Production Transcript for REWIND\_24FSJC\_MATSUYAMA.mp3

[00:00:28] >> The PGA TOUR is proud to bring you the season-long race for the FedEx Cup, now coverage of the 2024 FedEx St. Jude Championship.

[00:00:39] >> Annual stop in Memphis, the city that has welcomed the PGA TOUR for the past 67 years. Just about 20 minutes from Graceland, 22 miles from Beale Street, TPC Southwind. As expected, yes, it's hot, so 91 degrees feels like 104 with the humidity up to 60%. They're used to that here in Memphis, one of the challenges over the course of four days, as the top 70 have made it here. The goal is to get into the top 50, move onto the BMW, and eventually the top 30 at the East Lake.

[00:01:16] >> The FedEx Cup Playoffs underway from Memphis. A lot of action already. Chris Kirk, sensational round going. Came to the tee at the par-3 14th, hardest hole on the golf course, 205 up, it's just an ace. So that is number 28 on the list. Jumped to number three. It is a volatile week. You can make a move. You have to, to get into the top 50 and stay there, move on to the BMW. How about Justin Thomas, chipped in earlier on his round with 1-under; 1-over at one point, this at 3-under par from the bunker here at 17.

[00:02:03] >> Looking pretty good. JT number 19 in the FedEx Cup race. Okay, sure, why not? So Justin Thomas making a move. You're paired together with those closest to you at the FedEx Cup race. Number two on the list; two major wins for Xander Schauffele this year, starting out at the 1st. Start with a birdie. Playing with Scottie Scheffler, number one in the FedEx Cup race, and in the world, the Olympic gold medalist. He starts with a birdie. So we are underway here, TPC Southwind, Memphis, on a hot day, first of three playoff events. Chris Kirk leading the way with a 64 at 6-under par.

[00:02:44] >> Let's take you up to the task. Second for Harris English now. This is a tough driving hole. Dogleg left trees line both sides of this fairway, and obviously Harris found the bunker here.

[00:02:55] >> Clean lie location, just on the very front of the green. Oh.

[00:03:01] >> So back at 2 with a miss by Scheffler and now Xander.

[00:03:08] >> Also a little bit up the hill, turning just slightly from his right to left. You could see here his caddie, Austin, showing him here where the grain is going on this green. That's something these guys are going to be looking at on a number of putts today.

[00:03:22] >> And you know, you used the word, "Slightly," Bones, these greens are relatively flatter compared to a lot of greens I see.

[00:03:29] >> No question about it. I just think the greens that these guys see make they can mean awful lot of putts on, as you stated, they're as smooth as I've seen all year.

[00:03:44] >> Two for two; there you go. That's a good stroke there, nice speed into the center of the cup. What a start. Mcllroy's third, par-5 16th. You know, you can get a 329-yard drive right down the fairway. This is a tough shot because he had to fly all that distance that grainy chip shot.

[00:04:04] >> Mcllroy gets to 1-under.

[00:04:10] >> Eighteen, Akshay Bhatia to finish with a birdie.

[00:04:13] >> This should go a little to his right.

[00:04:16] >> Like that?

[00:04:18] >> Yes, it does. That's a nice way to finish.

[00:04:23] >> As we go back to the 4th.

[00:04:25] >> Spoiled tee shot for Scottie Scheffler and a birdie try now, Bones.

[00:04:28] >> Yes, what a look this is, back up the hill. Hard to pick up the brake here. Looks to me like it wants to go to his right. But certainly if it carries a lot of speed it could hang on.

[00:04:46][ Applause ]

[00:04:54] >> All right, bring him back out to the 6th, Patrick Cantlay at 3-over.

[00:05:00] >> Not a bad start for him here on the left rough, this dogleg left, that turns way out there. And if you try and cheat a little bit, you get in trouble; or just do that, out of the rough, over the bunker, and it stops at the tap-in.

[00:05:14] >> Erik van Rooyen at the 15th.

[00:05:18] >> This is one of the fairways you have to hit, and this back left hole location should suit Erik well. Oh, that's a beauty right there from Erik.

[00:05:25] >> And just about a tap-in for the man from South Africa.

[00:05:32] >> You mentioned the three-time winner; Rory hit it so far at 18 he's near somebody's backyard.

[00:05:36] >> Wow, 356 yards. I was walking with him to the practice ring --

[00:05:41] >> Oh. Unbelievable shot.

[00:05:43] >> Mcllroy finishes his round with birdie. Speed from off the green at 4.

[00:05:51] >> Yes, that's back in the stands here. That's a good -- oh. Oh.

[00:05:55] >> He's been known to do that once or twice.

[00:05:57] >> Yes, he lines up his chip shots, that's for sure. And how fast he hit that too, how fast the club was moving back and then through, and it just stops. Well, he's gained four spots, Terry. He gained nine, ten more, doesn't he?

[00:06:10] >> Yes, he does. Scheffler for birdie here at 6th.

[00:06:15] >> These two players showing why they're the best two in the world.

