Production Transcript for REWIND\_3M\_VEGAS.mp3

[00:00:28] >> The PGA Tour is proud to bring you the season long-race for the FedExCup. Now, coverage of the 2024 3M Open.

[00:00:37] >> And if you remember, it was back in 2019, the PGA Tour returned to the Twin Cities after 50-year hiatus. So this marks the sixth edition of the 3M Open at TPC Twin Cities. And what a gorgeous start to the week we have, weather wise. Talking with players in the field, they're saying the course is just in perfect condition. If we get four days like this, expect a firmer and faster golf course into the weekend. Day 1 scoring's been good so far with the morning wave. And we've already had someone who flirted with the course record of 62 earlier. Let's head out to the 6th. Say hello to Jim.

[00:01:12] >> Hello, George. This is Harry Hall. Billy Ray will be with this group.

[00:01:18] >> Yeah. Forced to lay up here. Long birdie attempt.

[00:01:21] >> Got his first win. That's only Top 10 of the season. Finished 12th at John Deere, and then won the next week. But what a putt there.

[00:01:34] >> Back to 8.

[00:01:35] >> All right. Adam Long now at 8.

[00:01:41] >> Looking to bounce back here. Coming off a triple bogey seven at the 7th.

[00:01:44] >> When he made two of the 11 cuts, did finish. Decent finish in the Korn Ferry Tour in Greenville at the BMW. Beautiful shot there. That'll help. Got a long way to go to catch up though.

[00:01:58] >> Long now for -- this for birdie.

[00:02:01] >> I like how they have shaved that front part down right there. So you really have to control your wedge shot going in there.

[00:02:10] >> You got to pay attention. Couple birdies.

[00:02:18] >> Long on the 8th, putting for birdie.

[00:02:24][ Applause ] He gets to 2-over par after that conversion. We'll head to the 7th with Emiliano Grillo putting for birdie.

[00:02:40] >> John, you touched on the defense of this golf course, the wind. And today is, you know, 8 to 12, maybe gust up to 15 miles an hour. But, you know, there's a couple par 4s that you mentioned that you have to take care of. But man, you get going in the right direction here, you can run off a bunch. You can go in a heater here, especially with the par 5s reachable as well.

[00:03:00] >> Yeah, they shoot some low scores around this golf course. They did when we played it in the PGA Tour Champions event, the, you know, three rounds. It was always, you know, mid-teens into close to 20-under par for three rounds. So they can shoot the grass off this golf course.

[00:03:14] >> This will be Grillo for birdie. While you guys can't pull off joggers, you guys could both pull off the gold chain back in the day.

[00:03:20] >> That we could.

[00:03:22] >> Oh, yeah, no doubt. Still pulling it off.

[00:03:25] >> Mr. Tee Starter Set.

[00:03:27] >> Grillo.

[00:03:28] >> Nice birdie there for Emiliano.

[00:03:30] >> Yeah, back to back birdies for him.

[00:03:32] >> Three circles on the card its first seven holes.

[00:03:45] >> Van Rooyen, par 3, scoring seventh this season. So he's been solid on the par 3. He's trying to get a gauge of that wind, Billy Ray.

[00:03:53] >> Well, I could promise you the way he can send it, this will not be a 7-iron. To confirm, this is an 8-iron here for van Rooyen. This man can move it.

[00:04:12] >> For a tall player, he stands very close to the ball, gets nice high hands.

[00:04:18] >> Yeah. This is a really good line, John. Just a little left of the flag.

[00:04:21] >> Yeah, beautiful action right there.

[00:04:23] >> Lower there.

[00:04:24] >> Lower the shots there. Flight it under 100 feet. So beautiful shot there. You'd see by the ball, Mark, still holding well in that downwind. Good chance for birdie.

[00:04:34] >> Over to 10th, Andrew Novak's got all the way up here to 75 yards. Made birdie at the 7th.

[00:04:45] >> Dangerous hole location. That was really nicely done.

[00:04:48] >> Yeah, no danger there. We'll go ahead and give him that one. That's a tap in for him.

[00:04:52] >> Back to 8. Van Rooyen now really improved his putting the last couple years. Strokes game putting 24th now, Billy Ray.

[00:04:58] >> And I think also if you look at his proximity, the hole, he's getting the ball closer with his iron game now. Started off this first round here, seven straight pars, trying to break in the red figures here.

[00:05:10] >> A little bit of movement. Not much overall here as it comes down.

[00:05:14] >> Wow, that is a good read.

[00:05:14] >> There it is.

[00:05:15] >> There you go.

[00:05:15] >> Yeah, that was a tricky little read. Nice putt there. So gets his first birdie of the day, and that's why he's Top 10 in par 3 scoring right there, folks. Minus-1.

[00:05:25] >> Great stat to be up there with.

[00:05:28] >> That's a good record.

[00:05:29] >> Par 3 stat.

[00:05:30] >> Yeah, that shows your iron playing pretty solid.

[00:05:35] >> And Novak going to tap this in.

[00:05:37] >> You make him putt that?

[00:05:38] >> I would not, but they're going to make him. I don't know why.

[00:05:42] >> Yeah. You got to sign your name at the end of the day. I guess you do need to tap those in.

[00:05:46] >> It's a technicality, but he's 2-under par either way. Just six shots back. Bridgeman with that 63. Look at that. Early dinner.

[00:05:54] >> How about Hayden Springer on the 14th, Mr. 59? We saw that at the John Deere Classic few weeks back, 1-under on the day.

[00:06:01] >> Yeah, cute little par 4here round the water.

[00:06:04] >> There's nothing cute to that hole.

[00:06:07] >> No, you're right. I was going to say --

[00:06:10] >> Description was a little cute.

