

**TOM LEHMAN (-9)**

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**Q. You guys all played pretty well today.**

**TOM LEHMAN:** Well, it was a nice day, the weather was great. The course is such a good golf course. It's tricky with some tough pins. So just one mistake, I made a bogey on a par 5, No. 6. But other than that, I made five birdies, so it's pretty steady. The leaders haven't done anything, which kind of gave all of us hope. Just need to get a few more putts to go in coming down the back nine, which hit some good putts but they didn't go. You never know. All in all, it was a good week, another great week here at The Woodlands. I love it here.

**Q. Speaking of The Woodlands, we were talking to Brandt. He was talking about it's been a real mild spring and he's talking about how the grass hadn't popped up like it had in the past. Did it play different, did you notice the grass being a little different this year?**

**TOM LEHMAN:** I think the greens are a little grainier, a little softer. They should be playing easier, that's the way I look at it. It's still playing a little bit longer than maybe it normally does, but it seems like it's playing a little bit easier but the scores are a little bit higher. Typically, the winning score with the kind of weather we've had the last three days, it would be 12, 13, 14, 15 under, something like that. Right now I think 11 under is leading and 9 is in second, which I would say is a little bit higher than I'd expect.

**Q. Does that surprise you that --**

**TOM LEHMAN:** But I think they set the course up a little more difficult, some tougher pins overall.

**Q. I thought 17 was pretty tough.**

**TOM LEHMAN:** They always put it to the right on 17, but they really tucked it. It was way closer to the right edge than normal, and they did a lot of those pins where they'll use kind of a little skinny finger of the green but put it three steps or four steps off the edge of the green, which they typically don't do. So I think they made the tough pins even tougher, I think that's maybe why the scores are the way they are.

**Q. You've played here seven times. How do you feel now compared to --**

**TOM LEHMAN:** You know, I've had a lot of good weeks here. I've always kind of felt like one of these years it's my -- it needs to be my turn because I've played a lot of really good tournaments, I'm getting older and I haven't won yet, so the clock is ticking.

**Q. Do you think it's the weather that's helped you play so good here, or what is it about it?**

**TOM LEHMAN:** I think the course suits me. I think this course absolutely is a ball-striker's golf course. Somebody who can drive the ball in play and has good control of their irons, can control their distance is probably going to nearly always do well, and if you have a good putting week, you're going to have a good chance to win.

And then especially when the wind gets blowing out here through the trees, it's so hard to tell which way it's going, and of course we didn't have a whole lot of that the last couple days, but generally speaking you've got to hit it very solid. The guys who strike the ball well are the guys who generally do well.

**Q. That means you've got a win coming up next year then?**

**TOM LEHMAN:** Well, I'll be 60 next year, so I've got my fingers really crossed.

**Q. You see what Langer does.**

**TOM LEHMAN:** He's a freak, we all know that; an aberration. There is that statistic that, you know, once you get past like age 56 or 57, whatever it is, the percentage of winning is quite low. I kind of see that. You play a lot of really good golf but you're just a hair short. Maybe when you're a little bit younger there's that little extra edge you may have more with the focus and maybe with a little bit added length makes a difference.

**Q. Do you think it's a lot physically or some mentally?**

**TOM LEHMAN:** Well, you start losing distance. Most people do. I think the ability to focus intently is more difficult, so I think you combine the fact that you're hitting a little bit longer clubs into greens and you're maybe not quite as focused consistently. You can get there, but it's maybe harder to stay there over the course of a week. So that's my opinion. I could be totally wrong.