[00:06:20] >> Oh, man.

[00:06:21] >> And what a putting start for Scottie Scheffler.

[00:06:38] >> Seven at Matsuyama.

[00:06:39] >> Putty for birdie.

[00:06:40] >> These down green putts, you can make them out here.

[00:06:42] >> Ah, he walked that one in from about five steps out.

[00:06:48] >> Yes, I think he was just bored because he knew it was going in the bottom of the cup so he just started walking at it.

[00:06:56] >> Canadian Corey Conners.

[00:06:58] >> A really nice angle to this back right hole location, from the first cut. Looks like he's driving one back there.

[00:07:02] >> Oh, yes.

[00:07:02] >> Well, why not Corey Conners?

[00:07:02] >> Matsuyama at the 9th playing his second. He would make birdie.

[00:07:20] >> Spieth's at the par-3 8th. Spieth moves to 4-under.

[00:07:41] >> Schauffele for birdie at 16.

[00:07:44] >> Guys, this is a tough read here, really difficult to match up your speed with the break. If you get just a little bit tentative, this par should fall off the table to the right.

[00:07:55] >> Took his time and did it. Read it well, executed well.

[00:08:02] >> Victor Perez came in the 70 spot. Last man in the field and he's still in the 70 spot. He's 1-under par.

[00:08:13] >> He's going to have to make a pile of birdies.

[00:08:17] >> Just fly right off to the green here at 18. And Matsuyama will be next, John.

[00:08:22] >> Touch of speed early, and it's just big left to right breaker the whole way.

[00:08:25] >> If you touch the speed early, you can just keep it from breaking too far to the right and give it a hit here. Looks low the whole way, didn't it?

[00:08:44] >> But a good par.

[00:08:47] >> You know, that's hard, you know, when you have one caddy that you use all your life to get used to everything.

[00:08:51] >> No doubt. Really impressive round now for the bronze medalist from Paris, 65; within one. Look at the season and how long it is; started at eight, is projected to number five before, so he's in the top five right now; and I mean week to week. We started talking about it at the beginning of the show and now we've got to turn it up again for the playoffs.

[00:09:22] >> Chris Kirk's ace launches him to the top of the leaderboard, with Japan's Hideki Matsuyama sits just one back. The second run on it is next.

[00:09:38] >> Back once again to a city where the PGA TOUR visited for nearly seven decades, and for the first straight year. The TPC Southwind opening up the playoffs. Seventy made it here; trying to get to the top 50 move on, and then the top 30 to East Lake. All right, conditions right now 93 degrees. It feels like 103. So John, what's saying the breeze helps, and you see the trees moving some. I'm sure it does help, but still very toasty. Check out some of the highlights from earlier today. Viktor Hovland came in as the defending FedEx Cup champ was in that first pairing off early today 7:20 a.m. This off the tee at 4.

[00:10:14] >> Yes, the 200-yard par at 3, hole location over the water here. Viktor was working with his instructor Joe Mayo last week at national, found something in his swing, but he found something in his putt in 13 one-putt greens today. Outside the top 50 coming in inside right now, Danny McCarthy, excellent opening round, this for birdie at 13. The envy of everyone on the greens. Danny McCarthy made 161 feet of putts today, the best of his career. Three putts were over 25 feet.

[00:10:42] >> So Hovland shot 63, McCarthy shot 63. How about Sam Burns, this at 18.

[00:10:47] >> Yes, he went out at 29 on the front, didn't miss a putt inside ten feet.

[00:10:53] >> Three different 63s already. That's what's possible today with the conditions here in Memphis. Hideki Matsuyama out there, lengthy one at 11.

[00:11:01] >> Yes, Terry, if you want to get to double digits out here you've got to make some of these. Despite not having his regular caddy, he's got things working. He's made another one. Stands got it to 11-under to share.

[00:11:13] >> Chris Kirk coming off that 64. This is about three in a row to start.

[00:11:16] >> Yes, after that electric hole-in-one yesterday on the 14th hole. He looks very calm here. I would expect he's going to be around the lead here. He likes this golf course. He can hit a lot of fairways when he gets a putter going. Number one in the race coming in, Scottie Scheffler at 15 to get it to 7-under. Now playing is Xander Schauffele again. So he's four off the lead right now.

[00:11:37] >> Number one and number two playing together. Matsuyama, McCarthy, 11-under. Denny done for the day, 63. Burns is 63. Hovland a 63. So a little look at what is possible today.

[00:11:51] >> A good look here, guys, he's got a good lie, and he's a got a little bit of green coming towards him when the ball is going to pitch. It should get the ball stopped quite quickly. I would expect this to be within four or five feet no problem.

[00:12:02] >> Yes, to get it to four or five feet, he's going to have to fly almost all the way to the hole. Nearly. Ooh, took a look.

[00:12:13] >> Scheffler would make that for birdie. To the 4th, Akshay Bhatia, number 22 on the list right now. He just told me on the practice putting green a little while ago he's just about to move down to the Jupiter, Florida area where it seems like everybody is. What a shot there, had to cut that one in.