[00:06:12] >> I don't want any part of it. It's a tough tee shot. Eighteen.

[00:06:18] >> Zach Johnson for birdie.

[00:06:19] >> Yeah, headed on the back of the green in two. Nice approach putt. Nice little birdie save there for Zach.

[00:06:32] >> We are back. Novak in the fairway here at the 12th.

[00:06:35] >> Five hundred ninety-six yards today. You get it going up the left-hand side, you can catch a little bit of a speed slot, reach this green in two.

[00:06:44] >> Giving it everything he has.

[00:06:47] >> Just hit a nice, beautiful approach shot. And how about this shot right here? Right on line. A second shot.

[00:06:54] >> Spectacular by Novak.

[00:06:58] >> Seventeen hole, Cody Gribble, the Longhorn here. See if he can get the little soft touch. I don't spot the bid is. It's the spot to make birdie from. We made that eagle at 12, a bogey of 14, which is John Cook mentioned a cute little hole. And then the 17th.

[00:07:15] >> Not your favorite, I guess, Jim.

[00:07:17] >> It goes right to left.

[00:07:19] >> Greyserman now here at the 4th. Par 3 goes up over this slope. This will kick it out to the right. Projected to be 90th. That'll help the cause.

[00:07:32] >> Right-hand turn at the end.

[00:07:34] >> There you go. Gets into 1-under after that double at 3. Three is the hardest hole on the golf course today.

[00:07:44] >> Let's go to 12. Can we see an eagle here from Novak?

[00:07:48] >> Saw that great approach back there. Now, golden opportunity here for Novak.

[00:07:54] >> Inside 6 feet to get to 4-under on the day. Pours it in.

[00:07:57] >> No problem. Right in the center. It's his ninth eagle this season on the PGA Tour.

[00:08:02] >> With that nice approach at the 10th, managed the 11th, and eagle there at the 12th. Nice little run.

[00:08:09] >> And you mentioned the guy's name who leads the PGA Tour in eagles. Rico Hoey earlier.

[00:08:14] >> Rico.

[00:08:14] >> He's 15 eagles.

[00:08:16] >> What?

[00:08:16] >> That have you in the top spot. So Novak now six back.

[00:08:21] >> Up to 18 with Suh putting for birdie. He gets to 3-under par on the day.

[00:08:35] >> Here's van Rooyen in the go zone at 12.

[00:08:43] >> Yeah, 280 yard. Just a little update here. This marquee grouping is on the clock right now. Have been given a warning, try to play catch up.

[00:08:55] >> Long way to hit an iron.

[00:08:57] >> Yeah, he's hit that shot a couple of times now, Billy Ray. Just kind of a start left hook.

[00:09:03] >> That was quick left.

[00:09:05] >> Yeah, looks like he's not getting that back swing quite turned enough. Not completing it and getting underneath, flipping.

[00:09:14] >> Up to the 18th, Hayden Springer.

[00:09:17] >> See if he can get there.

[00:09:21] >> Beautiful tee shot. Just a middle iron into this front left hole location. Right at it.

[00:09:30] >> Springer with an eagle putt to the closing hole at TPC Twin Cities.

[00:09:35] >> Back to the 12, van Rooyen's third.

[00:09:38] >> Actually pretty simple shot here. He's got a very good lie. A lot of green to work with here.

[00:09:45] >> Going for the chunk and run there, Billy Ray.

[00:09:48] >> Yeah, looks good.

[00:09:49] >> Does it really nicely.

[00:09:50] >> Yeah, oui, oui there. Wow.

[00:09:52] >> Bilingual.

[00:09:53] >> He's got the Olympic fever.

[00:09:55] >> I do.

[00:09:56] >> I cannot wait for the Olympics.

[00:09:57] >> Don't you love the Olympics?

[00:09:59] >> It's nothing better.

[00:10:02] >> We catch up with NeSmith putting for birdie at the 4th.

[00:10:09][ Applause ] He moves it to 3-under par. We jump down to the 12th hole, where Erik van Rooyen has a putt for birdie.

[00:10:29] >> BR, we got to see a couple birdie makes.

[00:10:31] >> No, this is going in, guys. This could actually change his attitude right now. He's running a little hot. Has putt inside left and firm. Had a wonderful bunker shot to here. Getting jump started here.

[00:10:44] >> There we go.

[00:10:47] >> With authority.

[00:10:49] >> Bounce back birdie for van Rooyen, 1-over on the day.

[00:10:59] >> All right, Novak at 15. This hole location on that kind of the center back portion, going to watch being a little bit long, but he's got number 1 job done. Got it in the fairway. This from 142 yards.

[00:11:09] >> Yeah. Back right hole location. A little bit of a saddle there, just short of the hole.

[00:11:14] >> Oh, wow.

[00:11:15] >> Right in the perfect spot. He's not having any trouble with his distance control.

[00:11:20] >> On the 18th. Been three eagles by the field so far today, the closing hole, Springer makes it four.

[00:11:29] >> Takes advantage of that beautiful tee shot and that great approach.

[00:11:34] >> How about that nine?

[00:11:35] >> Four-under 32.

[00:11:37] >> All right, Novak's got this for birdie. First back at Phoenix, was a shot off the lead after 54, shot 72 that final round. Finish back with Nick Taylor. But today, he is on a roll. It's a great iron. Plus shots in here. Another good one.

[00:11:53] >> He hasn't had it outside a couple of feet since the 10th hole.

[00:11:57] >> Go back and look at his stats. He's not made a lot of the feet of putts, but he didn't had to. Didn't have many long ones. This was another little tap in. All right, pays that off. So beautiful back nine he's got going with that birdie at 10, eagle at 12, a birdie at 15.

