ROUND 1 INTERVIEW September 14, 2018

TOM LEHMAN (-5)



TOM LEHMAN: It was really a beautiful day, a gorgeous day for golf. Almost no wind, greens are perfect, so it is just like I remember. The course played beautifully. It's nice to be back here and support the community. To go back to places you know so well and enjoy so much is a great thing.

Q. It's been a while, but are there times out there when you're lining up shots, you're like okay, this feels familiar?

TOM LEHMAN: The trees on No. 9, that was definitely familiar. You remember, crap, I always hit it in these left trees, how do I do this? But it's kind of nice when you can go places that haven't changed a whole lot.

Q. On 17, I know back in the day it used to be a little crazy out there. Has it changed a little bit?

TOM LEHMAN: I don't know, it's only Friday, so ask me again on Sunday.

Q. Is that the kind of thing you guys like? I know Phoenix has gotten really crazy.

TOM LEHMAN: Yeah.

Q. But is that okay sometimes when you have a hole like that?

TOM LEHMAN: I think it's good to have places that have some excitement, some enthusiasm. I think you just need to not go over the top with it. I think at times Phoenix does and at times it's right there on the edge. But this whole here, 17, there's a hole at Greensboro that was kind of like that. In fact, kind of like when they started it all really is these two holes. It's fun to have that kind of enthusiasm. I think everybody enjoys it.

Q. The camaraderie on the Senior Tour, it seems to be a lot lighter out here than it is with the guys half your age. Does that feel better?

TOM LEHMAN: Yeah, I think everybody really does get along very well. Never at a loss for going and doing something with somebody because it seems like everybody, from the No. 1 guy to the 78th guy, they get along well. Too old to carry that crap you carry as a kid and all that striving and the petty jealousies, whatever, whatever it might be. So at this stage of the game you're just happy to be here and it's just a great group of people and I respect them all greatly.

Q. What's going to be the key to your round for the next two days? Is it putting well, is it driving it long? It's usually both here.

TOM LEHMAN: Yeah, it is. If you drive it well here, you give yourself chances to play offense all day. If you drive it in the fairway and putt well, you're going to always have a good tournament, but it is the putting. I played with Duffy Waldorf today and he hit it beautifully. He hit every fairway, nearly every green and shot 1 under. He just could not get the ball to drop, so it really does come down to the flat stick.