[00:12:33] >> That's a birdie for Bhatia.

[00:12:34] >> Yes, those bunkers you mentioned, John, provide a good target, too. You can pick one of the bunkers you want to go at and just you have to have that avoid the left swing.

[00:12:45] >> Exactly. In fact, you pick one out and take a club you know can't get to it and just make a good free swing.

[00:13:00] >> Looked like he stood over it a lot longer than normal.

[00:13:02] >> And it is perfect. He's starting up the left side, wind pushing it towards the center.

[00:13:13] >> Not easy with that wind. You know, from the left to try to play a draw back into this back left where this hole location is.

[00:13:20] >> Yes, tough swag on this green. Trying to flight the draw. Aggressive play here. Okay, left it underneath the hole. He'll have that for three consecutive birdies. Look at that downhill lie.

[00:13:38] >> Yes, and it was definitely a little more of a problem.

[00:13:41] >> As we go to 11, Tom Kim, little par-3. It's a good tee shot. And he makes it count.

[00:13:54] >> Let's head all the way up to the 18th. Hideki well-positioned right here in the fairway for his second.

[00:14:03] >> Flighted it pretty good, but well to the left. This needs to hang in there.

[00:14:09] >> Not as bad as the reaction, but often -- as the guy said, you can't tell, but that reaction was pretty severe.

[00:14:15] >> Sorry if every other player did that, it would have been well in the water.

[00:14:17] >> Yes. And now he's got a birdie putt.

[00:14:20] >> Scottie Scheffler putting for birdie at the 17th. Little bit uphill. On line.

[00:14:28] >> Wow, another one goes --

[00:14:30] >> It's number one; just amazing. Couple of years ago, he missed the cut at this event. That's the last cut he's missed on the PGA TOUR.

[00:14:41] >> Lengthy birdie try on the way for Matsuyama. Up the hill into the green, that's a slow putt for these players.

[00:14:50] >> Hideki left with this. In fact, nothing feels better than finishing off a good round after two rounds in good position in this heat and going getting some rehydration going and cooling off.

[00:15:01] >> Yes, especially with making a nervy putt.

[00:15:04] >> Yes.

[00:15:04] >> Like Kirk said, this is the best part of what he's been doing these two days. Great start. First two rounds for Hideki Matsuyama, 65, 64. That 129 the lowest 36 hole total in his PGA TOUR career. And it's been a brilliant one.

[00:15:20] >> Back at 5 with Rory. Looks good.

[00:15:31] >> Oh, yes.

[00:15:32] >> There you go.

[00:15:33] >> Yes.

[00:15:33] >> He's looking back at me.

[00:15:41] >> Underneath that bucket hat at the 5th is Peter Malnati.

[00:15:50] >> Line. Oh, how good is this? Perfect is what it is.

[00:15:56] >> He was projected at 16th. That holdout moves him up three spots. This guy is way ahead of that.

[00:16:04] >> After that approach, good look at birdie for Rory.

[00:16:08] >> And you mentioned green. I think this is one that green is definitely going to have to come into your read. It looks so level around this hole, very flat. The green's got a little -- just a touch of left to right in it. Put a little speed on it doesn't affect it as much. Pure.

[00:16:27] >> He's going to look at you again, John.

[00:16:35] >> Justin rolls just off the fairway at 17.

[00:16:38] >> Tree trouble here. He's going to have to go under and work this right to left.

[00:16:44] >> Oh, man.

[00:16:45] >> What a shot. Almost dunked it here in Memphis. What a shot that was; wow.

[00:16:57] >> Fifteenth, Austin Eckroat hitting his second. This was a moment ago at the par-4.

[00:17:03] >> Front hole location, water short of the green, and that is not a problem. Good lie in that first cut; made all the difference.

[00:17:12] >> He would make birdie. Now Sungjae Im for birdie at 10.

[00:17:34] >> Cameron Young lying this 2nd up.

[00:17:41] >> Really spin it off of these Zoysia fairways. There you go, right underneath the hole.

[00:17:49] >> Young gets one back.

[00:17:51] >> Drop back to 9th. Nick Dunlap, an amateur winner earlier this year at the American Express. Gets that one to fall; 7-under par now. And Billy Horschel, here's a guy cheering on Aaron Rai to the finish last week at 17. Five-under par having another nice week. He's had a very good month or so. Puts it up a couple holes. Shane Lowry in the bunker, two bogeys, two birdies yesterday in the round, two bogeys, two birdies today in the round. We've seen so many plays.

[00:18:30] >> Aw. Is he able to make it?

[00:18:31] >> Oh. Hello.

[00:18:33][ Cheering ]

[00:18:40] >> What a shot; better smile.

[00:18:46] >> Seen so many players do what backs? Not bad.

[00:18:53] >> What a reaction. The club in the bag, walk away. What a spectacular way to finish up.

