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[00:00:49] >> Well, it's one of the best sports cities in the entire country. The Gateway Arch, the iconic landmark for the city of St. Louis. And it's a celebration here at Norwood Hills Country Club. The club's celebrating their centennial that's established all the way back in 1922. This is the second edition of the Ascension Charity Classic. Look at the early leaderboard, Tom Byrum, another one on the 13th. He's now at 500-par with a two-shot lead here at North St. Louis County, Missouri. David Toms' off the back to the green here, this is for eagle.

[00:01:27] >> Yes. Stricker had 3-wood, 3-wood to get here. David Thompson, a really nice tee shot with driver and played a wonderful fairway metal right at the flag here. This is for eagle. Yes. Right clap there. Well played hole by David Toms.

[00:01:42] >> David Toms is defending champion. Nice bounce back after bogey on the 7th. Back out to the 9th. You get a look at this putt for Ernie Els.

[00:01:53] >> It's when you want to be careful with, George, coming across the hill and move to his right pretty good, uphill the entire way but it slopes away past the hole.

[00:02:00] >> That's pretty well done for Ernie just looking to get it up there tap in range. You make one from that distance. It's just kind of a little bit of luck it falls in, but he was just trying to get the pace correct and did a nice job.

[00:02:18] >> I had on the 10th green Jerry Kelly for birdie.

[00:02:27] >> Jerry, good putts of Jerry. That's like Stephen one there, great putt. Stick with our group on the 10th now with Ernie Els.

[00:02:43] >> See if he learned club selection there from Darren Clarke, that beautiful slow rhythm looking shot here.

[00:02:49] >> Also over on the left hand side of the tee and he takes that hole on. I thought Darren was good but wait a minute, here comes big Ernie. What a shot.

[00:02:58] >> Not the easiest 4-footer you're going to find. I mean, having the ability to have the luxury of watching others carrying these putts on the same lines. So, that's a good idea with this. He's going to do his best to execute it now.

[00:03:09] >> Yeah. And this is the kind of putt you've got to make the Ernie Els. I mean, number one for his confidence. Number two to get going forward. He hates to play that higher quality shot and not cap it off with some birdie.

[00:03:25] >> Center shot. Nice two for Ernie.

[00:03:27] >> He released the putt nicely that time, didn't he?

[00:03:30] >> He did.

[00:03:33] >> On the 12th green, Billy Andrade, strutting around trying to determine what the play is going to be here. Billy, a recent Payne Stewart Award recipient. Now, he was thrilled to receive that honor, 1-under on his round, stay under par for the day.

[00:03:59] >> Yeah. A great honor for Billy and he's putting a lot of hard work over the year, did great charity work, inbred faction with their program up in Rhode Island and just--

[00:04:10] >> Amazing how much money that raised over the yaer.

[00:04:12] >> People. Yeah, that. And a lot of people do the same thing. You know, we have a great one in Dallas for shelter for battered women and children that we've had for over 25 years. And, you know, we're real proud of what we do. And that happens from almost every player out here from city to city. Good trial there for Billy.

[00:04:35] >> It will be a disappointing bogey for Andrade. Volley it back to the 11th, Ernie Els.

[00:04:45] >> That's going to swing a little bit to his right and just keep up the pace. Keep it from moving out of the hole.

[00:04:54] >> That's too good short putts in a row for Ernie at 10 and 11. Great shots in there on both holes.

[00:05:06] >> Another one of those Payne Stewart Award recipients, David Toms. And that's a surprising 3-putt.

[00:05:12] >> They didn't have a volcano column there for me and Curtis Strange. We'd have been on top of that. Yeah, probably be a bit more aggressive as well. I mean, he's got a club he can spend a little bit better which means you can fly to have a stop quicker. So, taking on more hole locations with less club in his hand. I completely understand that as long as he can control it. And obviously, he's controlling it very well.

[00:05:41] >> Throwing a dart in there.

[00:05:42] >> A couple of great shot, right at it, never left the flag.

[00:05:49] >> Stricker, can he convert this for birdie on 11.

[00:05:53] >> Did he hit it? Yes, he did. He got it in the edge. Right edge, you saw it, Phil?

[00:06:02] >> Yeah, I think that's about right. And you talked about it earlier, man. He's had a year where he's had some days where he hasn't played at his best. But overall, he's played it very well. He's been very streaky. I mean, he's got it going. He has been really, really good with his club.

[00:06:18] >> Yeah. And you watched him and he stays in the routine, never varies one look, two looks, go.

[00:06:25] >> Harrington to match Clarke. Gets the job done. Let's whip it from the back to the front 9, Bernhard Langer blemish-free.

[00:06:41] >> We've seen that putt three times now. And it really has not moved as much left as I thought it was the first off, surprised to see.

[00:06:54] >> The 13th, this is Ernie Els.

[00:06:56] >> Went from using a hammer the last two players coming up the slope of needing just a feather here. It started down the hill and then it came down.

[00:07:05] >> This is really quick.

[00:07:13] >> Well, hold the line, this for birdie, Ernie.

[00:07:15] >> Oh yes.

