



Q. Well, obviously rather tongue in cheek you mentioned no more suffering out here, but off to a great start, 5 under today. Just a few comments about the round.

MARTIN LAIRD: Yeah, I played very nicely. I was referring to the heat. Turned the heat up. I played nicely. The course is in good shape so if you put it in the right spot and hit some good shots you can make some putts. I really hit the ball well tee to green today, putted solid but missed -- left a couple out there, but overall very happy.

Q. I was in Reno and you were really striking the ball incredibly well in Reno, you felt good about it there. What's been the secret to the carryover do you think?

MARTIN LAIRD: I really struggled with my ball striking most of the year until about a month ago. My coach and I were kind of figuring it out, it was a couple posture things, a little too over the ball. So standing a little taller and now kind of taking the club low and out on the way back and it's really helped me a lot. Immediately -- even at Congressional at Quicken Loans I hit the ball great, just didn't putt great. Ever since we found that little posture change and it's an easy thing to do so I don't have to think anymore and I just hit shots which is kind of the nicest position to be. It's been a while since I've had that feeling hitting the ball.

Q. On your start obviously, did you feel like you got off to the kind of start you wanted and it just kind of snowballed from there in a good way?

MARTIN LAIRD: Yeah, I got to a nice start. I hit the ball great, as I said. I had one little spell there in the middle, I think I bogeyed my fourth, sorry, 13th hole, No. 4, and then had a really good up-and-down on the next hole. It was big to get up and down. 6-iron into the par 5 on the next hole and missed the green right and had a tough up-and-down and got up and down. It was one of those little things, after making a bogey with a 9-iron in your hand, if I had made par with a 6-iron on a par 5, probably wouldn't have been too good. But I got up and down and made a nice putt, and then birdied the next hole, par 3 so that was kind of a little turning point on the back nine where it still would have been a good round but it helped me out a lot.

Q. Off to a great start, 5 under today. Just a few comments about what was going right.

MARTIN LAIRD: Yeah, I hit the ball great all day. Drove it in the fairway, which out here, this golf course, to be on the fairways is relatively scoreable but if you start getting into this bermuda rough it's tough to get some of these pins on the tiers. I drove it in the fairway today and I hit my irons nicely so I gave myself lots of looks and it was nice to roll a few in, so overall very happy.

Q. You mentioned Quicken loans is when you really started feeling good about your control on the ball, did incredibly well in Reno and playing well here. What's been the secret?

MARTIN LAIRD: The week before I went to Quicken Loans, my coach and I, we made a little posture change, a pretty big posture change. Got me to stand a lot taller, a little more weight in my heels and helps me kind of pick the club up on the way back. I was getting a little low, too low and away from me on the way back and it was kind of dropping underneath on the way down. Now I feel like I almost pick it up on the way back and it's coming down on plane. Ever since then it's kind of been a nice thought. Once I get my posture set, I don't really have any swing thoughts after that so I'm just hitting shots, which is kind of the ultimate thought for a golfer. I'm enjoying it as it's happening because it doesn't happen too often. So I just said the last three tournaments I've been hitting the ball really nicely and hopefully it continues.

Q. Just a few comments about the course.

MARTIN LAIRD: Yesterday was the first time I played it. It's definitely a golf course, like I said, it's in great shape and if you get the ball on the right tier, you can make some putts and make some birdies. But if your irons are a little off or you're coming out of the rough and now you've got to try and get it on some of these tiers, you're going to have tough two-putts. We were talking about out there, if your iron game's on. You're going to have lots of pretty makeable birdie putts, but if you're a little off, you're going to have a lot of tough two-putts. So hopefully I keep driving the fairway and can then control my distances and get on the right tiers.