[00:19:03] >> Yes, it was almost like the ball was below his feet, helping him to cut it there. Location on the right side. Spun up the hill. McCarthy and Matsuyama fly to the top with 63 and 64 respectively. The world number one, Scottie Scheffler is just two shots off the lead. The third round is next.

[00:19:36] >> It's another hot one in Memphis, to say the least, as another round of the FedEx Cup playoffs is heating up. Third round in the first of the three playoff events here in Memphis, well underway at TPC Southwind in the FedEx St. Jude Championship. Seventy players arriving here and by the end of the weekend we will have the next 50 that heads west to Colorado. All right, let's give you an idea of what has happened so far in this third round, how Matsuyama built this two-shot lead. He was tied at the halfway point 36 holes with Denny McCarthy, and then he came to work today, Kis, and got things going right away at the 1st.

[00:20:15] >> First hole if you get in the fairway, you've got to really be going for birdie here. I mean, back to that hole location one of the more difficult and he stuffs it right in there to get his day started.

[00:20:23] >> Birdie start for Hideki, he bogeyed the second hole but then flashed in this effortless power from 258 yards with his second at the par-5 3rd.

[00:20:32] >> It's a daunting second shot with that water right. He hit the little fade into this front right hole location. Set up a really nice look for 3.

[00:20:39] >> So he went birdie, he went bogey, looking for an eagle at the 3rd. And Matsuyama he's got his whole game going from tee to green, and with this putter he can absolutely light it up. So an eagle drops at the 3rd to get Hideki to 13-under. At that point he had a three-shot lead on the field, but everybody came after him, including Sam Burns, who has been rolling it today. This for a birdie at the 4th. That the start of three birdies in a row for Burns to get it to 13-under. He's got four on today to go along with two bogeys but he's in trouble at the 9th. Dunlap, the impressive amateur who won at the Express earlier and didn't win as a professional at the Barracuda, just stiffs it there at the 7th, and that was his third birdie in the first seven holes, to move Dunlap to 11-under. And then Matsuyama striking for the last time at the 7th with his second. And another birdie for Matsuyama, which brings him to the current 14-under total, two clear of Dunlap and Burns in the third round of the FedEx St. Jude Championship.

[00:21:53] >> To 13, check in on Xander Schauffele at 7-under.

[00:21:57] >> Big drive up the left side for Xander. Perfect angle.

[00:22:02] >> There we go.

[00:22:04] >> Oh, yes, right over it. Schauffele moves to 8-under.

[00:22:11] >> Dunlap missed the green, hit his third at this point. And this was his par attempt. This would be an incredible up and down from where he was. Wow.

[00:22:27] >> To 11 with Scottie Scheffler.

[00:22:30] >> And this wind is up and down, guys, it's just not consistent. It goes from five miles an hour to 12, 15. That's what we're sitting right here. No, he's hit a beautiful shot just left of the --

[00:22:52] >> Hideki Matsuyama, who found this bunker off the tee. Didn't look like a great lie, looked like it settled down a little bit. He's going to have to try to pick this clean.

[00:23:05] >> Eyes going up and down, which indicates a good shot. And that's exactly what Hideki delivers.

[00:23:11] >> Thirteen and Xander, this to get a date under.

[00:23:14] >> Yes, for his fifth birdie of the day, offset the two bogeys he made on the first nine. And that's a perfectly played hole. You drive it up the left side, a little wedge shot.

[00:23:26] >> So he's got this birdie attempt at the 10th and up the left we've got Scheffler coming down for birdie at 11th. There's one made by Scheffler. After having more than his share of misses, just buries a long one. Maybe that will get him going. Now Matsuyama honing in here to bring it to 15-under. Two eleven.

[00:24:07] >> Going to lap this left par.

[00:24:09] >> With four feet six inches it says. He's --

[00:24:12] >> There's definitely some left to right, Brad.

[00:24:13] >> Yes, and you know what, Smiley, I think these times you've got to take some -- put some pace in and you can't be afraid to hit these a little bit firmer.

[00:24:20] >> Yes, that's what he did there.

[00:24:28] >> To 10.

[00:24:28] >> Burns needs something good to happen after the last three holes, and he just saw a birdie land in, and the first hole he plays without the driver didn't need it here at 10.

[00:24:37] >> Here at 11 Denny McCarthy made double bogey and now Hideki lining this one up.

[00:24:43] >> Yes, great look here, but downhill little bit helping green, especially at the end here he's got to be careful of his speed, but not a lot of break in this putt. Very make-able.

[00:24:52] >> Going on this Viktor Hovland had one about half this distance on the same line and missed it on the left side of the hole. We can see on camera here how dark this grass has grown here, so the green might be going a little left as well. Nicely played. What a good two there.

[00:25:13] >> Other side of the golf course, Collin Morikawa started on the back nine, from the bunker at 7.

[00:25:20] >> And he got off to a great start, make 4-under playing 18 and made a double. Ooh.

[00:25:26] >> Ooh, indeed. He holed it; for birdie.

[00:25:37] >> Third for Xander Schauffele at the par-5 16th; 8-under 7 back. And has the juice on that one.

