

2026 U.S. Women's Amateur - Champion-20260809_183207-Meeting Recording

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16m 59s

● **Angela Ding** started transcription

 **Jill Painter Lopez** 0:05

And then...

Obviously you played with such a big lead. What was it like playing with that lead and trying to hold on to it and not open up the door?

 **Angela Ding** 0:16

Yeah, I think just trying not to let my guard down the whole time. I mean, of course, it can get easy to just think like, oh, this win is going to be in the bag. Like, I just need to pour out pretty much. But I was like, I really need to just stay strong and keep my foot on the gas pedal and just keep playing my best golf that I have been all week. So

That's what I just tried to do coming down the stretch.

 **Jill Painter Lopez** 0:38

Thank you.

 **Angela Ding** 0:40

Perfect, Cameron.

 **Jourdan, Cameron** 0:43

Hey, Asterisk, congratulations. I think you held off on the tears until you looked at your dad after your chip right there on 12. What was going through your mind in that moment when you kind of chip it up there to five, 6 feet and you kind of realized that you were about to clinch it and share it with your dad?

 **Angela Ding** 0:45

Thank you.

She.

Thats.

Yeah, I think it was just really special. Just he was really amazed at my tee shot to get it there. So I was just laughing down the fairway. And then, yeah, I mean, it kind of became clear that I was going to be able to clinch it when she was putting for par and I was going to be putting for birdie. So I was just trying to stay calm over that putt. I mean, we were both kind of knew what was going to happen. And I can tell he was kind of getting emotional.

So just trying to stay calm over that putt and then just trying to make that par and get out of there.

 **Jourdan, Cameron** 1:33

You've experienced a ton of highs already in your career and some moments that have been on camera like at the Augusta National Women's Amateur earlier this year. I'm curious about your mentality and what you've learned in these high pressure situations that's allowed you to thrive as much as you have.

 **Angela Ding** 1:49

Yeah, I mean, I guess just learning from every experience, I mean, I always kind of told myself that every loss was a chance to learn and I'm just glad that I was able to clinch it this time because there was a lot of learning going on, getting second all the time. And I'm just glad that I was able to show some people that I don't just get second all the time and I was finally able to clinch that trophy today.

 **Jourdan, Cameron** 2:12

Thank you.

 **Angela Ding** 2:14

Will go to Everett next.

 **Everett Munez, GGP** 2:16

Congratulations, Asterisk. Savi, you signed this young girl's hat after you finished up the round today. And I'm just wondering, at just 17 years old, what's it mean to you to already be an inspiration for those next generations?

 **Angela Ding** 2:32

Yeah, it means a lot because I mean, when I was a little girl, I always looked up to the best players. So, you know, I just assume that they're trying to do the same and that means a lot to me that I would be someone that they would look up to. I mean, I'm just really glad that I'm able to inspire young girls like other people did for me. And I just hope that other people get that inspiration that I did when I was that young.

 **Everett Munez, GGP** 2:55
Thank you.

 **Angela Ding** 2:56
We'll go Brentley.

 **Brentley Romine** 3:03
OK, alright, can you hear me?

 **Angela Ding** 3:05
Yes.

 **Brentley Romine** 3:06
All right, perfect. A couple questions here. What was the most challenging part for you with all the delays this week and basically having days and rounds bleed into one another and, you know, not knowing when you're going to go back out or when the weather's going to roll in? What was the most challenging for you?

 **Angela Ding** 3:26
I think it does get challenging to have a rhythm when you're, you know, stopping here and there and you're just kind of going back and forth. But I also think it kind of just helped us kind of calm down and not get too ahead of ourselves on the course. I mean, I know my dad needed a little break at times, but yeah, I was just pretty happy to kind of get those little breaks here and there. I mean, they seemed like they were at the perfect time every single time we went in. But yeah, I mean, obviously it kind of seems like it gets hard when you're kind of losing your rhythm, especially if you are on fire going into the, you know, next hole or the next match. But I think it was kind of good for us.

BR **Brentley Romine** 4:06

And speaking of your dad, you said during the trophy presentation that he did everything he could to get ready for this to be able to caddy for you. What did he have to do to get ready? What were you kind of talking about there?

