

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
June 9, 2018



TOM LEHMAN (-13)

Q. You really got it rolling with the putter?

TOM LEHMAN: Yeah, it's about time, too. I've been really streaky with it. I've had some weeks this year where I've rolled the ball really well and there's been some weeks where I've rolled it terribly. Been working hard at it and I guess it shouldn't be that difficult. I hit a lot of very solid putts. Even the ones I've missed, I hit solidly. Even the one on the last hole I hit solidly, which typically when I hit the putts right in the middle of the face, it tends to give me confidence.

Q. That chip on 18, did you mean to attack it that hard?

TOM LEHMAN: No, it was kind of a funky lie and I was just trying to chop it and I just hit it way too hard. Really a disappointing finish. 63 yards from the hole and thinking birdie. I mean, that's really what I was thinking, hit it in there close and make a birdie. To walk away with a bogey is disappointing, but you really can't let that dictate how you feel about the course of the entire day or the course of the first two days. I've played a lot of very good golf. I made a blunder there, but it is what it is, you move on.

Q. You won at a lot of places, and being a Midwest guy you finished eighth or better every time you've played this tournament. How nice would it be to win one?

TOM LEHMAN: Yeah, it would be nice, you better believe it would be nice. A lot of good players, there's a lot of low scores. You look at the leaderboard and there's tons of guys that are 8, 9, 10, 11 under par. That's to me why the bogey on the last hole was so disappointing, to get one more shot separated was what I was trying to do. To end up coming one shot closer is frustrating, but just makes tomorrow more of a challenge. A lot of good scores, have to play another really good round.

Q. Does this time around feel different than previous years here?

TOM LEHMAN: Not really, no. I've played this course a lot. I played here in college, had a lot of success in college playing here, and I played well in this tournament as well over the years. I really feel comfortable with the course and the ability to shoot a good score on this course. It's just a matter of whether the score you shoot is going to be good enough to win. I do know that it's going to take a low score again tomorrow. I'm sure the weather will be much like it is today, the greens are soft and somewhat slow, so it will be -- it's conducive to scoring.

Q. The putt you made on 16, you kind of maybe got one you didn't expect, think it evens out?

TOM LEHMAN: I thought I left that one short. That one looked like it was going to stop just a hair short right in the middle but it just barely got there. I made a couple long ones today. Like I say, I'm hitting the center of the putter face. I was telling John Cook, it's amazing how you can take full swings with full clubs and so consistently hit the middle of the clubface and with a little swing of the putter so often you can mis-hit it. So right now I'm hitting the center and I tend to be a lot more confident when I'm hitting the center of the clubface.

Q. Seems like your driver, too, is a lot more consistent today. You're hitting a ton of fairways and made it look pretty easy.

TOM LEHMAN: Well, yeah, I think yesterday I hit every green. I guess I missed one green yesterday but I was on the fringe putting so really hit every green. Today it had to be close to the same. You do, you set it up with the driver. If you put the driver in the fairway, you give yourself a lot of chances to play offense out here. You get it in there close, you can make a few putts.

Q. How big was that eagle on 8 for you?

TOM LEHMAN: Well, the round was kind of getting off to a slow start so it really kind of jump started it. Then I made a long putt on the next hole. An eagle on 8 and about a 45-footer on 9 really kind of got the round going, then three or four in a row starting on about 12 or 13. That's kind of -- but I feel like the back nine from the 8th hole on is where you can really make a lot of things happen. There's a lot of really good opportunities. There's a couple of really good holes in there where you have to be careful, but from the last 10 holes, probably seven or eight of them are really holes you can attack and really try to make birdies and most guys do that.

Q. You've always played well here, but now you've got the lead heading into the final round. How is it different maybe heading into Sunday for tomorrow?

TOM LEHMAN: Oh, it's not a lot different. I think every round you have the same exact mindset, I believe. You have a game plan. You know you have to shoot a low score, you attack the course, you hit the right shots, get aggressive with the times you can get aggressive, and then the holes out here that are the tricky ones where you can easily lose shots if you don't pay attention, if you play those holes well, it gives you a chance to make hay on the other ones and you can really do something.

Q. You talk about playing offensively, that's good but that's also bad (inaudible)?

TOM LEHMAN: It is, and that's the whole point. All these low scores are because of the conditions. It's not like the field is all separated and spread out. They're not, the field is all really bunched.

