

ROUND 3 QUICK QUOTES
February 17, 2024



XANDER SCHAUFFELE (-12)

Q. Xander, great day. Started off with a big bang at 1 and then steady Eddie, but I watched you coming home a bit, short game totally on point.

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Yeah, to play good golf around Riviera you've got to sort of fire on all cylinders and been able to do that the last couple days. Just wanted to give myself a shot tomorrow. I see Pat's still making birdies, so he looks like a tough man to beat right now.

Q. Slippery one on 17. If you're not familiar with that green, we saw golf balls being pulled off the front of 17 all day. We even brought up on the broadcast, if you're not careful, you could putt it off the green from back there. At any point were you thinking that?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Thanks for the commentary. Glad I beat the odds on that one.

Yeah, for sure. Fortunately, it was into the wind actually, which helps a bit.

Q. Did that actually cross your mind, a breeze on a putt like that?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: A little bit. I'm taking everything I can. If there's no wind or if it was even downwind, that putt would be near impossible, so very happy to two-putt that one.

Q. All right. We've talked a lot about your friend Patrick all week because he's been leading really out of the gates. We talk about home course advantage, yadda, yadda. You were born and raised not too far from here, you played amateur golf, junior golf, et cetera. This isn't exactly an away game for you very much either, you're familiar with this property.

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: No. The first time I played it was on Tour.

Q. Really?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Yeah. Probably my sophomore, junior year on Tour.

Q. We had bad intel --

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: San Diego State played here, I wasn't on the team. I went to Long Beach State my freshman year. So they qualified for Nationals and got to match play, I believe. That was here on property. Yeah, my first time on property here was for sure on



Tour.

Q. Wow, OK. So your good friend, your partner in two-man, et cetera, right now likely projecting in the final group tomorrow. How cool is that going to be? Is it going to be fun for you guys? Obviously will you needle each other a little if you get to that point?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: No, it's a pretty comfortable pairing for us. We play a lot week in and week out and we both love to compete. There's nothing more than we like to do is compete in big events. We've done it a few times in the past and taken shots at each other, it's something we talk about and something we want to keep doing.

Q. Xander, do you have a most memorable round with Patrick as far as in competition?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: I mean, his putt at the Ryder Cup probably stands out for me in my most recent memory. Just something that I knew he's capable of in a moment where things were really against him, he sort of walked through the fire there. That's sort of what I can think of now.

Q. Competition-wise though, going head to head in a big event?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Yeah, we've played in the final pairing a couple times. I got the best of him at Travelers, he got the best of me at BMW. We know where we stand and how we compete against each other.

Q. How many times do you think you guys have played together practice rounds, competition?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Yeah, we don't get paired much. We joked about how we never really start Thursday, Friday off together very often, probably because we play Mondays and Tuesdays very often as well.

A ton.

Q. Would you put it at dozens or hundreds?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: I mean, I'm not sure. There's an easy way to go about it. My eighth year on Tour, I don't know what number it is for him, but for the last three to five years it feels like we've played a few Monday, Tuesday games.

Q. You guys have been teammates so many times, Zurich and Presidents Cup, Ryder Cup. Is there something where -- maybe this doesn't happen anymore, but like the first time you guys actually were put in that position and where you had to beat each other, was there something sort of funny about that or sort of strange?



XANDER SCHAUFFELE: I don't think so. When we play on Mondays and Tuesdays we're trying to beat each other. I think the only time we're really rooting like hard for each other is when we're playing team events. We joke, I'm rooting for myself harder than anyone else and same goes for him. But of course I'd like to see him do well, but when we're in the final group together it's pretty obvious what we're trying to do.

Q. Have you ever signed the wrong scorecard before?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Signed the wrong one?

Q. Yeah. Jordan got DQ'd yesterday. Has that situation ever happened to you?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: No. I mean, I don't think that I have. I know Jordan, it's really unfortunate. This is a tournament people -- he's a big pull for us, he's a top 3 pull for us on Tour so it's not good that he's not here.