[00:07:17][ Applause and Cheering ]

[00:07:22] >> Ernie made the top one. There's a lot of birdies here recently for Ernie, one, two, three, four and five holes. Lining up for birdie 11 to get to 5 once again, Langer with a one shot lead. John Daly for birdie, make that three in a row on 15th, 16th and 17th GD at 4-under one back.

[00:08:00] >> Here are the World Golf Hall of Fame members that are part of the 78-man field at the Ascension Charity Classic. Ernie Els is one of those. We have Colin Montgomerie, Jose Maria Olazabal and Bernhard Langer who's leading was inducted 20 years ago to the World Golf Hall of Fame.

[00:08:21] >> Had been a great player for a long time, Langer has and just keeps on. He's like the Energizer Bunny, he just never runs out of juice. Well, I think he have gotten a tremendous shot of adrenaline that he does have a chance to win. When he teed up on the first day of the week and now you have a chance. That's a good thing for your, you know, mental preparation. He's gotten his game. And I love the routine here putting, you know, one, two looks every time and go with the putt there. Nice, never very -- a lot of things are looking real good surprises right now. He's had to adjust to the sprint aspect of this two or three rounds.

[00:09:08] >> Harrington and Langer, coleaders of 5-under. Let's rewind it to the 13th, the other coleader, Bernhard Langer.

[00:09:18] >> Well, great tee shot here by Langer. And look at this second. Oh my goodness. Bernard really goes in, tapping for birdie for Langer.

[00:09:32] >> I'm going to go on the 83rd shot for Jesper Parnevik. Feeding, tracking. It's a way to end your day, Pernavik with birdies on 17 and 18. Steven Alker, about the same distance we had on the 15th for birdie.

[00:09:52] >> Oh, that's quick and he gets another birdie and he gets to 5-under. Ernie likes to relax after a round. A lot of work to put in to do what Ernie has done. I don't, you know, Ernie -- I'm not sure Ernie needs that extra length. He's got plenty.

[00:10:17] >> All tied up at the top, Padraig Harrington to 6-under.

[00:10:24] >> To me, Harrington's had to force in to learn his length. Ernie's is natural.

[00:10:32] >> Here's leaderboard, Padraig Harrington and Bernhard Langer matches rounds of 665. Steven Alker, Ernie Els, part of that group of five. Second round of the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson Underway. We're here at Norwood Hills Country Club in North St. Louis County, Missouri, one of the great sports towns in the country. And this market has thrown their full support behind this event. This is the second edition. Let's check out some of the early highlights from the second round. Padraig Harrington to the par-5, 8th. This is second shot.

[00:11:17] >> Yeah, beautiful tees out. Now, Padraig did this just 5-iron coming into this 504 yard par-5 up the hill and really well struck. And he's got a good look at equal.

[00:11:27] >> All right, going to go on at 2-putt for birdie, moving to 900 par board from Harrington the very next hole.

[00:11:32] >> A hole that gave the players fits yesterday number 9. Padraig lefts himself an uphill. Look, just buried.

[00:11:39] >> All right, 10 under at the turn and we go from the front to the back 9. Steven Alker on the 11th.

[00:11:45] >> And look who's involved, Steven Alker, another birdie for him and he's standing right in touch with the leaders making it hard to gain any ground on our Schwab Cup leader.

[00:11:54] >> Alker to 9-under par. On the 14th, John Huston from way downtown.

[00:11:59] >> Way downtown is right and look at this, John Huston, great pace, just falls in like it's supposed to.

[00:12:05] >> Hey, this is getting fun. John Huston in the mix. And squarely part of the conversation, he is a coleader with Padraig Harrington a 10-under. Steve Stricker, now a shot back. Steven Alker after bogey on the 14th, part of that big group and a tie for 4th at 8-under. Par putt for Padraig Harrington on the 14th green.

[00:12:30] >> Breaking pretty sharply to the right coming down the hill.

[00:12:37] >> That's very well done. Oh, my goodness.

[00:12:40] >> OK. What was that?

[00:12:44] >> That would have been the old world 4 there. You really can't be disappointed with 5 after that tee shot.

[00:12:56] >> Padraig will give up a shot now at 9-under, side of Steve Stricker one back and leader John Huston.

[00:13:11] >> Langer's par roll, buries it. That's it. Leader John Huston on the 16th.

[00:13:28] >> Good tee shot and good shot in here by John. Look at this. That was a really nice golf swing by John Huston, beautiful swing.

[00:13:36] >> Any angle for Harrington 2nd, Phil?

[00:13:43] >> Well, the line is good and he's got the same yards that Ernie had. He's got that iron out that he hits a really long ways. He hit it on the 11th and drove it right down to shorter the green, hit it 290 yards. He can reach this with iron but he's got to draw it a little bit. If not, it brings the bunkers to the right, shorter the green. One of those bunkers is back about 50, 60 or short, that'd be a really tough shot. He hits a mountain.

[00:14:06] >> And it's tough to make the ball turn over from this deep rough. Grass gets caught between the club and the ball. He seemed to like it though. And that is roasted up out of the green, what a shot by Padraig Harrington.

[00:14:23] >> This is spectacular.