 **Angela Ding** 4:22

I mean, he got in shape for sure. But yeah, yeah, yeah. But yeah, I mean, he hasn't caddied since I was probably under 12. So I mean, it's been like 6 years-ish since he's even touched the bag.

BR **Brentley Romine** 4:26

Yeah, he's lost weight too, right?

 **Angela Ding** 4:41

other than maybe a couple rounds here and there. But yeah, I mean, I told them, you know, this event, if you really want a caddy, it's going to be 36 holes. Like if we make it all the way to the end, it's going to be like 4 rounds of 36. So you're going to really have to tough it out. I mean, it's in Tennessee, it's going to be hot. So he was kind of mentally preparing and physically preparing for what was going to happen this week. And

BR **Brentley Romine** 4:59

Yeah.

 **Angela Ding** 5:04

Yeah, I think the brakes helped and I think he was just mentally thinking about the end goal.

BR **Brentley Romine** 5:10

And sorry, if I can add on to that too, you mentioned it's been a long time since he's caddied for you. He's said it in the past, even during ANWA this year, that he's kind of learned over this last year or so to not be so intense. Was this kind of like the culmination of everything, like him being at peace with...

with your game and being a dad and you feeling comfortable enough to have him, you know, on the bag for such a big tournament.



Angela Ding 5:37

Yeah, I think so. I mean, he, of course, kind of, I guess, caddies for me when we're like at home. He just is kind of there to help me out. But so he's the one who knows my game the best. But, you know, I do have to remind him sometimes, like, not everything is such a big deal. And I mean, I kind of do that for him and for myself. Like, not everything is the end of the world.

you know, sometimes he would get mad if I wasn't inside the girl that I was playing against. So I just feel like, you know, it's not the end of the world. I could still make it and she can miss. Like anything can happen in match play. And, you know, I think we were both just keeping each other steady throughout the round. I mean, I think it's better when he's able to tell me stuff during the round rather than after the round. So I think it was good for both of us.

Right, we'll go to Sydney.



Berger, Sydney P. (KFSN-TV) 6:25

Hey, Asterisk, I just want to kind of hear your take on if it's sank in yet that you've actually won this thing. When do you think it will sink in if it hasn't yet? And kind of just where do you go from here? You come home and celebrate or what does the rest of the, I guess, next week look like for you?



Angela Ding 6:40

Yeah, I mean, I think it definitely hasn't sunk in yet. I don't know really when it will. I mean, a lot of stuff comes later in life because of this event, but I mean, I just hope that I can kind of appreciate this and not just get too ahead of myself with other things that are going on in my life or other events that may seem more important or anything. So I just hope that.

I'm willing to appreciate this event more than anything else, and I just am probably going to be preparing for whatever I have next, but hopefully I can have some time to reminisce on this week.



Berger, Sydney P. (KFSN-TV) 7:12

Do you feel like you've been able to put Chowchilla on the map now? Are people still asking you where it is in California? Or did you put them on the map?



Angela Ding 7:18

Yeah.

Yeah, for sure. I mean, nobody really knows where it is still, but I think people are starting to figure it out. But yeah, I mean, hopefully they're definitely proud of me and I'm super grateful that everyone in Chowchill is supporting me and just always by my side. So even if no one knows where Chowchill is, I know who's there and who supports me and they've always been there since day one, so I'm super grateful to have Chowchilla on my side.



Berger, Sydney P. (KFSN-TV) 7:49

Love it. Thank you.



Angela Ding 7:51

Okay, Gabe.



Gabriel Camarillo 7:54

Asterisk, we talked a few months ago at the Curtis Cup practice session, and you told me about pressure, about how there's a good kind of pressure that you try to find where you're consistently going for whatever shot you're looking for. What kind of pressure did you feel in the final round? Because you were so far ahead, how did you consistently find that?

fire to keep going, keep burning when you already had a big lead for most of the day today.



Angela Ding 8:19

Yeah, I think just towards the end, I was just trying to tell myself, you know, I've been playing good all week, so I just need to keep doing that and not let my game change at all. But yeah, in the morning round, I was just thinking, you know, it's going to be a tough match. I mean, we're in the finals. We're both going to be playing really well, so there is going to be a lot of pressure.

we were pretty much one up to tie the whole front nine and pretty much the whole back nine too. So I think it was just trying to really just keep my foot on the pedal

and just try and play my best golf all day. I mean, you don't really feel a lot of pressure in the morning match, but that's where you try and get ahead so that you don't feel a lot of pressure on the back up.