[00:25:45] >> Two-time major champion this year, making it look easy. It should be a tap in to get to 9-under.

[00:25:59] >> To 13 once again with the leader in the fairway, Bones.

[00:26:02] >> Yes, right in the center of 126th. The wind playing tricks the last 30 seconds or so; laying down now for the moment. And again, as we said all day long, this is a guy that likes to give the right half of the flags in position such as this.

[00:26:24] >> Cutting towards the flag. Let's see if he gets the number right.

[00:26:26] >> Oh, he did. He hammered that drive.

[00:26:31] >> Relentless.

[00:26:34] >> Much needed. Denny McCarthy for birdie. Made over 160 feet of putts in the second round.

[00:26:40] >> Best of his career, he said. This one breaks left. Two in a row? Yes, there you go. Dunlap, who's had those shots off the tee go right is going right at it here at 14th.

[00:26:59][ Cheering ]

[00:27:03] >> And a big crowd is around that popular par-3, and they cheer on Dunlap here with a chance to get within three if he's able to get that birdie down.

[00:27:12] >> Can Matsuyama extend the lead?

[00:27:14] >> Yes, he can; walked it in, turning that 349-yard drive, one of his best of the day.

[00:27:23] >> Now Dunlap for birdie.

[00:27:26] >> And what a bounce back this would be. Last couple of shots he's hit before this par-3 have just been all over the place, but dialed in a perfect 8-iron and an easy read for outside the right edge here, Kevin.

[00:27:37] >> I love this dude right here.

[00:27:45] >> 15th, Hovland for birdie.

[00:27:51] >> Yes, looks so different than we've seen for much of this year, Brad.

[00:27:53] >> Yes, there's some comfort knowing that you're doing is right, even if you don't have it, you know, synced up all the way. Good luck from right behind here at 15. Burns had 9-under. It's just to the right a little bit. Looks good.

[00:28:10] >> Good shot.

[00:28:10] >> That one broke more.

[00:28:13] >> That was pure.

[00:28:22] >> Dunlap coming in with his 3rd at the par-5 16th, and he might get out of here with a 4 after all.

[00:28:27] >> All right, Somali, what about this bunker shot?

[00:28:32] >> And it's -- I think he's going to try to show off here and throw it all the way to the hole.

[00:28:40] >> Ah, he did just that. He's been doing a lot of showing off.

[00:28:44] >> And that should be a birdie for Scheffler. Got to be committed with your speed here off that upslope taking that big a swing knowing your strike's going to be precise, and he pulled it off perfectly.

[00:28:57] >> This guy might be around as well.

[00:28:59] >> Hasn't had his best of the times today, but he's figured out a way to score.

[00:29:04] >> Really putted well all day.

[00:29:06] >> Yes, and there is his latest birdie. And Dunlap takes another step up; within four now of Matsuyama.

[00:29:15] >> We stay at 16 with the final group.

[00:29:22] >> And here's Matsuyama from 43 feet at the 16th. There's been only one eagle on the 16th hole today, and that was turned in by Shane Lowry from 57 feet, but about on the same line as Matsuyama has here.

[00:29:58] >> In the hole.

[00:29:58] >> In the hole.

[00:30:00] >> In the hole.

[00:30:02] >> In the hole.

[00:30:03] >> Possible had he just hit it a touch more.

[00:30:07] >> Really good pace. That's going to be birdie number five to go along with an eagle at the 3rd.

[00:30:31] >> McCarthy looking to get that putter heated up, like it was yesterday.

[00:30:36] >> A lot of credit to Denny, too. He has fought back on this 2nd 9.

[00:30:39] >> Yes, he has, Bones. Look at those birdies three in the last five after the tough start out, and plus 338. He double-bogied the 11th. And again, he was tied with Matsuyama at 11-under to begin the day. To 17th.

[00:30:59] >> Viktor's got it rolling.

[00:31:06] >> Dunlap's 3rd at 18. Guy's got Houdini today. And it looks like he's going to pull another one off.

[00:31:18] >> Incredible par size in, total back nine.

[00:31:22] >> Now, Scheffler, who just found the front edge of this green for birdie. Story of the day.

[00:31:34] >> Another beautiful putt.

[00:31:35] >> Yes. So frustrating when you think you're in your lines and your speed and the ball's still not going in.

[00:31:42] >> Nonetheless, there he is, high up on another leaderboard, right? Who hard to believe at this time last year was competing at Cherry Hills in the US Amateur on his way to winning that championship. And it's amazing that he shot a 66 -- at only six of 14 fairways.

[00:32:08] >> And he's going to play his way into the last group tomorrow, and I bet you he's going to go to that driving range for a few swings after signing his scorecard.

[00:32:16] >> The final group is on the 18th green.

[00:32:23] >> All right, Matsuyama here for birdie.

[00:32:24] >> Yes, an absolute no-brainer the putt is the surface of the grass being between him and the green itself is absolutely immaculate. It's turning right to left the entire way. It's going to be the 12th consecutive round of par or better here at TPC Southwind.