[00:14:24] >> That's incredible. There you go, Phil. How about that speed?

[00:14:28] >> Yeah. It comes in handier now--

[00:14:30] >> It does.

[00:14:31] >> -- if he can control it.

[00:14:34] >> Second shot for Steve Stricker to par-4, 17th.

[00:14:38] >> Yeah, driven it perfect right now the center location back light.

[00:14:42] >> This is what Steve does best. And he has a wedging hand.

[00:14:47] >> That may be a little bit more than when it's right here. This whole 400 and some yards back up the hill, that looks more of a lot of about 8 or 9.

[00:14:56] >> And he and his wife Nicki go on over club selection feel a little breeze.

[00:15:01] >> Yeah. That whole location is 24 deep up the right-hand side. So, it's a pretty good ways back up that hill.

[00:15:08] >> And a little too much credit off the tee, right?

[00:15:15] >> Yeah, that would be a huge -- that would be Harrington territory for having wedge in here. He's not quite that--

[00:15:23] >> Changed the clubs down here.

[00:15:25] >> Maybe a little indecisive. Sometimes it's not what shot feels best with which club. He's going straight at it with that swing. Yes, he did. I think you picked the right one, George, and he did go straight at it. He didn't try to hit a cut or anything, just took that flag on, beautiful shot.

[00:15:51] >> Birdie putt for John Huston, is at 16 leading by one, can he extend that margin at 2?

[00:15:56] >> And not much in this for Johnny Ray, just went left on him a little bit, probably needed a touch more speed.

[00:16:04] >> Squanders, that didn't look there. Let's go out to the 15th, Padraig Harrington. This is for eagle. What do you see here, Phil?

[00:16:11] >> Went uphill the entire way, George, moving to the right. Try to judge the pace correctly, coming up that hill and leave yourself too much work here.

[00:16:21] >> Yes. Now, we're headed firm enough and always a little bit low, was going to make for an awfully easy birdie for Padraig.

[00:16:29] >> And that birdie would once again have Padraig Harrington as a coleader here at 10-under par with John Huston. Steve Stricker, we just saw the approach. This would make it 3-tight at the top.

[00:16:53] >> Yeah, gorgeous shot in here. Need to take advantage of this one. You've got to putt. It doesn't have much in it. I mean, have bugs on it but not much -- but as long as -- as far as brakes go.

[00:17:16] >> Striker 5-under on his round, five birdies, this would be number six on the day.

[00:17:23] >> Wobbled a little bit left. When he first hit it, I thought maybe he had gotten off liner, was going to have enough but just finds the edge and great birdie there for Stricker. Wonderful second shot in there.

[00:17:45] >> Harrington, Huston and Stricker at 10-under all tied for the lead. Back to 15, Ernie Els's eagle putt came up short. This is for birdie.

[00:17:57] >> Coming down the hill and needs this one to stay in reach. Good job.

[00:18:03] >> It's good work here by Ernie getting that down at 2. That was that easy. That first part was kind of scary looking. It was so much downhill.

[00:18:19] >> We'll stay on the 16th, furthest of the three tee shots, Padraig Harrington.

[00:18:23] >> Let's see if he can dial this one in. His wedge game has been a little inconsistent at times. There's a lot of really good ones, but he had some too with the right where he comes out a little bit.

[00:18:42] >> It has been suspect there's no question, Phil, that that's probably been the weak -- one of the weakest parts of his game. And when he first came out here, he said that he needed to work harder on the wedge game because he had so many of them. And he knew that if he can get that dialed in, it would be a lot easier to shoot some low score as well. He has not quite got that wedge game dialed in yet. Been a little inconsistent with it. This one might be OK.

[00:19:32] >> Yeah, that one looked pretty good.

[00:19:35] >> Yes, it did.

[00:19:37] >> You did say that.

[00:19:37] >> Yeah, I would say so. It was up and down the line perfectly there.

[00:19:42] >> Ernie Els call at 12 feet. And he's the furthest away for birdie on 16th.

[00:19:49] >> But should move a little bit to the right in and out of the shade. That was kind of like difficult.

[00:19:59] >> There the beautiful slope by Ernie and a great read and perfect pace.

[00:20:03] >>Ernie waken up, back-to-back birdies, now it's 7-under. All right, so Ernie was the furthest away. Phil, are you feeling a social? We're going to go 3 for 3 with this group?

[00:20:13] >> It could be hat trick, don't you think?

[00:20:15] >> I'm buying it.

[00:20:18] >> Yeah, I think so. We got about 4 feet here. Move a little bit to his left. Pretty comfortable putt.

[00:20:27] >> Yeah, after seeing what Ernie did, yeah, this has to be right edge. Maybe just -- Langer's got to set up right on the right edge. And he makes it no problem.

[00:20:36] >> Drills at Langer the 9-under. For the moment, that hasn't won back. Middle of 18th green, Steve Stricker.

[00:20:39] >> Going across the green, about 30 feet, moving a little right to left. Oh, just hand at the end. What a great-looking putt that was. Perfect pace. A foot by, gave it every chance to break it, just didn't do it.

