

U.S. Open Championship 2017

Friday, June 16, 2017

Marc Leishman

Flash Interview



Q. That was the real U.S. Open test today?

MARC LEISHMAN: Yeah, it was definitely a lot more like a U.S. Open today than yesterday. It was more U.S. Open-like. The greens were a little quicker again, starting to firm up. The 9th green is getting pretty firm there.

So, yeah, happy with the day. Got a little bit of a rough start, but there's probably going to be more bogies out there today than what there was yesterday. Needed to deal with those, and 4-back (Inaudible).

Q. You made some gutsy bogies today. Does that give you confidence knowing you don't have to deal with those going into the weekend?

MARC LEISHMAN: It does. Yeah, I said to Matty, the par putts are really important. But when you have an eight- or a ten-foot bogey putt, that's probably more important. You don't want to have any doubles any time. Also a couple of bogey putts which, it's funny, it feels wrong saying this, but it kept momentum going while making a good bogey. So, trouble out there on the 3rd or 4th hole there and had a good bogey putt, so I walked off that hole not feeling too bad.

Q. What is most challenging out there for you?

MARC LEISHMAN: I mean, everything's challenging. You have to do everything well. Obviously, driving it straight is important out there. The pins were a lot tougher today.

Yesterday I felt like there were a lot of pins that if you hit a good shot, you could go at it. Today I felt like I was hitting away from the pin a lot because of where they were. There is a lot of trouble around the hole.

Yeah, it's a U.S. Open, so everything's pretty challenging. It feels weird saying off the tee is the hardest part because the fairways are a lot wider than normal, but it's probably more important to hit them than a lot of over.

Q. Is this the best you've felt in a U.S. Open?

MARC LEISHMAN: Yeah, I think so. It's definitely the most comfortable I've felt on a course, on a U.S. Open course. I haven't had a whole lot of success at U.S. Opens so far, but I felt like this course has done pretty well for me.

Well, I finished top 20 last year at Oakmont, but that

gave me confidence. Obviously playing well early in the year gives me confidence. But, yeah, I feel pretty comfortable, but there is a lot of trouble out there, so you've got to keep your foot on the pedal.

Q. You said slow start. Any reason for that?

MARC LEISHMAN: A little bit of a sleep-in this morning. Yeah, I can't even remember turning my alarm off, actually. Struggled getting to sleep and struggled waking up, so in a bit of a rush this morning. But got here with plenty of time. But happy to shoot a good round after the fun of rushing around in the morning.

Q. Are you a scoreboard watcher, per se, or are you focused on your world in a tournament like this?

MARC LEISHMAN: No, I'll watch it. I like to know where I am. Obviously, you know, there are a few guys going low out there today. I think there's two or three guys at 7-under. It will be interesting to see what Rickie does this afternoon, if he can run away a little bit or we'll see how it goes.

Yeah, I'll definitely keep an eye on it, but it's early in the tournament, so you don't take a whole lot out of it.