[00:32:51] >> You don't want to give one away right here. Five is always better than four in this game.

[00:32:55] >> This guy has proven to be a tough guy to catch when he's got the outright lead going into the final round on tour.

[00:33:02] >> Tough having the shadow over the hole here.

[00:33:06] >> And he's close now to win it. Each time he's held the outright lead; 2016 in a world golf championship event, 2021 Masters he closed it out. That same year he closed out the Zozo, and he's looking to close out this lead, which is five.

[00:33:25] >> Hideki Matsuyama takes his seventh career 54 hole lead on tour, and is three for six, converting those into victory. He'll need to outlast the star-studded field to win in Memphis. The final round is next.

[00:33:38] >> For the top 50 who make it here, next season is guaranteed. But the best have their focus on one thing, the FedEx Cup. Who will have the edge to push their limits and make it one step closer to the PGA TOUR's ultimate prize? The race continues at the BMW Championship.

[00:34:09] >> Well, we've seen some 63s shot today. Scoring may be better today at TPC Southwind, but it's even more stifling out there today. Temperatures into the 90s again here in Memphis. The humidity is high, feels like it's 101 degrees. It is not just the weather, high stakes golf today in the final round of the FedEx St. Jude Championship. We're going to have a champion on this first of three playoff events in the FedEx Cup, and also a top 50 that will move on to the BMW Championship, pare this field from 70 to 50. And a good example of the pressure that's on these guys to make it into the top 50 is Tom Kim, coming off some holes where he made a double at 17, a bogey at 16. You can see he's right on the bubble here. Dan Hicks along with Kevin Kisner, also joined by Terry Gannon, and then Brad Faxon, in what is going to be some compelling coverage today in this attempt to be among the top 50.

[00:35:10] >> This one's got to go for him to have a chance. Double-double at the end of the day.

[00:35:18] >> I mean, he was right there. We'll see how it all shakes out. It all depends on the guys behind him and how they do. But there is where Tom Kim was safely inside that 50, and then bogey double-double finish back home in 38. In the meantime, you've got the race for this FedEx St. Jude Championship, and the leader now by four, and he's at the second, Hideki Matsuyama. Dunlap picked up a birdie in the opening hole to cut the gap to four. But this is Matsuyama's championship to win or lose today, Kis, no doubt about it.

[00:35:56] >> It is; and if he keeps rolling the ball like he has the first few days of number one in putting, he's going to be hard to beat.

[00:36:03] >> To Bones for Kai in this final grouping; Bones.

[00:36:06] >> This is one of the fastest putts on this golf course; very difficult to get within two or three feet.

[00:36:16] >> Had one of the better putting days in his career yesterday, leading the field. Almost buries that.

[00:36:24] >> Jump up to the 9th in fairways, Patrick Cantlay currently at 8-under; this is his second.

[00:36:33] >> Oh, this is a position tee shot. You've got to avoid the trees on the right. Now, you've got a green light at this flagstick. Oh, that one nearly goes.

[00:36:46] >> This for birdie for Viktor.

[00:36:49] >> Yes, got it.

[00:36:55] >> Smiley, how about this for Scottie?

[00:36:56] >> Yes, just back up the hill and I would say the two nice things being a chaser day, that there is wind, as well as they're playing twosome, so you can find a rhythm, make birdies early.

[00:37:06] >> Solid.

[00:37:07] >> Yes, good stroke.

[00:37:12] >> To the 3rd. And the 3rd coming up for Matsuyama Bones.

[00:37:16] >> You're sitting nicely in the rough; not very high grass to deal with at all. He's going to open face here if something of a spinner. He's helped up by the fact that this ball will be landing into the green.

[00:37:32] >> Flubbed it. Oh. Wow.

[00:37:35] >> It also looked like he came close to double hitting it. I mean, he didn't, but the club I thought got very close to the ball.

[00:37:41] >> To the 5th, Denny McCarthy with a birdie chance.

[00:37:45] >> So that number 30, that's the number eventually that will make it to Eastlake in the Tour Championship. There you go.

[00:37:51] >> Well, his putter caught fire on the back nine yesterday; struggled early. It was at 4-over par.

[00:37:59] >> Hideki with that big lead to start taking nothing for granted, though. He came from behind with a 62-6 off the lead the final day at Riviera, The Genesis earlier this year. This for birdie.

[00:38:09] >> Been lucky to get -- not get it on the green where you can clean it and wipe the stuff off, but a good-looking putt.

[00:38:17] >> Boy, another one just like in the last, a little right by the edge.

[00:38:21] >> Here at 5 for Xander Schauffele, this to get it to 11-under.

[00:38:26] >> Remaining just outside the right of it.

[00:38:29] >> Copy. Yes.

[00:38:37] >> At the par-5 16th for Maverick McNealy. You could see he's in the red at 59 right now, so scrambling to make something special happen. And it did at 16.

[00:38:48] >> That's huge for the top 50.

