



**BERNHARD LANGER** is the consummate professional. Everything he does, he seems to do with meticulous care and attention. He is a man of his word, a fascinating man, a man of principles and a man of God.

What I particularly like about him is the way he treats everybody equally. He panders not to inflated egos whether he is talking to the lion or the ladybird of the golfing jungle.

Thumbing through his autobiography the other day, I found another reason to like him. The words *Golf Weekly* are etched in print on page 36.

It describes a football game in which he captained one team and Seve the other. "I was described in *Golf Weekly* as a lively left-winger. Thanks – but I decided not to give up the day job," he writes.

I remember as a relatively junior reporter being invited into the European Tour's physiotherapy van to interview the German. He was lying virtually naked on a table that had a hole in it to put his head through. I conducted the interview speaking to the back of his head and holding the tape recorder underneath.

I thought I had a rather devious question about rich men finding it harder to get to heaven than camel's going through the eye of a needle.

"The eye of the needle refers to a special gate in the city walls," said Bernhard in

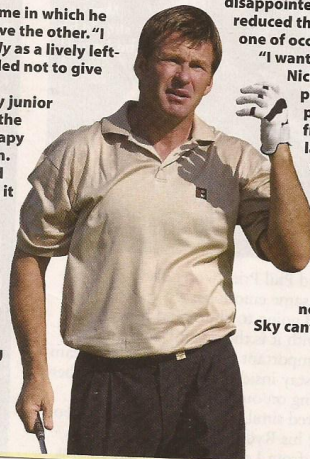
his German monotone. "There was a big gate and a little gate and a camel could get through the smaller gate, but it was quite difficult. So it means that the rich man can get to heaven, it's just much harder. What they are really referring to is that most people get rich because they put money before God and you shouldn't put anything before God."

**CONTRARY** to a news item we published last week, Nick Faldo is, of course, working for Sky not the Beeb at The Belfry next week. Silly mistake, sorry about that.

I notice though that Nick is a little disappointed that the boys at Sky have reduced the role he is going to play to one of occasional studio cameo.

"I wanted an in between role," says Nick, "being outside for the public and getting comments from people who have been to last 50 years of Ryder Cups. Or someone famous who might be there and finding out from them how it's all going."

Amazing how he's changed. Not so long ago you couldn't imagine Faldo as a jovial entertainer... not sure I can now, and maybe Sky can't either.

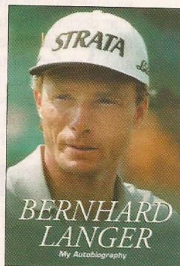


*Peter Masters*  
Peter Masters, Editor

## Langer's life in words

THE long-awaited autobiography of German golfing legend Bernhard Langer has just hit our book shelves.

Inside the reader embarks on a voyage of discovery through Langer's early life to the present day. The world-renowned golfer talks candidly about his successes and failures on Tour. He dedicates a whole section of his life story to the infamous putting trials and tribulations, and describes his struggle to conquer the 'yips' and stay at the top of world-class golf. As he



puts it: "At times my putting was so bad that people were coming to watch me, but in the manner of people who go to motor racing to see a crash!"

Langer has often been deemed the most-

experienced and steady Ryder Cup player of all time. Amidst his recollections he shuns this label but gives an interesting insight into his experience in the world's most celebrated matchplay event. He openly admits that when it comes to being part of the team he feels the pressure more than at any other tournament, writing: "To treat it as just another tournament would be better. But with everyone around us being totally on edge, it's hard to stay calm and collected."

Besides his golf, Langer has devoted much of his life to religion – a theme which runs throughout his autobiography. He documents how his faith has inspired him throughout life, on the golf course and bringing up his family, finishing by taking a look at what his future holds and emphasising his continuing drive for success.

For those of you who can't wait to get their hands on the book, *Golf Weekly* has six copies to give away. Just drop us a line or an e-mail at [golf.weekly@emap.com](mailto:golf.weekly@emap.com)