 **Gabriel Camarillo** 8:57

And then my second question would be with how the weather delays kind of messed up the schedule, the semi-finals started today and then you were able to go straight into the finals. Did you like not having the night to just prepare for the championship, just going straight into the championship once you won the semi-final?

 **Angela Ding** 9:15

I think it was better to just have the semi-finals today just because, you know, I got that win and then, you know, I was playing really well in the last couple holes. I mean, we only played five holes, I think, in the morning. So it wasn't too tiring and it wasn't too stressful, but it was also good to just play really good in the morning. So I kind of set the tone for later this afternoon and I just felt really well going into the finals, so I think that was something, well, that kind of helped me to get prepared for the finals.

 **Gabriel Camarillo** 9:45

And quick follow-up, which weather do you prefer? Right now it's triple digits in Chowchilla, or do you prefer the weather that you had to deal with golfing all week in Tennessee?

 **Angela Ding** 9:55

I think the brakes help. So maybe in Tennessee right now, I mean, the weather produces like a great golf course. So I mean, I don't think the golf courses are looking like this in chinchilla right now. But yeah, just I think a little bit of both. I mean, they probably feel just as hot no matter what. I mean, Maybe I guess just this, just because the atmosphere around here is super beautiful and I'm just admiring it right now.

 **Gabriel Camarillo** 10:22

Does it look even better now that you have a trophy in your hand?

 **Angela Ding** 10:25

Definitely, for sure. Thanks, Gabe. We'll go, we'll go, Addie.

 **Gabriel Camarillo** 10:28

All right, thank you, Asteris.

 **Addie Parker (Skratch)** 10:31

Hi, Asterix, congratulations. I do want to kind of go back to what you were talking about with your dad and just kind of y'all's dynamic and how it's evolved a bit. When we kind of say that, maybe not necessarily like setting boundaries for you and just like your relationship is like dad versus like dad on the bag and caddy, but what is...

 **Angela Ding** 10:34

Thank you.

 **Addie Parker (Skratch)** 10:50

What does that kind of look like? What were some of those conversations? How old were you when you started having those? Just to kind of maybe separate yourself and be a little bit more independent and like trust yourself as Asterix the golfer.

 **Angela Ding** 11:02

Yeah, I mean, I feel like maybe a couple years ago, he kind of realized that I'm going to need to start doing this on my own and that he's not going to be there to hold my hand for the rest of my life. But I mean, he definitely already knew way back when when he used to caddy for me that he doesn't need to tell me how to play golf because I already know how to play the game. He just kind of needs to be there to remind me of the little things that I need to work on. But really, he knows how to keep his boundaries and he knows where I kind of can get a little hot-headed, I guess, a little bit if he says something out of place. But he definitely knows where to stop and where to start. For sure.

AP Addie Parker (Skratch) 11:43

I love that. And just kind of today and this whole week, what were some of the light-hearted moments that you guys shared? Can you kind of share some of the maybe like little conversations that you guys were having just to keep things pretty less intense? Because I'm sure it got pretty heavy out there.

 **Angela Ding** 11:58

Yeah, I mean, we just kind of talked about random stuff. I don't even, I'm kind of like blacking out. I don't even remember what we were talking about today, probably like 5 minutes ago. But yeah, I think he was just kind of there to keep me calm. I mean, we were probably talking about stuff from back home and like just fun little things that kind of keep your mind off the golf course, but also just kind of

AP Addie Parker (Skratch) 12:08

Thank you.

 **Angela Ding** 12:20

not talking on some holes and just kind of staying focused. I mean, you don't need to always distract your player. And I think a lot of people kind of try and step in when you have a bad hole or you have a good hole, you know, start talking and start kind of doing stuff like that. But I think he definitely knows when he needs to stay quiet and

When I need to focus and kind of step up and do my thing, so...

AP Addie Parker (Skratch) 12:44

Wonderful. Thank you so much.