[00:12:13] >> All right. Matt Kuchar hit a beautiful shot in there. He's 1-under par. This one really slides right. We saw badly missed this one earlier. Not Kuch. He played very properly. Firmed it right in there. That drops him in there to 2-under par, three birdies and a bogey.

[00:12:29] >> Moving ahead to the 15th, where Burns is playing his second.

[00:12:37] >> Ball a little bit above his feet. This one just a little left of it.

[00:12:41] >> He's a spin. Didn't quite get the spin back. Landed back in that little bit of a valley, but pretty aggressive play. Seventh hole. Highsmith. He's 3-under. Nice. Good putt.

[00:12:58] >> Round the golf there for Joey.

[00:13:04] >> Back one on 16, Bryan rolling it to the bottom of the cup.

[00:13:12] >> Birdied the 16, pushes him to 4-under.

[00:13:18] >> Dylan Wu here at the 8th, the par 3. Some good shots in here. Hundred and eighty-three yards today.

[00:13:25] >> His 17th hole of the day. See what Dylan can dial up.

[00:13:29] >> Dialed it in.

[00:13:30] >> Right at it.

[00:13:31] >> How about that shot?

[00:13:32] >> That'll work.

[00:13:33] >> Just about dialed it right in the hole.

[00:13:35] >> All right, Sam Burns for birdie.

[00:13:40] >> That's a pretty quick one coming down the hill.

[00:13:42] >> Got a little unlucky. It didn't spin off that hill down there, but --

[00:13:48] >> Takes advantage of it. Beautiful tee shot.

[00:13:51] >> Just inching his way back to level par for three of his last four.

[00:13:56] >> I like the way he's clawing it out. That's what you got to do.

[00:13:58] >> All right, Gotterup. Chris Gotterup here. At Myrtle beach earlier this season.

[00:14:05] >> Really strong player right here, Chris Gotterup.

[00:14:08] >> Yeah, kind of an old-school swing. Played four years at Rutgers. Big 10 player of the year. Beautiful shot there. Then finished up at Oklahoma.

[00:14:14] >> Let's see if Dylan can knock this one in. Hit a beautiful shot in here. This to get the 3- under par.

[00:14:23] >> Caught it.

[00:14:25] >> Nice putt, Dylan. So he gets to 3-under.

[00:14:31] >> The 17th green, there's the 17th tee. That cool look here. Novak now.

[00:14:39] >> That back left tee here, Jim, 211 to the hole.

[00:14:47] >> Right there, 76 projected.

[00:14:50] >> Making his way. Wants to make it as easy on himself as he can. This little cut shot in here. Oh, wow. What a good shot.

[00:15:00] >> For birdie, Gotterup hit that beautiful shot in here.

[00:15:03] >> There you go. Nice put Chris. I remember his family. His parents were there, his brother was there when he won in Myrtle Beach. It was a pretty emotional week for him.

[00:15:13] >> Andrew Novak, one of the best rounds of the afternoon. It's for birdie.

[00:15:18] >> Count it.

[00:15:19] >> Beautiful tee shot in there, 211 right underneath the hole. It's a great round of golf.

[00:15:24] >> Yeah, sure is. Bogey free. Made a great save at the last hole. You see, entering this week was 84th, projected now 71st. Top 70 make the playoffs. Watch Justin Thomas last year barely miss out on it, just missing the chip shot on the last hole the final day.

[00:15:40] >> Back to the 8th, where NeSmith is hitting his tee shot.

[00:15:53] >> And NeSmith now here at the 8th. And a beautiful shot in here. This would get him to 4-under par.

[00:16:03] >> Good read. Good stroke there. Have a tough night to finish on, but nonetheless.

[00:16:08] >> Nice birdie two there at the 8th.

[00:16:10] >> Jacob Bridgeman fires an 8-under 63 to hold a one shot lead over Canadian Mackenzie Hughes, as France's own Martin Trainer is two back, sitting tied for third. Round 2 is next.

[00:16:30] >> And this sprawling property here was once a sod farm before being transformed into what we see today. Originally designed by Arnold Palmer in consultation with Minnesota golf legend Tom Lehman, this opened back in June of 2000. During construction, they moved more than 5 million cubic yards of dirt to create TPC Twin Cities. The course toughened up a bit yesterday in the afternoon for Round 1. The wind is up today for the second round. Going to be more of a test for what we see in our broadcast. K.H. Lee here at 17.

[00:17:03] >> Needs to get going in the FedExCup. Projected, though, that's going left. The wind is blowing left to right, though.

[00:17:08] >> You see that pin over there in the corner.

[00:17:10] >> Oh, wow.

[00:17:10] >> What a shot that was.

[00:17:11] >> That was a cool shot. Little draw back into that wind. Cut it back in there nicely. Thought that was a tough hole location when we looked at it. But these guys are making it look pretty easy.

[00:17:22] >> Over on the 9th, Ben Kohles right on that number at 2-under. This for birdie.

[00:17:27] >> Yeah. Big breaker from right to left down the backside of that slope and -- Oh, hello. It's just the third birdie today on the 507-yard par 4. Kohles, birdie, par, birdie his last three on the front side, makes the turn in 33.

[00:17:43] >> Seamus Power now at 17th. This is for birdie. Beautiful shot in here.

[00:17:47] >> Yeah, we were wondering how this hole was going to play and --

[00:17:51] >> Yeah.

[00:17:51] >> -- no problem for Seamus Power.

[00:17:53] >> How about -- Look at that score card. A couple birdies, and there you go, a couple more birdies. That's getting it done.

[00:17:58] >> Finau in position at 12.

