

**STEVE FLESCH (-6)**

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**Q. Great day for you.**

**STEVE FLESCH:** Yeah, thank you.

**Q. What was the key out there?**

**STEVE FLESCH:** You know, I hit it well. I hate the cliché, but I hit it well and made putts, and with the wind today it was a little confusing at times. I played conservatively where I had to and aggressively on a few holes. Birdied the last two to turn a good day into a great day.

**Q. Was there any hole that stuck out that was really challenging or you were surprised you did so well on?**

**STEVE FLESCH:** Well, actually a hole I didn't even birdie, the fourth hole, I drove it in the hazard like I always do on that fourth hole, the par 5. In the mud and I hacked it out and covered myself in mud and just was trying to make a 5, and I knocked it on the green from 235 for my third and two-putted and made like a six-footer for par. So I turned 7 into 5 there.

You know, I was 1 under going to that point, but it kind of just got my momentum going a little bit and I relaxed and hit a lot of good shots the rest of the day. It was a tough day, but I just kind of was trying to relax and act like it was no big deal and I played well.

**Q. Did you get word that they're accelerating tomorrow?**

**STEVE FLESCH:** My wife actually found out, she found out on the sixth hole. One of the officials told her we're going to do that, which is great. Hey, I'd rather play 36 holes than play in rain. Some people don't mind rain. You can have any rain, I would take 40-mile an hour winds over any rain. So I'm glad we're playing 36 tomorrow.

**Q. Since you're one of the relative youths out here, is that an advantage at all?**

**STEVE FLESCH:** Maybe so, but I think it's great that we're able to take the carts and our caddies are able to take the carts because this is a pretty big golf course, a lot of tough walks between greens and tees. You know, I'm glad we're playing 36 because I played well today.

**Q. You probably want to play 36 now?**

**STEVE FLESCH:** I'd like to start the second round right now if I could. So you find a

groove, it's kind of like getting that late-early tee time on Tour Thursday, Friday. You want to finish late, go to bed, get up and keep it going, keep the momentum going. So I'm glad we're playing 36 tomorrow because Sunday sounds bad.

**Q. Is there any challenge to that, maybe mentally staying focused for that long, or do you think it's just more strenuous on the body?**

**STEVE FLESCH:** I think it's more strenuous mentally than physically. I mean, physically, yeah, everybody will be tired, so you've got to just kind of pace yourself. But mentally, especially if you're kind of in the mix, you've got a lot more running through your head than if you're just going through the motions. So I'm sure by the final nine tomorrow, if we get to our final nine, there will be some tired guys coming in, but then that's when adrenaline kicks in. Hopefully tomorrow night I'll feel as good as I do right now.

**Q. Second year on the tour for you, looks like you might be in the mix with some veterans. Can you just gauge how you played two years now on the Champions Tour?**

**STEVE FLESCH:** Well, I haven't completed my first year. It's my second season, but the end of May will be my first complete year.

**Q. Do you still consider yourself a rookie then?**

**STEVE FLESCH:** Yeah. I'm not the youngest guy out here, but I feel like it sometimes. You know, I still -- these guys, I haven't won out here. These guys, they shoot low scores and it's really impressive. The courses aren't easy, and I'm glad because if I am in one of the final couple groups tomorrow, it will be the first time since I think maybe Des Moines last year. To me it's an adrenaline rush. Yeah, maybe you feel like there might be a little bit more pressure, but at the same time it means you're playing well so I take that as confidence. It's been a fun year, I'm enjoying playing out here with these guys.

**Q. Looking at the names up there, I'm sure it comes as a huge surprise that you would be chasing Langer. Ever heard of him?**

**STEVE FLESCH:** Yeah, I finished my eighth hole and I look up on the board and he's already 4 under through like five holes. You just kind of shake your head because -- but again, he's out here at 6:45 last night practicing, the only guy. I only knew that because Trevor Dodds, who I played with today, said he was busy yesterday morning so he came out late to practice. He left at 6:30 and Bernhard was still here. I mean, you don't luck into playing that well, you work at it, and his work ethic at 60 years old is pretty impressive. Pretty frustrating, really.

**Q. Are you surprised to see Olazabal up there with a round like that?**

**STEVE FLESCH:** You know what, honestly, I'm not surprised to see any of the 78 guys up

there. Ollie, if he's driving it well, his short game is second to none and he's just coming off playing at Augusta last week. He missed the cut there by a shot, but you miss the cut by a shot at Augusta, you're not playing too poorly. So it doesn't surprise me at all. And these greens are perfect. Conditions are kind of somewhat like Augusta around the greens where short game's his strong suit, so doesn't surprise me at all seeing him play well.

**Q. There will be a lot of low scores I imagine today, right? You expect that?**

**STEVE FLESCHE:** Yeah. The wind's going to keep a few of them at bay. You've got some reachable par 5s but the wind's making it tricky. There will be a handful of guys at 6, 7 under, yeah.