[00:20:44] >> Stricker time a low round carded today. Brian Gay already in with a 65 but it opened with a 72. Stricker going 67 at 65 ease of 10-under. Harrington to separate himself get one clear of the field.

[00:20:50] >> How much in it? Just a little downhill though might make it a little uneasy.

[00:20:52] >> Yeah. If it does anything, I think it will fall left. We got to be maybe right center.

[00:20:54] >> That trick, just like big call.

[00:20:55] >> Padraig did short something after filing the penalty area off the 14th tee. It's the 4 by 15th to 2, makes birdie, stuffs it on the 16th. Back-to-back birdies, he's at 11-under now leading by one. Back up to the green on 17th. Mike Weir for birdie.

[00:21:01] >> Great shot in here. Should we go to his left? Oh yeah, hit it back inside, it's outside. We'll see what Bernard Langer has to say coming in. Langer already played his second. Now, it'd be Padraig Harrington's turn.

[00:21:28] >> 89 yards up to the hole, he's only got four paces to the right of the hole and he's only got about five paces on top of this neck level. So, you got to be careful not to spin it too much, spin it too much and then all the way back down that slope, difficult up and down a 2-putt. Sure that's what he was thinking about, that's the hole.

[00:21:57] >> You know exactly what he was looking for here.

[00:22:11] >> Langer will be up first here on 17.

[00:22:14] >> He's choosing the putter. He's going to have to go through a significant amount of fringe going up the slope. And because it's such a steep slope there, he's going to be going right into the green of the grass in that fringe. And that's going to mean it's going to be very difficult for this ball real cleanly through. Lennie, it's easy, this ball to hop and come up considerably short.

[00:22:33] >> Yeah. If it starts happening, it will lose pace and not get there. The only good thing usually from this distance hitting it this hard, you get what's known as a skid and that's the ball getting airborne for maybe, you know, five to six inches just off the edge of the ground. And if he does that here, he's got a good chance of it rolling a little bit better. So, it just depends on how good a hit he gets with the putter and the skid. Got to be sure he takes plenty long backswing and get this there. Roll pretty nice, I guess. How is that, Phil? Langer delivers.

[00:23:19] >> Go back down, yeah.

[00:23:20] >> Some things just don't change, do they? Sitting there thinking about, "OK, can he keep pushing down there?" Well, he's just going to bury it. What a putt. He said under par. Look at that.

[00:23:31] >> Magic with the putter, another look.

[00:23:34] >> Incredible.

[00:23:35] >> I was talking with Ernie on the range about speed training and all that type of stuff. He said, "Well, what I love in the game of golf is you look at yesterday and you see what Padraig Harrington has done with his game and he shot 65. And then Bernhard Langer is the opposite of the spectrum also shot 65." Both those guys open with the same score. Now, Bernhard is just one back to Padraig.

[00:23:55] >> Yeah. And I don't think Bernhard's learning speed training. You know, at this stage, he just wants -- sometimes you get to a certain point. You hold your body together bailing wire and whatever else. And Bernhard is in great shape and he's been fortunate. He's never had any real significant injuries. A couple of minor aches and pains here and there but he stayed healthy. And one of the reasons he can stay so competitive. It allows him to be able to go practice what you can't practice when you're not healthy. He's able to do that. This man right here, he is going at it with everything he's got.

[00:24:38] >> Yes, he is coming down the hill pretty quick.

[00:24:47] >> He's going to turn left.

[00:24:50] >> Elected on a great line. Another birdie for Padraig, that's three in a row.

[00:24:54] >> Beautiful pace through his putting stroke. He just got a really nice simple with the putter going and his pace is pretty good overall. In fact, if anything was his putting, I think it's getting better week by week out here.

[00:25:12] >> Padraig was saying the same thing on the range before his round. He said he's getting more and more comfortable, has more confidence with the putter. And he feels like it's been showing out the last--

[00:25:38] >> All right. And now, Phil, here's the guy with the shortest putt and the easiest look, Ernie Els, up the slope, maybe right edge. Just burns the left edge.

[00:25:49] >> And in his mind, he's got to be going, "Yup, there you go." That's how it's been going this year.

[00:25:55] >> Yup.

[00:25:55] >> Back to the 18th, Bernard Langer on that front right-hand side of the green. Langer hooks another one. Who knows, Phil? He could maybe be a colead or walking off the screen.

[00:26:05] >> You know, this would be a 4-point effort right here. This is outside the 3-point arch on the ways, this one uphill then pretty much the first three quarters would be perfect. And if anything, it cresses back down just a bit. I want to say it again. You just want to try to leg this one up there, even accidentally.

[00:26:35] >> Yeah. This is all about getting the speed correct. I mean, Bernhard is, you know, right now, he's thinking, "Just get me up where I don't have any stress on my second one. Just let me have a tap in."

[00:26:47] >> Steve Stricker already in the clubhouse at 10-under at the second round 65. Langer also tied for second at 10-under par.

[00:26:58] >> And he needs to 2-putt here to keep himself in the final group tomorrow. I think that's going to be mission accomplished. That's exactly what he wanted to do. He's not going to -- he can't get breezed from that distance.