[00:18:00] >> Yeah, this is a 5-iron, backed off once because the wind almost blew him over there. It's come in really high.

[00:18:10] >> On a pretty nice line. It got a huge kick though, Billy Ray. So he hit 5-iron from 177 and 5-iron from 250. That actually went 280.

[00:18:25] >> To the 17th.

[00:18:26] >> Beautiful shot K.H. Lee hit in here. And he pays it off. Nice birdie.

[00:18:31] >> To the 12th, where Theegala is playing his third from the rough, just off the green.

[00:18:42] >> This doable, Colt?

[00:18:43] >> Oh, yeah. Going to be pretty quick once it gets on the green and move to his left. And he's awesome around the greens.

[00:18:53] >> Got great hands, doesn't he? Fun to watch.

[00:18:56] >> Such creativity and such a -- yeah. Complete arsenal with a variety of shots he can play.

[00:19:02] >> Scott Piercy, remember a couple years ago, he had the 54-hole lead at the 3M Open before fading on Sunday, finishing T4. He's currently right on that number at 2-under par. This for eagle.

[00:19:14] >> Trying to dribble it down there and dribble, dribble, dribble right in the left side of the hole.

[00:19:21] >> Holing speed for Piercy. Eagles 18, goes out in 2-under 34.

[00:19:27] >> To the fairway on 18. Lee playing his third. Beautiful approach. Set up well for birdie.

[00:19:40] >> Finau to get within five of NeSmith.

[00:19:44] >> Be a good two putt from the back of the green.

[00:19:52] >> Tony takes advantage of the easiest hole on the course at TPC Twin Cities. That's a four and a birdie on the card for the 2022 champ.

[00:20:01] >> One-o-twelve. This is going to test his short game, Pendrith.

[00:20:07] >> Took a chance of leaving it and did a pretty good job. That really was difficult to get that close.

[00:20:13] >> Just outside the shadow of the flagstick. That's a birdie putt.

[00:20:17] >> Eighteen.

[00:20:19] >> We're bound to see a birdie on this par 5. Can K.H. Lee be the man? Hit a nice approach and laid the ball up and perfect angle. Nice little approach shot. Birdie, birdie.

[00:20:28] >> All right, Hayden Buckley. Hundred and seventy-eight yards. Just a few seconds ago. This is a good looking line.

[00:20:39] >> One seventy-eight, 173 clears that left-hand side. And hey.

[00:20:48] >> Hello.

[00:20:48] >> Now --

[00:20:49] >> Dunk them all. How about it? Tupelo, Mississippi will be proud. So the Missouri Tigers, where he played his college golf.

[00:20:55] >> Remember he made the hole one at Sawgrass.

[00:20:58] >> He did. He's got -- He likes 17.

[00:21:00] >> He's got a flare for 17, Jim. What can you say?

[00:21:04] >> Right over to 15th, Justin Lower. He's at 5-under. He's currently projected 91st. He'll grind it out.

[00:21:13] >> From behind the pin. I'm going to rule it.

[00:21:16] >> Oh, grind right.

[00:21:17] >> Yes.

[00:21:18] >> Good catch hole.

[00:21:19] >> Yup. Look at that. Three out of the last four. Attaway, Justin. Gets him to 6-under par. Way to keep going. Way to keep grinding. He's only four back.

[00:21:28] >> Theegala with this for birdie. Back one at the 12th.

[00:21:33] >> Just coming down the hill, moving ever so slightly to his right.

[00:21:37] >> Colt, do you think Sahith realizes just how good he is with how fast he's been able to ascend to among borderline Top 10 in the world?

[00:21:46] >> That's a great question. I mean, I know he's only won once, but I think he's got a lot more in his future. He's just got such a solid game. He's going to be an ATM machine out here.

[00:21:56] >> He's one of the best college players. It's continued here.

[00:22:00] >> Yeah. During his time at Pepperdine --

[00:22:01] >> That's his first birdie so he is even on the round, just like Keegan Bradley.

[00:22:05] >> Lower at 16.

[00:22:09] >> Buckets.

[00:22:10] >> He's inside the Top 10 at 7-under, three back.

[00:22:15] >> But that little run, four out of five.

[00:22:17] >> He's officially on fire. That's three in a row.

[00:22:19] >> That would be. That's a slave of birdies right there.

[00:22:23] >> To 16, where Finau is playing his third from the rough.

[00:22:30] >> Terrific shot. There is a little race there. Does it stay on it?

[00:22:33] >> It does. Now, he's got it back uphill.

[00:22:37] >> Pendrith to grab a share of second, get within one of the lead.

[00:22:41] >> This would be a great up and down from left side in the deep rough, pitching on the down slope. Really good up and down.

[00:22:47] >> He's played a good golf as anyone we've seen on the PGA Tour over the past few months. Has made 10 of 11 cuts coming into this week.

[00:22:57] >> To 13th.

[00:22:59] >> Cameron Champ. Now, long putt for birdie.

[00:23:02] >> Across the green.

[00:23:03] >> We've got some speed.

[00:23:04] >> Moving left to right. Yeah.

[00:23:05] >> How slow this gets down here. But watch out.

[00:23:08] >> There we go. Past champion here.

[00:23:12] >> Back to back birdies to.

[00:23:14] >> Gets him to 5-under, four birdies and a bogey.

[00:23:21] >> Pendrith, a bit unlucky here. Look at this drive, 337, 102 left in. Good news, even that club comes in, it's all fairway. So you should be able to spin it. Excellent play.

[00:23:32] >> Really nice. Well controlled out of it. Just in that first cut.

[00:23:37] >> Back on 16. Will it be birdie time for Finau?

[00:23:41] >> Stay up. It does. Catch the right side of the hole.