[00:38:50] >> Yes, how about a little drama with Maverick coming home, who now gets it in the 52 position. They know exactly where they are and they get a sense of what it's going to take to make it into the top 50. This is Schauffele safely in that side; that and then some.

[00:39:09] >> Matsuyama's approach took off, Dunlap's did not. Short game coming up. Here he's getting a whole lot better at that in a short period of time.

[00:39:20] >> You're into the green -- and Kis has said the same thing, it rides up the face and you don't get any spin on that thing and it's just -- goes up hot like that. And he's hot.

[00:39:30] >> He would drop a shot.

[00:39:32] >> Matsuyama now from the rough, his 3rd. Always sitting down. That appeared to be very good contact. That's nice hands from Hideki.

[00:39:43][ Applause ]

[00:39:47] >> Back here at the 6th, Scheffler eyeing this flag from 168 out.

[00:39:54] >> Green light, front left hole location, just can't miss it, left, right over the top of it. Again, another good looking to be for Scheffler.

[00:40:06] >> Back here at 5, Matsuyama to save par.

[00:40:09] >> Very similar to the putt he made on the previous hole in terms of length.

[00:40:13] >> Yes, good up and down.

[00:40:21] >> And Scheffler with a very good look, Smiley.

[00:40:24] >> Definitely a great look, and definitely probably got a teach from Viktor Hovland . But Kevin, when you've been struggling from this range, pretty much the entire week, do you change your strategy on how firm or soft you hit these putts in this length?

[00:40:36] >> I did notice how quickly he got in there to watch Javi's putt. But Javi hit such a poor putt he didn't learn much. I think Scottie kept to his routine. I saw the same warm-up that he always does today, and he was just hoping it would more go in than burn the edge.

[00:40:49] >> Yes, he has seen more results like that. The confident mind begins to rev up.

[00:41:03] >> Dunlap 348 off the tee bones. You've got to fly something to the hole today to take that low area short rider screen out of play. Nick now talking with his caddy, Hunter. He's not going to make the same mistake from 127 he feels.

[00:41:17] >> Tree is not a factor at all, is it?

[00:41:19] >> It certainly shouldn't be unless you really fend one. Clears the tree with ease.

[00:41:26] >> Yes, you knew he liked it.

[00:41:36] >> And the 3rd for Matsuyama.

[00:41:39] >> Looks like a bump here. Here's going to hit it in the fringe; risky. Not a bad risk.

[00:41:46] >> How good is that?

[00:41:50] >> Only been three birdies all day at the 7th. Dunlap.

[00:41:53] >> There's the 4th. And then he continues to make some incredible up and downs and nice saves.

[00:42:03] >> Here's Hovland for birdie at the 8th. Downhill putt. The back into the green, Kis.

[00:42:08] >> You don't see that a lot.

[00:42:09] >> Buried it.

[00:42:10] >> Absolutely. Center cut it. So Hovland takes it to 12-under. And now we've got three tied for third. Dunlap's latest birdie puts him within four.

[00:42:22] >> Zalatoris coming right at us for birdie.

[00:42:25] >> That wind picking up. They did predict that for later in the afternoon until at least maybe 15 miles an hour or so.

[00:42:38] >> Straight in.

[00:42:38] >> Well, much of today, we've talked about how meticulous Hideki Matsuyama is about his putting. He'll just take any kind of tip, any kind of look, Bones. And you were sharing some with me this morning on the putting green from the past for Hideki, right?

[00:42:51] >> That's exactly right, Dan. I was covering the BMW Tournament Conway Farms several years ago for NBC, and I called the putt on the 17th green to not break nearly as much as it looked like it should. And the putt ended up, you know, ending up just as I had called it. It didn't break left to right, much to the player's astonishment. Hideki was watching it on TV, had his man come over to me the next day and wanted to have a talk about how I knew it, why I knew it, and where I had picked it up. So this guy is always looking for an extra edge.

[00:43:19] >> Give me some more information I can use. And that's got a chance. I guess that was a little right to left, Bones. He knew what that was doing.

[00:43:40] >> I think so.

[00:43:41] >> That was poured in from long range. [Applause and Cheering]

[00:43:48] >> Hovland --

[00:43:49] >> Could have hit the trees, yes.

[00:43:50] >> Up on the green. See the projected rank. But with a birdie, big jump.

[00:43:55] >> And loaded for back-to-back birdies here. Terry, it was an incredible shot from the pine straw. Should be a pretty easy read.

[00:44:07] >> Wow. Viktor Hovland right now seems like he can't wait to get to the next shot for a putt. We are in Memphis, the king of rock and roll, Elvis, Beale Street, blues.

[00:44:24] >> Here's Hovland who just came up short from that down green shade that you see he's coming down to the hole with.

[00:44:32] >> Shouldn't have a problem getting us there.

[00:44:33] >> That will go there and find the bottom of the cup. Back at 11.

[00:44:40] >> Matsuyama for birdie, Bones.

[00:44:42] >> I think this is one of those one-playing putts I was just learning about, turning gently right to left.

