

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
August 4, 2018

TOM LEHMAN (-9)



Q. Good finish there, Tom.

TOM LEHMAN: 3-2-3 finish usually works no matter where you're at.

Q. How is the course holding up?

TOM LEHMAN: Well, it played nicely. I thought it was going to be a little bit wet, but it wasn't. It was softer, for sure. I think you're seeing some good scores because of that. But it's in awfully good condition. Just a little bit in the middle of the round, I think it started raining on 7, so we played 7, 8, 9, 10 in the rain. I gave a couple shots back. A couple of those holes are playing pretty tough.

But overall, the course played pretty well and it's the Kenny Perry Express out there. We were talking about that last week, we played together one day at the Senior Open and we were commenting that there couldn't be a course more perfectly suited to your game, and he said, you've got that right. He's playing so well.

Q. Did you start the round today with a number that you wanted to try to get to to get yourself into contention?

TOM LEHMAN: I knew that for me I had to shoot a good score, whatever that score would be, whatever conditions would be giving. So we actually have gotten a break with the weather, I think, make it around. But there's a couple -- a couple of the tougher holes are playing into the wind today, so I think that's making the course play a little bit tougher. But the softness of the greens has kind of offset that, you can really attack the pins.

Q. Somebody said earlier in the week, I can't remember who it was, said Kenny plays like a regular Tour player. I don't know if that was you or somebody else. Does that make sense?

TOM LEHMAN: Well, he hits it so far. He's a high launch, low spin bomber. He still hits that driver an awful long way. He's not out there with the young guys, but he's not too far behind. He plays the game more like those guys than most of the guys out here do, so he does very, very well on courses where length is an advantage, and this is certainly one of them.

Q. And does 3-2-3, your finish, kickstart you for tomorrow?

TOM LEHMAN: Well, it gets me -- what did I finish, 9 under? So it gets me within shouting

distance possibly. I don't know, you never know what the leaders are going to be. But I think the big thing is if you have 30 guys between you and the leader, you're in tough shape. If there's only five or six or seven or eight, whatever, something like that, your chances get better. So to be -- as you know, this course finishes softly. So you look at the board and you see guys are at 7, they've got six holes to play, they're probably going to finish 8, 9, 10 under, so there's going to be quite a few guys stacking up.

Q. How much more difficult does that make it when you're out there, kind of a slight downpour for a few holes there, how much more difficult is scoring in those stretches?

TOM LEHMAN: You kind of hope you get that on the holes that aren't the hard ones. Like we played the 9th hole and it played really tough. The 8th hole wasn't super difficult, but it wasn't easy. You're kind of hoping when the bad weather hits, that you catch it on the right holes. Sometimes you do, sometimes you don't.

Nos. 10 and 11, I've never seen those holes -- I hit driver, 9-iron to No. 10 today, which, first of all, I've never hit driver on that tee ever. It's always a 3-wood and some kind of a wedge; sand wedge, lob wedge, gap wedge. Never a driver, 9-iron. And I hit driver, 7-iron into 11. Two holes I played way different than normal. They didn't play difficult because they're short, but just different for this course.

Q. Losing length because of the softness of the fairway?

TOM LEHMAN: And the wind picked up. Straight into the wind and the wind started gusting pretty hard, made those two holes a little bit trickier. No. 9 was very hard.