[00:23:45] >> You bet you. Finau to 5-under.

[00:23:47] >> Survived the 17th and got the par-5 18th as well within his wheelhouse.

[00:23:52] >> Back to 1-under on the day.

[00:23:54] >> All right. Pendrith, birdie to get to 10-under par.

[00:23:58] >> A good chance here. Not much break. Need to hit it. Yeah.

[00:24:01] >> That's on 1134. NeSmith -- I'm not going to do all the math, George. That's up to you.

[00:24:07] >> It's almost 6 hours.

[00:24:09] >> There we go.

[00:24:10] >> So 4 hours and 47 minutes later.

[00:24:12] >> It took him that long --

[00:24:13] >> For 5 hours.

[00:24:13] >> -- to catch him.

[00:24:14] >> Yup.

[00:24:16] >> Canada's Taylor Pendrith fires a 7-under 64 to take a two shot lead over Matthew NeSmith. Heading into the weekend, Venezuela's Jhonattan Vegas sits tied for fifth at 8-under par. Round 3 is next.

[00:24:39] >> The 3M Open is part of the season-long race for the FedExCup. Such a pleasure to return to the Twin Cities, Beckwourth in Blaine, Minnesota. Back here for the 3M Open. Proud to present the coverage here with a group of hopefuls battling at the top of the leaderboard. In fact, manning the very top is a recent winner on tour in Taylor Pendrith. The weather is just fine. Oftentimes, we come up here this time of the year in the summer and thunderstorms interrupt the best plans. Not this week, knock on wood. It's warm, it's humid, and it is extremely breezy today. Winds are picking up here in Round 3.

[00:25:21] >> Let's go to 14.

[00:25:23] >> And 39-year-old Jhonattan Vegas.

[00:25:27] >> One-forty-four left. Gusting winds. Play a little bit safe there to the right side. Two great shots in there as we head up to 16.

[00:25:43] >> And McNealy, his second.

[00:25:47] >> That's a little caressed 9-iron. Looking impeccable.

[00:25:53] >> It is, Mark. Two holes cut just over that bunker. Such a good shot.

[00:26:00] >> Here's Vegas at the 14th, one back.

[00:26:02] >> And this to tie the lead, Jim. And he's done it. Five birdies, no bogeys on his card today, 13-under par.

[00:26:16] >> Yeah, across to 16. Saw that great shot of Maverick's. And just like that, we have three-time -- three-tied for the lead. Back a hole.

[00:26:30] >> Where Vegas has feasted this week. Can he do it for a third time? Make a three. He's going to have a great chance at it.

[00:26:44] >> Ahead one at 15.

[00:26:45] >> All right, Vegas.

[00:26:49] >> He's gone birdie, birdie on this hole. Down for three in a row.

[00:26:53] >> Keep the speed up. OK.

[00:27:01] >> Two great putts in a row here, Jim, walking them in.

[00:27:03] >> Look at that stretch of threes.

[00:27:09] >> Back at 17 with Matt Kuchar. We've seen it all day. He's been hitting his irons beautifully in these blustery conditions. See if he can do it here again at 17.

[00:27:18] >> That's 7-iron, Ian. And another gorgeous shot. Oh, break, Kuchar.

[00:27:25] >> Come on now.

[00:27:25] >> Matt Kuchar, a tap in left for birdie at 17 to get to 13-under. And the calls of Kuch.

[00:27:34] >> It's come to 18. Maverick McNealy, the licensed pilot, instrument-rated, ready to let it fly.

[00:27:44] >> It's flying with 6-iron. Gusty down breeze.

[00:27:47] >> It's all over it if it's right distance.

[00:27:50] >> It's been a show today, Trev.

[00:27:53] >> Yes. That made it by about half a foot right there, Jim.

[00:27:57] >> That's the shot of the day we just saw from Kuch over at 17.

[00:28:01] >> Yeah, it sure is. We've saw a hole in one here yesterday with Hayden Buckley. But that's the best shot of the day on the toughest hole on the golf course.

[00:28:10] >> Ian, not too often, a hole of 167 yards is the toughest.

[00:28:14] >> That's correct, Colt. Yeah. It just goes to show how strong the wind is blowing across the lake there. So we had four in a row, 5 through 8, five birdies the front nine.

[00:28:24] >> Matt Kuchar now 6-under through 17.

[00:28:30] >> Meanwhile at 17.

[00:28:33] >> See that wind gusting across from left to right here.

[00:28:35] >> Right at it again. How about the last two shots we've seen here at 17? Jhonattan Vegas, chance to go one further away and just judge that wind perfectly.

[00:28:56] >> It'll be Mav first. He lives in Vegas and now he's trying to tie Vegas. There you go, 14-under par. Good round. Great round actually. Talking how hard the conditions are. That's a 63 in all of this.

[00:29:10] >> Yeah. Like I said, average score, 69 and a half. So making a huge move on the field. He's had 2 seconds already on tour. Is tomorrow the day he gets his first win out here?

[00:29:20] >> Seventeen.

[00:29:21] >> Just inside 5 feet to regain the outright lead. Finds the middle of the cup.

[00:29:29] >> Jhonattan Vegas looking for his first victory in more than seven years.

[00:29:38] >> While we wait, 18.

[00:29:40] >> And looking all the way down to the second shot coming in from Matt Kuchar, 46 years old, hasn't won since 2019.

[00:29:50] >> Trevor, he's got 225 to cover the water. Wind hard off its left and coming off a downslope. Got to make sure you get it up.

[00:29:58] >> Yeah, 235 is probably the number that he's looking at to land it. Good contact. Anything but short.

[00:30:04] >> That's his 3-hybrid on the way. Doesn't seem to like it.

