

The American Express

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La Quinta, California, USA

PGA WEST Pete Dye Stadium Course

Mark Hubbard

Quick Quotes

Q. Really solid first two days, put yourself right in contention, how does the game feel this week?

MARK HUBBARD: Yeah, it feels all around really good. It felt great last week too. I didn't really make anything outside of five or six feet last week, and starting yesterday I made a 30-footer right off the bat and when you do that it makes the hole look a little bigger.

Q. Wondering, the Stadium Course had renovations, has been the toughest course out there, you didn't quite make it look it, but you played this course a few times, does it feel more difficult or do you notice some of the changes that they have made?

MARK HUBBARD: Yeah, you definitely notice it. They didn't change a ton off the tee, so the lines are pretty similar, even into the greens are pretty similar, it's just kind of some of the slopes are different, some of the runoffs. Luckily I didn't miss a ton of greens, so I didn't have to deal with it. Yeah, I think for me, I'm not a guy who plays a ton of spin anyway, I hit it a little lower than most people, so I think I might have had a little bit of an advantage with the firmness of the greens because I'm kind of used to seeing my ball bounce a little. Whereas some guys who are high-spin guys might have struggled with that. That's the only thing can I think of, but for the most part I hit it where I was looking, and had a hot putter the last couple days.

Q. It has played a lot more difficult than the 2004 courses do you feel like that's because of the new greens and their firmness or is there something else?

MARK HUBBARD: I think just overall it's a little bit more penal than Nicklaus and definitely more than La Quinta. La Quinta is the narrowest, but if you drive it decent at all you're going to have a ton of looks. I think it's just most penal and then, yeah, having the greens be firmer because they're new, and also they just haven't quite settled yet, that's pretty common, there's lots of funny breaks. I don't think I had a putt outside of four feet that I didn't feel like was some sort of double breaker, and that's probably what I did the best today was just trusting my first read and



trusting what I saw.

Q. A lot of family out there this week, I know it's been a tough week and a half for everyone, what has it been like for you just emotionally, you played last week, you're playing this week, as everything's going on?

MARK HUBBARD: Yeah, it's been super weird. I'm actually moving right now to a new house and that should be exciting and with everything going on it feels weird and almost bad being excited for that, because there's just been so much loss and heart break with everyone, and with people close to me. It's been tough, but like anything else it puts stuff in perspective and it definitely makes it easier to realize that this is just a dumb game and none of this really matters at all.

Q. I was talking to your brother who was telling me about losing the house and other family I understand too lost houses, correct?

MARK HUBBARD: Yeah, yeah, we had a rough go.

Q. Is it hard to focus on golf then or is it almost like a nicest cape?

MARK HUBBARD: Yeah, I think it's a nice escape to be out there and not thinking about other stuff. It feels kind of like a little oasis out there right now. Also, I mean, selfishly, it's been horrible for them, but I'm getting to see a ton of them more than I would normally, so it's been just great to see them and to try and be there for them.

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