2022 U.S. Mid-Amateur Championship Saturday, Sept. 10, First Round, Stroke Play, Erin Hills and Blue Mound Golf & Country Club

James Leow, Singapore – (65, 5-under, Blue Mound)

Notes - Bogeyed his first (No. 10) and last (No. 9) holes of his round. In between, an eagle and five birdies, including four in a row from No. 2 (his 11th of the day). He is a 2022 graduate of Arizona State University (degree in finance) He has entered Korn Ferry Tour Q-School (first stage later this month in Arizona). He won this year's Pacific Coast Amateur in Oregon and edged Caleb Surratt, who was runner-up in the U.S. Junior Amateur the following week.

(on bogeys)

"Definitely not the best, especially when the course is playing relatively short for me. I had a lot of short irons and wedges [into the greens]."

(on his birdie Stretch)

"Hit a good shot into No. 2. Pin was up on the top tier and hit it to 8 feet with a wedge. Then on Hole 3, hit it to a foot [with a 5-iron] that will probably be the closest one of the day. Then on the next hole, hit a good wedge [approach] and made a putt from 12 feet. And the par 5 I was on in two."

(on being in a different position than most of the mid-amateurs in field) "I've taken a lot of [heat] this week asking about my age and what I've been doing and where I'm going after this event. I just thought that this was a great opportunity not only for myself, but also for my country. There have not been any players from Singapore play in The Masters or the [U.S.] Open. It would be great opportunity to be in contention for this week and possibly a chance to play those events [if I win]."

(on his goal after this event) "Stage 1 Q-School. Hopefully get to final stage and turn pro after this.

(on if he wins Mid-Amateur) "That would require a change of plans."

(on his military commitment)

"I had a year and 10 months of mandatory [military] service before college. Every male 18 and above has to enter. Did that all before college. Went to college late. I was 21 when I got to college. Platoon sergeant. Trained recruits.

(on playing the possibility of playing in tough conditions tomorrow)

"I'm used to tropical weather. We get rain all the time [in Singapore]. But when you are playing Erin Hills, you definitely want it a little softer on the greens. A little rain will definitely help."