[00:30:13] >> OK. Still can do something with it. I know he hated the shot. Still can make birdie.

[00:30:18] >> On the 18th, Kuchar playing his third.

[00:30:31] >> Look at this shot. Look at this shot. Yes. Kuchar closes with an eagle. And the Kuch chorus at full blast.

[00:30:44] >> Nine-under in his last 14 holes. How about that?

[00:30:49] >> How about the way he did it?

[00:30:50] >> Absolutely spectacular.

[00:30:55] >> And Vegas.

[00:31:02] >> Two hundred and forty-one yards and he doesn't love it.

[00:31:07] >> Just got enough of it, thankfully. So long look at eagle.

[00:31:18] >> Vegas is on the green at 18 with an eagle attempt.

[00:31:23] >> He's got a lot to pay attention to here. There's a big ridge and shoulder he has to come up and over. We got the wind that is just whipping across the green.

[00:31:41] >> All right. Sweeps it up the hill for eagle. What a track.

[00:31:45] >> Good putt.

[00:31:46] >> That's an impressive round of golf. Fifteen, greens in regulation in this wind. And now, Vegas just a foot and a half away from going into the night with the outright 54-hole lead.

[00:32:12] >> There it is, 63. Johnny Vegas.

[00:32:19] >> That is some back nine. You said he's done all this damage on the second side this week. Picks up six shots to par today.

[00:32:26] >> Yeah, gotten a little bit every day, 68, 66, 63.

[00:32:32] >> Well, if he proves on 63 tomorrow, I think he'll win it.

[00:32:36] >> That's right.

[00:32:36] >> This is just a hunch.

[00:32:37] >> Just going out on a limb.

[00:32:38] >> Way out on limb. Good playing, Jhonattan. Good to see you healthy again.

[00:32:44] >> Putting your money on Vegas.

[00:32:49] >> Going to be a fun day to watch golf tomorrow from the 3M Open. What are you looking for, Trev?

[00:32:56] >> I got a feeling about Theegala. I mean, he is just an impressive player. Eleventh in the World Rankings. It's time for him to step up, shoot something in the mid-60s and take this title.

[00:33:11] >> Watch out for Maverick, or a Matt Kuchar, or a Jhonattan Vegas.

[00:33:25] >> The final round is next.

[00:33:30] >> Time ticks by. In this game of ebbs and flows, it remains resolute, with no regard for failure and success. Pressure mounts. Momentum swings. And opportunities are running out. The time to earn a spot to finish this race is now.

[00:33:53] >> Next on the team, please welcome --

[00:33:55][ Applause ]

[00:34:03] >> Well, this course, it was Arnold Palmer's vision, one of the greatest icons in the history of the sport. He came up here just north of the Twin Cities, laid eyes on this land, and then designed this beautiful course, with danger lurking everywhere and typifying his playing style of yesteryear. A lot of go for broke opportunities out there, including, well, you got the King's Corner at 17, a salute to Arnold. And then, you have the 18th, where it can all be wrapped up with either a dramatic eagle perhaps, a winning birdie, or hate to say it, even disaster.

[00:34:44] >> We'll go back to 9.

[00:34:45] >> And now, it's our leader by three.

[00:34:48] >> Coming out of the first cut. No reason to mess with this hole location, but he has flared it right. This is in the middle of the water.

[00:34:55] >> Oh, my. Things just got interesting.

[00:35:02] >> Well, he was in the bunker, McNealy, with his tee shot.

[00:35:06] >> It's a third from 114, right over the top of the flagstick, but nothing to bring it back.

[00:35:11] >> He was hoping for a little zip on that. Bogeyed 7, birdied 8, now has a long putt for par at the 9th.

[00:35:21] >> OK, big moment here because he can get up and down for bogey still. He's got to put a little air under it and cover that corner.

[00:35:30] >> And he landed it in the fringe. That's going to be a fine shot. He got a chance to get out of here, Colt, with a bogey.

[00:35:38] >> Now, back to 10. You know, sort of serpent shape of this fairway. Should be Cam Davis to play.

[00:35:46] >> It is Cam Davis, but gust of wind. He's just throwing him off the launch sequence.

[00:35:53] >> I mean, I think, yeah, I think it's --

[00:35:55] >> Right now, it's a 9-iron, 123. Yeah. Good with that?

[00:36:09] >> Yup.

[00:36:09] >> Frank, it's these kind of conditions.

[00:36:11] >> Straight.

[00:36:12] >> Yeah. That's like, you know, comes straight back at it.

[00:36:15] >> Where sometimes you just throw the yardage book out of the window. I mean, we've got 9-iron here.

[00:36:19] >> Well, he's a shot maker. We've seen that throughout the years. He's not afraid to try all sorts of different trajectories and shot shapes.

[00:36:29] >> And this is the 9. Little bunt 9 from 122.

[00:36:33] >> Yeah. Saute variety.

[00:36:35] >> Probably ordinarily hits this club 160.

[00:36:39] >> Stalling in the wind.

[00:36:41] >> What a great bounce. That was 2 yards away from being in trouble. And now, it's nearly a kick in birdie for the Australian.

[00:36:50] >> Now, McNealy for par.

[00:36:53] >> This will have a little speed to it for sure.

[00:36:56] >> Huge. Absolutely huge.

[00:36:58][ Applause ]

[00:37:03] >> Talk about a boost.

[00:37:05] >> Exactly what he needs before the long walk to the 10th tee.

[00:37:08] >> Well, it was breezy yesterday. It's not quite as intense so far today. Vegas, though, with a tension filled moment here to save his bogey.

[00:37:21] >> A nasty little one. He's got to get outside the hole on the right.

[00:37:26] >> Took a while to get there.