[00:27:19] >> When you see a final group, Lennie, with Bernhard Langer, Steve Stricker, Padraig Harrington, what comes to mind?

[00:27:26] >> The winner coming out of that group. I mean, you got three guys that really know how to win golf tournaments, won out here regularly. You know, with his lead compared to the other two, it gets a little bit longer for him the more of those conditions. Although it doesn't seem to faze him one bit.

[00:27:44] >> If it rains a considerable amount tonight, I don't know how much it's supposed to rain. If it does, it softens up the course quite a bit. How does that -- does that bring the players together and distance with it? Or does that make it even a larger spread?

[00:27:56] >> I think it makes it a bigger spread especially with Harrington hitting it as hard as he does and carrying it. Now, the other thing though, can he put it in the fairway because it's rough, it's wet and as long as it is, it's going to be even more difficult to play out of so that's, you know, that's another factor. Yeah, there are all kinds of things. There's plots and subplots. And I wouldn't mind being in the group, in fact being John Huston or Stephen Alker up front and post a number either.

[00:28:13] >> But you said it was going to come from the final group I thought.

[00:28:15] >> Well, it doesn't always work that way. I mean, it looks like it could with the number of wins these guys have.

[00:28:17] >> Harrington's par roll. Miss on the low side.

[00:28:18] >> I mean, you got -- those three guys, you got one Hall of Famer, another guy Harrington who very well could be a Hall of Famer down the road and Stricker who probably is not quite going to get there but an outstanding career nonetheless.

[00:28:24] >> Bogey on the last for Harrington. 66 on Saturday, he's 11-under, one shot lead over Steve Stricker and Bernhard Langer. Historic Norwood Hills Country Club, a 36-hole layout celebrating their 100th anniversary. It's their famed West Course hosting the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson for the second straight year first two days. Couldn't have asked for better scoring conditions today. It's going to be a little bit more of a grip fest trying to gauge the impact that the swirling wind is going to have this final round. Whoever can navigate it potentially throw out a 67, 68 if you're on the first page of leaderboard, you may be hoisting the hardware at the end of the day. Give me another peek at the leaderboard. Padraig Harrington, you see on this first page, he's the only guy at 2-under par so far in this final round, Lennie.

[00:29:30] >> Yeah, a lot of guys making some birdies but not a lot of birdies. It's going to be a little bit harder. The course could play a little longer. They are playing lift clean in place. That's a one big advantage. So, if you drive it in the fairway, you get your hand on the ball and you can be a little bit more aggressive with your iron shots. The greens were getting a little firmer the last two days but they should be receptive today.

[00:29:52] >> Good look from behind Padraig Harrington from the tee back to the green here on the par-3, 4th. What's he facing, Phil?

[00:30:05] >> Well, he's downhill. It's 165 yards here today. It's a fourth, the hole location right over that bunker kind of the center but you've got plenty of room and a lot of room behind the flag. So, no reason at all to come up short here. Water should not even be a thought of being in play unless the wind was really whipping into you. I don't think it would be any kind of thought at all.

[00:30:31] >> Padraig's part the 4th hole both days.

[00:30:34] >> That may be a little right. What did I say about the water being -- not being in play? Uh-oh, I think Padraig may have found it.

[00:30:40] >> Not so fast, my friend.

[00:30:41] >> Yeah, oops. Our leader of all people. Come on, Padraig. Darren Clarke for birdie to 5th.

[00:30:52] >> Clarke with 7-under. He's getting another shot shop back on the leader.

[00:30:58] >> Trying to make, he got more right to left than it did. Good pace.

[00:31:06] >> We are back in the 4th, Bernhard Langer.

[00:31:10] >> Tricky lie there. That was executed beautifully out of that lie, almost made it.

[00:31:16] >> Good little touch there by Langer.

[00:31:18] >> Update us on Padraig Harrington's tee shot here on 4.

[00:31:22] >> Well, his tee shot did find the water as we suspected. He just took his drop. And after he dropped it, he bent over and looked at it really close like -- yeah, I don't like that lie very much. So, let's see what he can do with this all Bermuda over there which is a little more difficult to pitch out.

[00:31:37] >> And not fairway so it does not get the play lifted in place. And pretty well done right there. It looks like it's inside about 4 feet.

[00:31:51] >> These guys keep trading putting lessons. Steve gave Jerry Kelly one before he won at the senior players.

[00:31:56] >> That makes sense. Kelly here is giving Stricker a lesson. That makes as much sense.

[00:32:02] >> Byrum cashing in on the 6. Let's go back out to the 5th fairway, check in once again with Phil Blackmar with this final group. All three guys now tied for the lead at 11-under.

[00:32:15] >> Steve Stricker has 187 yards to this hole cut in the back left corner the green. Now, there is penalty area left of the screen but it's not up against the green. He got a little bit of room over there. Not one of the bigger greens here or with hills. Padraig Harrington is only going to have 125, 135, Lennie.

[00:32:35] >> Oh my goodness. Yeah, I mean, look where he is up that left hand side, how much closer he is to the target than Stricker. Stricker's got to put this out the center of the green and try and work it towards the flag. And if it doesn't get all the way there, that's OK. The ideal thing would be get it hole high. We liked it.