 **Angela Ding** 12:46

I think, Cam, did you have another question?

JC Jourdan, Cameron 12:49

Yeah, Asteris, I want to take you back to yesterday when I was still on site. One of the fans told me that your dad, I guess, told him on the 16th hole against Maggie, did he miss club you on accident?



Angela Ding 13:01

Yeah, he did actually. So just before I hit, I just asked him like, oh, can I have the 9? And he was like, yeah, sure. And I just, I didn't look at the club before I hit it. I just, I hit it really well and it went in the water. It didn't even hit land. So I was pretty confused and I kind of looked over at him and he looked confused too. And I was like, I hit that well. Like, I don't know what happened. And then he was like, yeah, I mean, it looked good. It sounded good. And he was like, yeah, you've never hit your pigeon wedge 140 though. Or he was like, you never hit this club 140 though. And I was like, I did on the last hole. I had 140 on the hole before and he was like, yeah, but you hit your nine on the last hole. And I was like, I asked you for a nine. He was like, oh, I gave you a fishing bunch. I was like, oh no. So yeah, he misclubbed me on accident, but it was both our bads because I'm always like, oh, I can tell with the. Club looks like a niner pitching wedge, but yeah, I didn't really notice, so...



Jourdan, Cameron 14:06

And I know you haven't had a lot of time with the trophy yet, but is there anything that you've looked at specifically on it or a name that you've tried to go find or anything yet or have you not gotten to that point of celebration yet?



Angela Ding 14:17

Not really, no, but I'm definitely gonna be looking later. I'm gonna be inspecting every inch of it, so...



Jourdan, Cameron 14:23

Thank you.



Angela Ding 14:24

Brantley, you had a follow-up?



Brentley Romine 14:27

Yeah, did your dad do any like training, like, you know, running more or diet or anything like that that explained the being in better shape or?



Angela Ding 14:37

He, he always tells everybody that he just does what I do. And that's how he got so in shape. He eats the same way I do and trains the same way I do. And that's how he got so in shape. But I don't know what he does when I'm gone, but I guess that's what happened.



Brentley Romine 14:54

What, what, what is eating like?

Like, you mean?



Angela Ding 14:58

Um...

I mean, I don't try and eat like really heavy meals. I mean, I'll try and eat two or three meals a day, but I mean, we do fasting sometimes, but I mean, it doesn't really, I don't think that's a big part of it. But yeah, we don't, we usually go a pretty prolonged time without eating each day.
just because I'm not hungry or I just don't feel like it.



Brentley Romine 15:24

So it's not some crazy diet like all ground beef or something like that, like some people do. Okay.



Angela Ding 15:28

No, it's not something crazy. It's just like kind of eating whenever you want. Just not when eating when you're hungry and on your bored.



Brentley Romine 15:33

No, there you go.

Perfect. Thank you. Congrats.



Angela Ding 15:38

Perfect. I think we'll wrap up here with Jill.



Jill Painter Lopez 15:44

Asteris, we know you got the trophy. What does your dad get for being the winning caddy?



Angela Ding 15:51

Um, he gets a good job and a bat on the bat on the back.

I don't know, we'll probably celebrate later and for a long time. I mean, he's definitely, he was telling me this week that if we win with him on the bag, he's going to cherish it for a while. So I'm really happy that I got to win with him on the bag. It was really special this week.



Jill Painter Lopez 16:16

And what does celebrating tonight look like out there? Is there a place you guys have come to like out there to have dinner or something?



Angela Ding 16:24

I don't know. There's a lot of good places. I mean, I've been delayed every day, so I haven't really been eating at like 9:00 every day. So I mean, we might go out and explore tonight, but I mean, there's a lot of good places around here. So I think we'll find something good.



Jill Painter Lopez 16:41

All right, enjoy it. Thank you.



Angela Ding 16:43

Thank you. Perfect. Thanks everyone. I'll send out the recorded files. Yeah, you have my e-mail. Let me know if you need anything.



Brentley Romine 16:51

Thank you. Thank you, Angela.



Jourdan, Cameron 16:52

Thank you. Thanks, Asterisk.



Addie Parker (Skratch) 16:54

Thank you.

● **Angela Ding** stopped transcription