[00:37:28] >> That limped to the hole.

[00:37:31] >> There's such a thing. That's it, a good bogey. And the lead now is two over Kuch and McNealy.

[00:37:40] >> Up ahead, though, Cam Davis. Got very fortuitous bounce off the edge of the bunker. And only this for birdie. So he gets it to 13-under. To 12.

[00:38:00] >> Taylor Pendrith, when we came on the air yesterday, was leading the tournament, and then hit a very difficult stretch. Here he is for eagle at 12. How sweet it is.

[00:38:12] >> OK, 46-footer. And now back in it.

[00:38:16] >> That does put him back in it. Just three off the lead. As we go to the 14th.

[00:38:22] >> Just a slight right to left slope here with that right to left breeze for Greyserman. And that allows him to sort of aim it out to the right. Dangerous hole location today. Bring it in a little bit with the breeze.

[00:38:35] >> Up to 12.

[00:38:36] >> This is J.J. Spaun. A little birdie chip. Got to be delicate. Finds the cup.

[00:38:44] >> J.J. Spaun, what's going on over there at 12? I just saw Pendrith hole a long one for eagle on spawn with a birdie. We're at the 14th.

[00:38:54] >> And Greyserman for birdie. Little right to left, slightly downhill. He's been putting well all week. And that's another. So Greyserman to 14-under. Just two back of Johnny Vegas.

[00:39:11] >> Kuchar now.

[00:39:14] >> Dry lie, 5-iron. This should come in low and warm.

[00:39:20] >> Here comes the run out. This could be outstanding.

[00:39:24] >> Kuch.

[00:39:27] >> So, he's got an eagle look coming up. He trails Vegas by two in the final round.

[00:39:34] >> And now, here's Mav. Boy --

[00:39:38] >> Exactly --

[00:39:39] >> Go ahead, Dottie.

[00:39:39] >> -- opposite of the hole or the shot he had back at the 11th on an upslope, super thick lie. Five paces to work with. Going high.

[00:39:51] >> Boy, he's been scrambling.

[00:39:53] >> His coaching staff has to be proud --

[00:39:56] >> Yup.

[00:39:56] >> -- of what he's done so far.

[00:39:57] >> That's right. Scott Hamilton and Butch Harmon back in Vegas been helping him for the last few years.

[00:40:05] >> Meanwhile, for a moment, let's go to 13.

[00:40:08] >> Well below the green surface, Frank. Just so difficult landing on that downhill.

[00:40:13] >> He's unlucky. Actually got -- It landed on the collar. Pitches like another foot or so. It settles down. That's a bad break. Back to the par 5.

[00:40:22] >> Boy, this is, again, been just time and time again for McNealy, showing off his short game.

[00:40:30] >> This for birdie.

[00:40:32] >> It's only 17 putts now through 12 holes and he inches within one.

[00:40:37] >> This goes to show how important the short game is. He's had two low burners in his first and second shot and still walks away with a four.

[00:40:47] >> Let's go to 13.

[00:40:50] >> Par putt for Theegala. And it goes in. What a three. That is completely from nowhere.

[00:40:56] >> That's massive. Keeps him in it, Frank.

[00:40:58] >> He's had a good season. I mean, 11th ranked player in the world.

[00:41:05] >> And now, Kuchar for a birdie of his own.

[00:41:09] >> That's a good stroke. The chase is on now.

[00:41:15] >> And the Kuch chorus comes out at the 12th.

[00:41:25] >> Now, 16. They're using the back tee again. Greyserman, you cannot go long here. Flag is nearly on the back edge. That's a good shot. So I can't fault that. Go 2 yards past this flag, you're in trouble.

[00:41:47] >> Meanwhile, 16.

[00:41:49] >> Greyserman could do some damage if he can pop this in up the hill. Already made four birdies on this side. Make it five. That's a run to the clubhouse.

[00:42:02] >> Game on here, Frank. If he could sneak one more on the next two.

[00:42:06] >> We're back at 15. And Vegas in the fairway here, Dottie.

[00:42:16] >> Laid way back off the tee. This from 174, but tracking right at it.

[00:42:21] >> Big Colt.

[00:42:22] >> Oh, it stops. Does not back off anymore. Good birdie opportunity coming up.

[00:42:28] >> Meanwhile, Greyserman well left off the tee at the closing par-5 18. But there is a window. Raised in New Jersey, comes from just an extraordinary golfing family. Got two younger brothers who are both serious players as well.

[00:42:46] >> I mean, he's either going to have to hit a huge hook or crush it over the lake.

[00:42:51] >> Oh, man.

[00:42:54] >> Hooking it.

[00:42:55] >> Look at this play. Where is it? It's on the green. It's on the green. It's on the far left side of the green.

[00:43:06] >> Wow.

[00:43:06] >> That is amazing. I mean, you talk about high risk. Got to hand it to him. That was extraordinary.

[00:43:15] >> That is a guy who's playing for the win right there.

[00:43:18] >> To 17.

[00:43:21] >> And J.J. Spaun, 2-under par in his round today, back at the 12-under. Maybe a birdie, eagle finish. Interestingly enough, as we watch, J.J. knocks it in for a two, that's the sixth birdie of the day. But 94% of the field have hit this green, and only one in the water.

[00:43:44] >> Now, back at 18. Here we go, Greyserman. One of four tied for the lead. Two putts would be gigantic. Here at the 3M, you just need to post it sometimes and just watch.

[00:43:58] >> That is the ridge that it comes over.

[00:44:01] >> Go now. Go now. This is exceptional as well.

[00:44:06] >> Isn't it? Had the line.

[00:44:07] >> You've got to reward that second shot, the guts that it took.

