is it mostly team stuff?

PATRICK CANTLAY: We play, yeah, most practice rounds together and we play a lot at home. It won't be anything out of the usual.

Q. I don't think you've yet won in the state of California on the PGA TOUR. Where would this one rank just from growing up here and the stature of this tournament?

PATRICK CANTLAY: Well, I won at Sherwood.

Q. ZOZO that year was at Sherwood, that's on me.

PATRICK CANTLAY: Yeah, this golf course is a golf course I grew up on, playing in college a number of times and having the NCAA Championships here. Being from southern California, it's one of the tournaments on the list that I'd like to win the most.

Q. Do you have a lot of family and old friends out here watching this week?

PATRICK CANTLAY: I do, a lot of friends and family. They've been out Thursday, Friday, Saturday and I'm sure they'll be out tomorrow. A lot of friends from Virginia Country Club where I grew up just down the road. It's been great.

Q. You're a player who when you're playing well you look like you're never going to lose again. Are you surprised that it's been whatever it's been since you last won?

PATRICK CANTLAY: You know, golf's like that sometimes. I've had some close calls. I had a year not too long ago where it felt like every close call went my way and lately it hasn't been like that the last year or so, but looking to change that tomorrow.

Q. Who has recently gotten the better end of the rivalry with you and Xander when you've been playing together?

PATRICK CANTLAY: Not sure. We trade so often. I mean, we play a number of rounds together, so it's hard to keep a real good tally on it.

Q. Do you have any good stories from beating him?

PATRICK CANTLAY: I think, like Cameron said, we're 1-1 in final rounds together, so hopefully I can get the edge tomorrow.

Q. Patrick, when did your friendship really start? How did it start with Xander and how much has it grown since he moved close to you?

PATRICK CANTLAY: Yeah, we really didn't -- hadn't spent much time together until the Presidents Cup and then Fred Couples kind of, you know, suggested that Xander and I play together. We played four matches together that week and we really became friends that week in Australia.

He moved to Jupiter within the last year and so we've been spending more time together. He's just a real close friend of mine.

Q. Off the golf course do you do a lot of stuff, too?

PATRICK CANTLAY: Yeah, we'll play and we'll go out to dinner or hang out, yeah.

Q. Do you play for stakes or is it just practice rounds, banter, or are you grinding against each other when you're practicing?

PATRICK CANTLAY: Depends what we have going on. We might have, you know, a 2-on-2 game, we've played with Sam Burns and Scottie Scheffler a number of times. We might switch up the teams and throw balls. Play at home a lot with Rickie and J.T. and go out and get a nice competitive game.

Q. Between the Zurich Classic and Presidents Cups and Ryder Cups and practice rounds, I suppose, what's the best you've ever seen it between the two of you where both of you had it rolling and were kind of just feeding off of each other?

PATRICK CANTLAY: Yeah, we played great at Whistling Straits together and we played great at the Zurich the year that we won. I think we had a round or two that we played really well at the Presidents Cup in Charlotte, too.

I think we're just comfortable playing with each other in those formats, alternate shot and best ball. You know, I think by now we've played so many matches together that it just feels kind of normal.

Q. I hate to make this about you and Xander entirely, but it is an interesting storyline. Do you trash talk at all when you play against each other?

PATRICK CANTLAY: Not really, not really.

Q. Patrick Cantlay does not do trash talk?

PATRICK CANTLAY: I mean, not that much, but we'll needle each other every once in a while.

Q. OK so there is a needle there. Does Xander give it back to you in any way?

PATRICK CANTLAY: Yeah, for sure. We'll needle each other, but we don't necessarily needle each other as much about golf as much as other stuff.

Q. (No microphone.)

PATRICK CANTLAY: Yeah, I mean, I played solid golf today, I didn't make any long putts or anything. Didn't really give myself too many chances, but all in all a solid day and in good position for tomorrow.