Q. How would you feel about moving forward not keeping your own score; if that was automated, if that was a volunteer?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Yeah, it's part of the tradition of the game. I mean, Jordan, he knows, he knows what happened. He was really sick and he had a rough last hole and I can see how it all went down. I heard he had to go kind of ask some questions around the -- I heard he had to go to the restroom and came back like a minute later and the card was wrong. Maybe there needs to be some sort of softening on the rules, but for the most part we all kind of know what goes on in there. It's really unfortunate it happened.

Q. "Softening" probably a poor choice of words in this case.

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Thanks, Doug. It's good to see you, too.

Q. What one part of your game do you think is carrying you the most this week on this course?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: I'm not sure. I feel like all parts are pretty solid. I started to hit the driver better yesterday. Thursday was a little shaky, today felt pretty good. I started to hit some really nice shots into those par 5s as well where you have to sort of capitalize, including 10.

It's a course where if one thing goes a bit off to the sides, you've got to rely on other parts of your game to get up and down. And of course there's certain areas of the course where you can't leave yourself, and today when we were out of position we did a really good job of putting it back to a place where you can get up and down from.

Q. I don't know how it's going to finish, but is there a deficit that's going to be too tough tomorrow?



XANDER SCHAUFFELE: I mean, there's just going to be a certain amount of self belief that needs to go in. I'm just really -- I'm not going to look at the board too much. I feel like if I can just keep doing what I'm doing, get some pressure on Pat or whoever's going to be in that group is the most important thing.

Q. Speaking of self belief, making the turn yesterday you were only at like 2 under and you're 10 under since then. Did something kind of change there that got you going?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Just kind of got in the flow of things. It was a bit of a slow start. I birdied 17 and 18 on Thursday, which was big for me to sort of just get away from the cut line, it was a little bit sweaty coming in, was leaking a little bit of oil and wasn't super happy about what was happening.

Kind of just got into some better flow, and I had a comfortable pairing with Tom today and the pace of play was nice in twos. If you got into a good rhythm, you could kind of just keep playing golf.

Q. And how important do you think it is for stars to win on Tour, the biggest names just for the Tour as a whole?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: I mean, I think, you know, like it's important obviously, but I was talking to the CEO of AmEx and he was talking about the ratings when Nick won. People love the Cinderella story.

I'm not sure what the ratings were for Waste Management, but Charley being -- I'm biased obviously being from San Diego, but him being one of the older guys trying to win out here, being a younger crowd, it's sort of the beautiful thing about the PGA TOUR, anyone can win any week and there's a lot of stories that go around.

Q. Xander, knowing Pat as well as you do, what is something about him that you admire most that we just -- I mean, not all the obvious stuff that we see necessarily, but what do you admire most about him just as a friend and as confidant?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Something I admire? He's very thoughtful. He comes across really quiet at times, but he's a really thoughtful friend and he does reach out to me when we're on different sides of the coast just to check in and see how I'm doing. People don't really know him very well, but he's a good friend when it comes to things like that. I'm not sure that really answers your question, but he's just one of my good buddies.

Q. Thoughtful, thoughtful's probably the keyword?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Yeah.



Q. Xander, in your opinion, what makes the 10th hole a good golf hole?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: You hit a really good shot off the tee. If you have the right club to hit it sort of like just over that left bunker, you can open up the hole. In order to hit it there you have to hit either like a high fade or have a perfect sort of draw 3-wood.

If you hit a driver there, it's probably not going to sit just because it doesn't have enough spin and if you hit it in the wrong spot, try to execute your shot.

Like yesterday I spun up a 3-wood way short right and I was looking to chip it into a bunker or chip it 60 yards away from the pin or 40 yards away from the pin and had a pretty hard up-and-down. So I think reasons like that make it a fun hole.

Q. Xander, obviously still a little bit of golf to be played here, but I'm wondering what is your recent record against Pat playing matches?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: I mean, we have like a 1-1 head to head in final groups in tournaments. I think we were tied in that 1-1 count. I don't know if I'm in the final group or not, but looks like he's going to have a pretty significant lead.

Q. How about just playing on the road?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: I'm not sure. We do play a lot of team games whether it's against Sam and Scottie or Jordan and J.T., we like to mix and match and play really fun games.

Q. Do you not usually play against him then?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: We do. People needle us, you know what I'm saying, to split us up as teammates, but we'll do whatever, it's not a big deal.