[00:44:10] >> They'll have to play 16 first, though. Theegala, his second.

[00:44:16] >> Pitching wedge back into the breeze. You want no put along here, Frank.

[00:44:20] >> Gets it flag high, Mark. Good shot.

[00:44:25] >> So he's not out of it.

[00:44:32] >> Back to Greyserman. This for the solo lead, after that wonderful second shot and long putt.

[00:44:44] >> Birdie rewarded. Max in with 63. Thirty coming in. It's going to be an interesting next 45 minutes for him. He's done everything he can do. Look at that back nine, 30.

[00:45:08] >> Meanwhile, back at 15, Vegas can join him at 16-under.

[00:45:16] >> Trevor, it's a putt he expects to make. I mean, this is what right-handers dream of. Just uphill, moving just a little bit to his left.

[00:45:22] >> Yeah. If you want to win, it's time, Colt.

[00:45:27] >> Looking for his first birdie on the back nine.

[00:45:42] >> There it is. It was a long wait.

[00:45:44] >> But it came at a good time here at the 15th with a three, and he joins Max at 16-under par, tied for the lead. Let's go to 16.

[00:45:56] >> And Theegala now, much needed birdie. One more roll.

[00:46:03] >> Yes.

[00:46:03] >> He's having a great season too. Eighteen.

[00:46:08] >> And Sam Burns just barely cleared the water with his second shot. Has an eagle attempt on the way. It can be done. That's now five on the day at the 18th.

[00:46:32] >> Johnny's driven it pretty well all day. Ten to 13 fairways.

[00:46:36] >> And Trevor, he's about to send it.

[00:46:38] >> OK. Wait is over.

[00:46:41] >> Wind hard left to right.

[00:46:48] >> Oh, this is perfect.

[00:46:51] >> And smashed, 184 ball speed. That will be way down there.

[00:46:56] >> That's pretty impressive. After 11.5, 12 minutes, and you get up there and you carve it toward the water, landed right in the middle of the fairway, and now, just got to make four to win it.

[00:47:09] >> Didn't seem like he treated it any different.

[00:47:11] >> No. You said all on the key was going to be the tee shot by Vegas.

[00:47:15] >> Yup.

[00:47:25] >> Stinker.

[00:47:28] >> Headed left. He's not going to be over there.

[00:47:38] >> Now, McNealy.

[00:47:39] >> With a tee shot. Just jumps on that one.

[00:47:49] >> Down the left side, will it get the kick? Oh, yeah, it does.

[00:47:54] >> And it's rolling too.

[00:47:55] >> He's got to make eagle. Here comes Kuch. Second shot. He knows all about playing with paddles and rackets. Family of a very accomplished and racket games.

[00:48:10] >> Let's go, Rex. Let's go, Rex.

[00:48:15] >> And that'll do just fine.

[00:48:17] >> But depending on Vegas. Well, you know, Kuch has got to make four and hope that's five for Johnny.

[00:48:28] >> Here's Vegas. Key shot, he doesn't love it.

[00:48:32] >> Oh, my.

[00:48:32] >> That was 7-iron from 209. Way left.

[00:48:36] >> OK. Quarter piece of it though, Colt.

[00:48:38] >> That's even outside where we saw Max who was 79 feet away.

[00:48:45] >> Now, that gives Mav still a chance. Go knock it close and make a three.

[00:48:50] >> Downhill lie, 6-iron. That is high. Just left of the flag.

[00:48:56] >> Hit the shot of your life here. You got a chance.

[00:49:00] >> A little long and it's going to roll out.

[00:49:05] >> And we are back live with Kuchar knowing now he's got a chance with Vegas, 96 feet away in two.

[00:49:16] >> Birdie clearly for Vegas. No certainty to lock up the title. Maybe birdie.

[00:49:23] >> Oh, that is thin and to the right side of the green.

[00:49:27] >> It's not exactly what he wanted. But you hole it and maybe you're in a playoff, the Vegas three putts.

[00:49:33] >> That was not convincing. He was begging that thing from the moment he made contact.

[00:49:38] >> Yeah. I heard a groan right after contact. This would be a legendary two putt for the win if he can pull it off. Here comes the ridge. Speed looks good.

[00:49:52] >> It sure does.

[00:49:53] >> Speed looks exceptional. My goodness. How about that? That's right around 3 feet, maybe a little less.

[00:50:05] >> Just outside of that comfort zone.

[00:50:09] >> And again, until it's in the hole for Vegas. McNealy has to think, OK, I still have a chance. Odds are exceptionally long, but you got to knock this one in. Well, it was a well-played shot. That's -- I know he wanted to be able to give it a better run than that. Kuch can activate the chorus if he holes this. That's low all the way. Too bad. That little shoulder, it just really broke it early.

[00:51:06] >> That is going to be Matt's 118th Top 10 on the PGA Tour, though.

[00:51:16] >> McNealy, this is a putt that could tie Kuchar for third. Well done. He's close. It's not going to happen today, but he knows he's close. Seventy for Maverick. Now, it all comes down to this. Will he close it out, or will Max join him back on the 18th tee for a playoff? Three feet for the 3M title. There it is. The drought is over. That was some confident stroke. It took 70 for him to win it. It didn't have to go crazy low, but --

[00:52:19] >> Max put that number up 63. And then, Vegas had long delays at the 18th and answered every time he was challenged. It was a good one today, Trev.

[00:52:29] >> Yeah, sure was. Just a brilliant fight from Johnny. When you understand that, he said from the first hole, he knew he didn't have his best stuff. Still walks away the winner.

[00:52:38] >> This concludes the PGA tours coverage of the 3M Open from TPC Twin Cities in Blaine, Minnesota.