[00:32:59] >> Talked into it.

[00:33:00] >> Yes, he was. He said, "Be right." And what a great swing by Steve Stricker putting some instant heat on the other two.

[00:33:10] >> It is 7 from the left. Back to the 5th now, Padraig Harrington after blasting that tee shot.

[00:33:15] >> Like I mentioned earlier, just 135 yards here. The breeze really not doing much at the moment. The flag is lining up against the flagstick.

[00:33:24] >> And I like this angle, Phil, actually. Because from this angle, I think with a shorter club, you can take it right straight at the flag.

[00:33:32] >> No, with just a wedge in your hand. I think that's obviously the play here. Going right at it.

[00:33:37] >> Yeah. And if he knows the green well at all, hard to see it all from back there but he's got a good 25 feet left to the flag of putting surface. So, there's no reason not to go ahead and take this whole location on. You know, if you're going to hit a drive like that, that's what you're doing it for. So, you can be aggressive with these second shots.

[00:33:58] >> What can Harrington dial up after his first double this week?

[00:34:01] >> Good shot.

[00:34:02] >> Well done.

[00:34:03] >> It's in here about 12 feet. Steven Alker at the top of the Schwab Cup standings. Padraig Harrington, the closest chaser at $361,178 behind. Harrington, one of the coleaders at the moment here in North St. Louis County, Missouri at Norwood Hills Country Club.

[00:34:30] >> Harrington played a beautiful shot in there.

[00:34:33] >> Lennie, you've won all over the world and you've had a moment like this with Padraig Harrington and you have a double that kind of shocks your system. How do you settle yourself back down?

[00:34:42] >> Well, you just got to stay aggressive. You got to understand there's still a lot of holes left to be played. And, you know, a lot of times you say to yourself, "Everybody's going to make mistakes." Maybe that's my last one for the day. And that's why he's got to look at this. Yeah, I can't afford to make any more mistakes. He already gotten the lead up to 2, did not want to give it back. But quite honestly, he's still tied. When you make a mistake and you're still back in the lead, that's a good thing. If he jumped two shots behind these guys, that would have been -- he'd felt like it was more of an uphill battle.

[00:35:20] >> Certainly, this putt ignites this one in, that one really regained momentum coming down the hill. He'll have a chance to watch liners putt moving to the left, but not quite as quick as he would have thought.

[00:35:33] >> He's been fairly bold with his putting. It rarely leaves anything short. So, we're going to watch right here.

[00:35:46] >> This would be the first birdie of the day on the 5th and what a time to deliver.

[00:35:51] >> Yeah, that was a good center. That was really nice stroke there by Padraig. Well played hole. He got aggressive off the tee and it paid off. And he took advantage of it with the second shot.

[00:36:01] >> Look at this from Y.E. Yang on the 6th, face wide open.

[00:36:06] >> He got to put it up and let it just go straight down the hill to the hole. This is incredible right here by Y.E. Yang. What a shot. Great imagination and really well executed. They want to keep the speed up in the greens, but some of the hole locations that they would like to use, it gets a little bit too sloppy for them so they've had to be -- you know, we've seen some of the same hole locations day in, day out.

[00:36:40] >> Stricker to match out 5 for birdie.

[00:36:42] >> Well, good played by Steve Stricker. That's I'm going to say his confidence right there. He needed to see one go in and he did. The other birdie he made was a 2-putt, so nice to see one getting the hole for Stricker.

[00:36:53] >> Harrington and Stricker, the two now tied at the top of 12-under par. Clark Dennis trying to do what no man has done this final round. That's equal to par-5, 8th.

[00:37:07] >> He comes up a little short. It should be pretty simple birdie there by Clark.

[00:37:14] >> We're in North St. Louis County, Missouri, about 10-15 minutes from downtown St. Louis, such a great sports town. You could see it with the galleries out there. Steve Stricker is saying this, "As if the feel almost like a regular PGA Tour event with the crowd support that we saw last year and so far this week."

[00:37:31] >> Yeah, the buildup's been incredible. They've got a lot of fans out here and they are active and they're enjoying the golf. They're very knowledgeable. So, it's like you said, great sports town. And, you know, they're following their teams all the time. And then they love having the golf here. A lot of majors held in St. Louis over the years between Bellerive and--

[00:37:52] >> Bellerive's had three. Most recently, Brooks Koepka won in 2018.

[00:37:56] >> Old Warson had a Ryder Cup match way back in the day.

[00:37:59] >> 1971.

[00:38:00] >> Ben Hogan won a PGA Championship on this course.

[00:38:03] >> Yeah, here in 1948. What are you seeing with the Stricker par putt?

[00:38:09] >> Slow, a little bit to the left.

[00:38:13] >> This would be a huge save. And it was. And, you know, he hardly got back and it barely--

[00:38:19] >> Just cracked in.

[00:38:21] >> Yes, it did.

[00:38:21] >> Bogey-free still in this final round.

[00:38:23] >> Man, you take the putt, keep making a difference. Great saver for Stricker.

[00:38:34] >> It was overcast to start today, expecting the sun to peak out later in the day. Here's Ernie Els in the 9th.

