

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW: DUFFY WALDORF (-6)
August 25, 2017



DAVE SENKO: Duffy, good start, 6-under 66. I think just your only bogey was at 17, I believe.

DUFFY WALDORF: Yes, that's correct.

DAVE SENKO: Maybe just talk about your day.

DUFFY WALDORF: Well, it was a nice day. I felt really comfortable out there. I was driving the ball well and I felt good with the putter. That's kind of been the difference the last few tournaments, been feeling better with the putter.

I didn't do anything great on the front, but I did birdie 1 and 3 so I was off to a good start. Then I just kind of parred and just was kind of not getting it too close but not getting in trouble. Greens are pretty firm out here so you've got to pick your spots. Usually if you can get a short iron in, you have some chances for birdie, but any time you get anything more than a wedge in it can be tricky to get the ball close, and missing the green is a challenge. So I was fairly conservative because I felt good with the putter.

Made the turn 2 under, so I started hitting some nice shots on the back side, started hitting it close, got some wedges. I made a nice birdie on 12 with a pitching wedge in, hit it in there about eight feet and made the putt.

And then on 14 I hit another good wedge shot about 10 feet and made that for birdie. 15, I hit it right in front of the green and hit a beautiful pitch shot to about a foot away for birdie. Then 16 I hit another good wedge shot in there about seven, eight feet for birdie. Missed the green to the right on 17 and I tried to putt it off the fringe. It was a pretty smooth shot but a little far away and left it short, had about a 12-footer for par, which I missed. Then hit two good shots on 18 to the back of the green. Didn't hit a very good first putt, but made a nice six-footer for birdie for my second putt.

DAVE SENKO: How far was the first one?

DUFFY WALDORF: First putt was about 35 feet down the hill. I kind of lagged -- it was lag central and I really stuck with the lag, I really focused on that. Over-lagged it.

DAVE SENKO: You mentioned your putting, that things have gotten a little better the last few events. Anything in particular that's turned it around?

DUFFY WALDORF: Well, just in Minnesota, I played in Minnesota and I worked pretty hard on my putting there and I had a little drill I was working on and it seemed to really help. I felt like my stroke was just a little off. I just saw results in Minnesota, I started making some

putts.

Then Dick's, same thing. Well, I didn't hit the ball as well at Dick's but putted pretty well. And here today it just, you know, all came together. There's a comfort level. Actually just felt like each round you putt better I think you get a little more comfortable, a little more at ease and that's where I was at today.

Q. Duffy, it seems like -- we talk about length, but there are so many great players out here, it's such a fine line, isn't it, between one and 10 really in this field every week?

DUFFY WALDORF: Pretty much is. I'm always amazed -- obviously putting is so important to shooting low but so many guys just hit the ball in the fairway, hit the ball up by the green and they chip well. They're complete players, there's a lot of complete players. There's very few guys that you watch and say, well, he doesn't hit his irons very well or he drives it really wild or he doesn't putt very well. Pretty much there's so many complete players out here just because they've been at it so long and they just keep refining their game.

So no matter the course, and we play kind of courses that are in the middle as far as difficulty. Some are difficult but some you've got to shoot 6 under par to have a good round. Either way you've got to really perform and be at the top of your game. There's always 50 guys that you look at and say, well, if any one of these guys get hot, they're going to be tough to beat. That's why Langer's run has been so impressive, because he takes it to a level like where everyone else is at and then he accelerates and goes beyond it.

Q. How do you keep it going to -- I know you don't look ahead to Sunday but looking ahead to tomorrow even, do you do anything different, do you approach the round any differently than you did today?

DUFFY WALDORF: Well, I would love to play the same way I did today, so you really are looking to get into the comfort zone, get comfortable feel like I did today. I want to just feed on those feelings that I had today hitting the ball and obviously when I get on the green, have that comfortable feeling like I'm going to either make a really good putt or make the putt.

DAVE SENKO: Change the subject real quick. Washington wines, do you have a favorite one or do you like Washington wines?

DUFFY WALDORF: I do like Washington wines. I actually, they do really well with syrah and merlot up here, but Leonetti has always been my favorite. I know that's kind of a go-to name. I haven't really had any Quilceda Creek, but Leonetti was like the first one that I had and it's like, wow, this is like -- and this was I'm talking like 15, 20 years ago when Washington was just kind of barely on the map. I was like, wow, this is competitive here, we've got a contender here. Napa was kind of the king but Leonetti is right there.

Q. Duffy, your first name, how did you get the name Duffy?

DUFFY WALDORF: Well, believe it or not, my dad was calling me Wolfie and my mom and my grandma didn't like that name. They started calling me Duff because I would always fall on my duff a lot. This happened before I was two. So they compromised and came up with Duffy, simple as that. This also happened before I was two. My mom's here, so if you want to confer with her, she definitely knows that's how it happened.

Q. That's nice to have the family with you, to have mom come out?

DUFFY WALDORF: Yeah, it's nice. She lives in Oregon so it's good to have her here.

DAVE SENKO: Is she still doing the golf balls for you?

DUFFY WALDORF: Yeah. I send the golf balls to her. I've got a few here that she's going to do for me this week, but I'm getting them in advance. She and her art students, they work on them. Actually, my sister and my niece and nephew have been doing them, too. So I'm shipping six dozen balls at a time to them and they're working on them. Then they ship them to me when I'm home and I pick them up, or occasionally if I'm on a big run I might need them shipped to the tour but I'm all set when I get to the tournament.

Q. They've been doing that for years and years?

DUFFY WALDORF: Yeah. It started really with my kids and myself, and then after a while my kids -- you know, after decades of doing it, they stayed home and I would do it myself for quite a while. Then now I've come upon this because it's not impossible, I get tired of doing it when I'm playing the round and then get home and got to do six a day. Now I've farmed it out to my mom and my niece and nephew and they do a great job.

DAVE SENKO: Is your daughter still here at school?

DUFFY WALDORF: She is. She's on summer break but she's got one more quarter left starting in September.

Q. Where is she going?

DUFFY WALDORF: Seattle University. She's going to Seattle University. She's from Los Angeles.

DAVE SENKO: Okay, Duffy.

DUFFY WALDORF: Sure, no problem.