



TOM LEHMAN (-6)

Q. Tom, you're in at 6 under through 36. A little off the lead, but you've got to be awfully proud of yourself for making it to the weekend.

TOM LEHMAN: It was actually kind of funny. The idea of even being near the lead's a little bit hard to imagine with like the quality of these players. I am very pleased to be playing four rounds for certain. Drove the ball very well for two days. I could have saved a few shots, but, you know, I played awfully well and I'm feeling really good about my game and feeling very good about the scores.

Q. How's the energy level?

TOM LEHMAN: I'm tired. It's a long course, a lot of hard swings for me. I hit driver everywhere. I don't remember the last time I ever played a golf course where I hit driver off of every tee and just tried to bomb it. A lot of hard swings, a lot of really full 210-yard 4-irons and things like that. So I've been having -- haven't swung this hard in a long time.

Q. What will it be like to have those two days just to know you're going to be here again doing this, just to savor it?

TOM LEHMAN: Really, my goal for the week was to be here and play four rounds, so I feel good about the fact that I accomplished that.

Now it's actually the kind of thing where if I can play a good round tomorrow, I can actually get myself into position where I can have a good finish, and that would be really nice. And I'm playing well enough. I think if the wind cooperates, if the wind comes anywhere from the east, southeast where those really long new holes are into the wind, I'm really in trouble. But like today they were helping and they were very manageable, so I hope for more of that.

Q. What are your thoughts on Bryson at 14 heading into the weekend?

TOM LEHMAN: Nothing surprises me in this game ever. I thought last week that the winning score for the week at Notre Dame at the U.S. Senior Open might be about 10 or 12 under and Stricker was 14 under in two rounds. It just kind of goes to show you, quite frankly, that whenever the greens are soft, scores are going to be low. It's just the way it is. Without much wind, the fairways are playing wide, the greens are soft, they're holding, and these guys hit it a long way so they're hitting a lot of shorter shots. But even still, you've got to make a lot of putts, so that's awfully good.

Q. Like a name like that on top of the leaderboard?

TOM LEHMAN: Do I like a name like that?

Q. Yeah.

TOM LEHMAN: I'd rather have Lehman up there, but after that, DeChambeau works just fine.

Q. Tom, you had a look at birdie almost every hole on the back nine.

TOM LEHMAN: Nearly.

Q. You have to be happy with the ball-striking.

TOM LEHMAN: Yeah, yeah. I didn't putt as well today, really kind of struggled, especially the front nine. Lost a little confidence. I made a couple nice putts for birdie on 11 and 12, which gave me a little bit more confidence and I hit some good putts after that coming in. But, you know, quite frankly, I was just trying to make sure I hit solid shots to make solid pars and if I could sneak a birdie in, I'd be happy.

Q. A comment was made on the television coverage yesterday that you're the only one who has an advantage knowing the greens out here.

TOM LEHMAN: Oh, absolutely.

Q. Do you feel that's helping you this week?

TOM LEHMAN: Yeah, there is no doubt that knowing these greens very well is a huge advantage for me. Now, I still have to make the putts, but I'm very, very clear on where to hit it, where the breaks are, where the tough pins are, where not to miss it. That's all the things that come with local knowledge of a golf course is where can you survive with a bad shot, where can you recover from, where can you not.

I made the comment yesterday on the Golf Channel that this is why the Europeans do so well in the Ryder Cup, because they play courses that they play every year in tournaments. So they know the courses in every wind condition, every weather condition, every green speed, every length of rough. There is nothing that surprises them and they know how to play a course like the place they played last year in France, which was the ultimate homer's golf course. I wish the U.S. would do that.

Q. You've got Sean on the bag this week?

TOM LEHMAN: I do.

Q. Saw you were arm in arm with him off the first tee.

TOM LEHMAN: Yeah.

Q. Is it extra special this week being at home?

TOM LEHMAN: Yeah, it's fun for him. He's the one kid who never got to experience this. He was very young when I kind of retired from the Tour, he was maybe 6 years old or 7 years old when I stopped playing out here full time. He remembers it a little, but he really didn't get a lot of time out here where he had some significant things to do.

So to have him inside the ropes, experiencing a PGA TOUR event, being on the range with all these phenomenal golfers is really cool for him. He's a football guy. He's a football guy first, golfer second. You know, he has like a football mentality playing golf, so he's a get 'er done kind of young guy, so he's been fun to have on the bag.