[00:38:41] >> Staying in touch and a good tee shot here at 9th and sets up a wonderful second bar. Ernie got to go 10-under in just a couple shots off the lead.

[00:38:51] >> Move along to the 9th, Ernie Els to get within 2.

[00:38:59] >> Ernie Elk's kind of sneaking up on the leaders right now. Look at him there. There he is, only a couple back.

[00:39:03] >> One of the rounds of the day is shaping up so far as Ernie, 3-under on his front 9 heading to the 10th. Back to the 8th to play 5. Steven Alker just make it harder for John Huston. Doing one better.

[00:39:30] >> Yes, he did. Johnny stayed in touch as well, 10-under, two birdies, one bogey today.

[00:39:39] >> Up ahead on the 17th, when you see pants like that, who could it be? John Daly for birdie.

[00:39:43] >> JD gives us something to talk about.

[00:39:54] >> Popping up a couple to 10, Ernie Els, long birdie putt.

[00:40:01] >> Look at Ernie, did he hit it? Oh, my goodness. Could not have been more dead center.

[00:40:10] >> Pulled Ernie to within one of the lead.

[00:40:21] >> 9th fairway, Y.E. Yang.

[00:40:24] >> Yeah, nice tee shot. Good look here, staring right down the throat. Good chance to get one close. And really nice play, yeah, nice shot there by Y.E. Yang.

[00:40:38] >> Back to the 8th, a couple birdie putts for Steve Stricker and Padraig Harrington, both guys at 12-under.

[00:40:44] >> It could have been the opportunity for both players here, just a little momentum on their side. It's interesting watching Steve putt, his putting shaping in full swing only and he place his hands, a very much a similar type position, kind of hard, isn't it, Lennie?

[00:41:00] >> He does. Yeah, I've often felt that, you know, it looks like it's borderline too high to be at times. I liked the high hands putting. I think it promotes a really reliable putting stroke. And obviously, Steve has been reliable for a long time. That's the toe of the putter released doing this. There it goes.

[00:41:22] >> Stricker first third party on the round.

[00:41:25] >> Oh no, that can't do that.

[00:41:27] >> That is cruel.

[00:41:28] >> That can't do that. Is gravity not taking place here in St. Louis?

[00:41:34] >> Wow.

[00:41:35] >> Shouldn't that go below ground?

[00:41:44] >> Anything to this for Harrington to take the lead, Phil?

[00:41:47] >> No, I don't think so. I just had an opportunity to see Stricker's putt fairly similar type of thing. No, I think he's made a couple of really good strokes. He made one stroke that wasn't so good, just kind of stay in this. You'll be able to tell as soon he hits it if he likes it or not.

[00:42:12] >> Padraig for birdie. Harrington at 13-under leading by one. Final hole on the frontline, Y.E. Yang, 8 feet for birdie.

[00:42:28] >> Yeah. Good luck here up right straight up the slope. And that's really well done. That's well played hole there by Y.E. Yang.

[00:42:35] >> Slip on Y.E. Yang to 10-under par tied for third. That's Padraig Harrington up by one. Final round in the Ascension Charity Classic.

[00:42:51] >> You're 134 yards, getting the breeze coming across from the left.

[00:42:58] >> Time to go flag hunting if you're Padraig.

[00:43:00] >> He says some good short hands of wedges so far today, hasn't he?

[00:43:03] >> Yes, he has, all right at the flag. It's going to the flag as well. Beautiful play.

[00:43:23] >> How about this from Padraig Harrington? Back-to-back birdies 14-under, two-shot lead now over Steve Stricker. We go back to the tap. What's Stricker facing with the second here, Phil?

[00:43:37] >> Well, he's got a very good lie over here, got plenty of green to work with, really the trees not in his way. He's got to carry it forward so it didn't hit the downslope on the first part of the green. But once it gets on there, it's pretty flat. It's very doable which has almost no resting towards the all green and the states where it's shallow, the land is very soft.

[00:44:11] >> Stop it to the par-3. That's very well done. This is the game that lead probably about 6, 7 feet. Nice play.

[00:44:21] >> It could be accurate as scale.

[00:44:22] >> Yeah, it would be.

[00:44:29] >> A moment ago, Justin Leonard up ahead on the 17th.

[00:44:35] >> Great shot there by Justin.

[00:44:37] >> It was a dart in there.

[00:44:40] >> Yeah, by the foot.

[00:44:44] >> Stricker for par, stay at 12-under.

[00:44:46] >> Yeah, big putts for a Stricker here, Phil.

[00:44:48] >> Yeah, it really is. It's a putt that should move over to his left, Lennie, so he needs to keep up the speed with good rotate of stroke through the ball.

[00:44:56] >> I mean, Harrington is not in the hole yet but you sure don't want to sit here. And he's already in foot by two. You don't want to give him one.

[00:45:10] >> Stricker, bogey-free on the round.

[00:45:14] >> Nice. Yeah, it was very nice--

[00:45:19] >> Slippery up and down.

[00:45:20] >> Yeah, it really was.

[00:45:21] >> Slippery up and down.

