

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: STEVE LOWERY
Friday, August 15, 2014



PHIL STAMBAUGH: Okay, Steve, 6-under 66 and right now you're one back of Olin but you had a run there of five birdies in a row on the front nine, made the turn in 31 and made two in the first four holes of the back.

STEVE LOWERY: You know, it's a good day. I made nine birdies out there. I made a few mistakes but played solid, got on a good roll there. I think it's maybe four through nine there, played the par 5s well and knocked it on No. 4 in two and two-putted, knocked it on No. 6 in two and two-putted. You know, just hit some good shots when I needed to, some tough pin placements. Made a few bogeys, but hung in there.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Do you just want to talk about the run there? You started after a bogey at four?

STEVE LOWERY: Right.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Then you made five in a row.

STEVE LOWERY: Knocked it on in two on five, had about a 30-footer, two-putted for birdie there. Six, made a nice putt from about 20 feet, actually it was out of the rough up there for a good shot. Seven, the pin was right by the edge of the water there and I hit a good 7-iron in there about 12 feet and made that. Eight was kind of a layup hole today in the wind, had about a 100-yard shot in there about five feet. Same on nine, good drive, wedge shot in there about five feet.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: And then just tell us about the back nine.

STEVE LOWERY: Let's see, back nine, I made a great par on 11, I hit left rough and had to punch it to the right of the green, made about a 15-footer for par and that kind of kept the round going.

Then made a couple birdies in a row. The par 5, wasn't able to go for two but hit it in there with a pitching wedge for birdie. 13, I made a nice putt, about 20 feet for birdie. Played pretty solid, just blocked it right on 15 and didn't get up and down and made bogey. 16, I wasn't sure if I should try and drive the green or not. I hit an iron off the tee which I never do, hit it in the rough, made bogey there. Then parred the last two.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: This is your best start in a while. Just talk about what was different today.

STEVE LOWERY: Yeah, I've been out there playing golf for a couple years trying to work on my swing hoping it would work, it never does. Finally just decided, you know, hey, take what you've got and go play. I've been playing better leading up into this week, so starting to get back the way where I can play and had a good day.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: We'll go with questions.

Q. You said you had been playing better of late but going back to some numbers there, the last Top 10 was three years ago. Getting off to a start like this, it's got to be especially gratifying considering some of your recent play?

STEVE LOWERY: Yeah, 3M I had two 68s and a 72. The last time I played golf last week I was playing really good, so I just felt like I was heading in the right direction, I guess. Yeah, not many Top 10s lately.

Q. But back at the B.C. Open here you had a couple 64s. You've played well on this course before.

STEVE LOWERY: I had a five-shot lead here going into Sunday the year Stadler won, so yeah, I played some good rounds around here.

Q. How much of a confidence builder was this for you today being able to come out and do so well?

STEVE LOWERY: You know, it kind of encourages me to keep doing what I did today, so it's good because I need to see some results because I get off and start fiddling around with things. But this helps me to not really worry about my swing and just try and hit the ball in the hole, and that's kind of what I did today and I tend to play better that way.

Q. (Inaudible) said earlier today that the greens are kind of tricky around here. He saw a lot of good putts that didn't really go in. What was your assessment of the greens today and I guess what do you think about it?

STEVE LOWERY: Some of the pins like No. 1, No. I think it's 7, the pins are right by the water and the ball was -- it's kind of with the rain and everything getting a little spin, the ball will roll off in the water so you've got to be careful about that. The greens are smooth but they're a little bit tricky. You've got grain to deal with speed wise, and so if you get some uphill opportunities (inaudible).

Q. You had talked about some of the swing changes you've been trying. What in particular were you trying to work on the most?

STEVE LOWERY: Wish I could tell you. I think I was trying to get better and I was getting worse. Eventually you keep digging a hole, you've got to put the shovel down

and get out of the hole. I finally got out of the hole, I think, so that's kind of, I've been just working hard at not getting better.

Q. Anything else for Steve? We'll let you go. Good luck tomorrow.

STEVE LOWERY: Thanks.