[00:45:22] >> That was special. And Padraig keep this up high enough. No. But that's a great putt, going to make for a fairly easy birdie for Padraig Harrington.

[00:45:41] >> Over on the 13th, Y.E. Yang second.

[00:45:44] >> It's like that ball is sitting down the rough. He had a lot of club on it though. Can he get it all the way to the hole? Yes, he can act. Heck of a shot by Y.E. Yang. I mean, that left rough.

[00:45:56] >> We are back with the final group on the 12th, Steve Stricker short in left. Phil, we've seen these par escapes that Stricker's been able to make in this final round but getting a little loose with this iron play.

[00:46:12] >> Yeah, this one's pretty difficult here if he landed short. I don't know if it will kick up. It might be too soft, not much greener but with downhill lie. And land on the green and get it to bite. He did. Wow, that was spectacular.

[00:46:26] >> That is so good.

[00:46:28] >> That looks easy. He made it look easier than it was. It was not that simple.

[00:46:33] >> Up on the 13th, Y.E. Yang break free from a sheer 3rd.

[00:46:38] >> Here we go.

[00:46:40] >> Yeah, great birdie here at the 13th. Hell of a left rough and excellent tee shot by Y.E. Yang.

[00:46:49] >> Up on the closing hole, Chris DiMarco finishing up his week. Even on his round, this would be for a Sunday 70. DiMarco curls it in.

[00:47:03] >> Gone a long way up but 40 feet, good putt there.

[00:47:07] >> Keep waiting for Steve Stricker to string some birdies together. Mainly to be Y.E. Yang and he's on 14th, just parted the 13th.

[00:47:17] >> Down the hill moving right to left.

[00:47:19] >> He does.

[00:47:21] >> Two in a row for Y. E. Yang, 12-under tied for second.

[00:47:28][ Applause and Cheering ] We're seeing a lot of things in this game. You remember a situation where you decided against taking line of sight and went over bleachers?

[00:47:41] >> I do not remember. To this extent, no. I mean, this is different.

[00:47:50] >> So, what a good shot.

[00:47:52] >> Good shot would be on the green. He just wants to get it on the green.

[00:47:55] >> If he especially be getting on the proper level.

[00:47:57] >> Is he up?

[00:47:59] >> Oh, he just shot, just shot. He got a work left.

[00:48:16] >> He kept going to that. Beautiful.

[00:48:19] >> Back to his 4th.

[00:48:21] >> Got to save bogey which is crossing right now.

[00:48:27] >> Y.E. Yang, from 60 feet for eagle and share the lead. What a try. That would have been incredible.

[00:48:37] >> See, well, that's unfolding ahead on the 15th. We will drop back to the 14th, Bernard Langer missed his birdie putt.

[00:48:45] >> Well, pretty simple look there for Langer. He thought he might get that one to go down.

[00:48:49] >> Another simple look right here for Harrington and move just a fraction to his right but not much, don't give away the hole.

[00:48:56] >> Well, there's trouble every hole on this golf course. Good rebound with birdie there for Harrington. That's incredible.

[00:49:11] >> Fringe out 17th shot, Huston trying to climb the double digits under par.

[00:49:16] >> Good putt for the John having another excellent tournament.

[00:49:23] >> Let's slide it back to the 17th.

[00:49:31] >> Take these big hard practice swings and then doesn't make quite that hardest swing at the ball. Third shot at the cup. Up down the hill, get on bout it quickly.

[00:49:49] >> 18th, third shot for Y.E. Yang. He's thinking, man.

[00:49:53] >> He is because he's chipping in. He thinks he can hold it simply with a chip shot. On a good line, will it roll out? Phil, are you surprised what's unfolded these past couple of holes now with Padraig Harrington put himself in the spot?

[00:50:10] >> Completely. Absolutely completely. Just unforced errors. Despite his balls in the brown area, on the green, it may get into his head a little bit. It needs to come off the putter really clean to roll through there, slip downhill, break in slightly to his left. It's not really the kind of putt you want to have at this moment.

[00:50:35] >> It's kind of surprising you got this who won on three major championships struggle with finishing a tournament off like this. Usually, we do things to take control.

[00:50:44] >> He was talking prior to the start of the week about his issues closing out tournaments with a lead. This is for par stay up by 2.

[00:50:49] >> That's huge. That was really close. That was huge. He can take a big deep breath now and go put it in the fairway at 18th. He's going to get one to go. That was a nice-looking stroke.

[00:51:21] >> And he's going to bring the last.

[00:51:22] >> Of course, he does. Yeah. Where have you been all day, Bernhard? We don't know you. Here we go. Man, this won three majors. It only went a couple inches by.

[00:51:46] >> Toss it up there.

[00:51:47] >> Yup.

[00:51:47] >> A bogey on the last touch.

[00:51:49][ Applause and Cheering ] He's got two wins in his last three starts in the PGA Championship.

[00:51:58] >> He knows how to win. I mean, I think he'll be disappointed in the way he finished it. But at the same time, maybe he'll learn from this. And maybe next time this comes around, he handles it just a little bit better. I love the aggressiveness with what he's playing, trying to build the lead and go bigger.