[00:44:48] >> Speed shouldn't be difficult. Wow, again, taking apart the back nine this week.

[00:45:00] >> And Scheffler to save it. Wow, big save; just drilled it.

[00:45:14] >> We stay at 12 for the final group.

[00:45:18] >> Big moment here for Hideki. Obviously got the huge lead, but you want to make sure you're settled down and at that great headspace.

[00:45:29] >> And that misses. First bogey of the day for Matsuyama. Gives everybody a little more life.

[00:45:42] >> Macintyre from the Bunker at 17.

[00:45:45] >> Nice sound to it.

[00:45:46] >> How about that? Yes, it did.

[00:45:50] >> Here's Matsuyama, Bones.

[00:45:55] >> Hideki also going with seven. I can't imagine that he would look anywhere near this flag. I kind of think he's looking at the FedEx logo beyond the left of this, some 30 feet from the flagstick.

[00:46:06] >> Only one tee shot, Bones, inside 15 feet today. That's it.

[00:46:17] >> Trying to hit a cut in there. And I tell you what, guys, this is on a very aggressive line. Is it going to carry?

[00:46:29] >> Now Xander at 16 for that birdie.

[00:46:34] >> How big is this putt?

[00:46:37] >> Xander could -- huge.

[00:46:38] >> One back standing on the 17th tee if Hideki doesn't get this ball up and down.

[00:46:43] >> To 15, Hovland for birdie.

[00:46:45] >> It's got to come just a little bit left, doesn't it, Smiley?

[00:46:47] >> It has to; it has to.

[00:46:49] >> Yes. And you could see his line here now, just right on the right edge, maybe just outside the hole, just outside of five feet for birdie, 15-under. With everything taking place with Matsuyama at 14, game on.

[00:47:03] >> Matsuyama for bogey.

[00:47:07] >> All right, walk that line, guys.

[00:47:09] >> Yes, that was a clutch bogey.

[00:47:11] >> And Hovland's bunker shot, third on the way; Smiley.

[00:47:18] >> It was from an okay lie. Keeps it underneath the hole.

[00:47:22] >> Matsuyama in the rough at 15 playing his 3rd.

[00:47:27] >> Yes, very fluffy line, of course. The thing he's got to do here is protect against going long. Very easy if this comes out half for the ball to get through the green into the penalty area. So I wouldn't be surprised if this comes up short. Great call, Brad.

[00:47:43] >> Exactly what he did, right under it.

[00:47:49] >> Hovland for a big birdie at 16.

[00:47:55] >> It's going to be one back when it goes in, but Matsuyama's making at least bogey at 15. So Hovland has at least tied for the lead.

[00:48:03] >> Real gut check in here.

[00:48:14] >> And just like that, Hideki Matsuyama will not lead.

[00:48:21] >> It's on a little bit of a downslope.

[00:48:23] >> A little bit of a downslope and it's down -- downhill down green to this hole in the bottom of a saddle. It's -- he can manage this one, though.

[00:48:31] >> With his short gain. Look at this play; almost drained it.

[00:48:36] >> Schauffele is in the clubhouse at 15-under. Now Hovland to save par and keep his one-shot lead.

[00:48:48] >> Didn't hit it.

[00:48:48] >> No. We'll have a three-way share of the lead at 15-under.

[00:48:55] >> To 17.

[00:48:57] >> That flag's on the right side just left of those bunkers by the cameramen.

[00:49:12] >> Flights it a little bit.

[00:49:13] >> Okay.

[00:49:16] >> It's not bad. He may be a little unlucky at hitting the fringe there and softened it too much.

[00:49:23] >> A bit of a jumpy Bermuda lie here, Dan; 174 yards to the hole, 155 to the front. The winds in off the right. He's got 9-iron in his sands.

[00:49:33] >> I think he's trying to pitch this in that 60-65 range, let it release, Smiley?

[00:49:37] >> I think so.

[00:49:49] >> Oh, wow, right next to the stick. What a golf shot. Flew it all the way to the hole, a spin on it, Smiley.

[00:49:55] >> Right to left; a little bit uphill.

[00:50:19] >> Back to where he was, alone at the top; at least for the moment.

[00:50:24] >> But there was a little bit of righteousness in the world. As well as he's played, get a good break there with that tee shot. It actually broke to the right. What a putt. He nicknamed that putter "The Craftsman". What a tool.

[00:50:42] >> And here we go with the big putt for Hovland. And you could see his shoulders just kind of slump there. He knew he didn't hit it. And so Hovland is tied with Schauffele in at 15-under, and they'll see what Matsuyama does at the most difficult hole here at Southwind.

[00:51:08] >> Eighteenth tee for Matsuyama.

[00:51:10] >> Hitting a draw up the left side, dangerously close to the water.

[00:51:18] >> But okay, almost exactly where he hit it yesterday, Bones. What a great golf shot.

[00:51:24] >> And now Matsuyama.

[00:51:30] >> One sixty one, and you've got to think he's looking right into his hole. Clean contact, great-looking shot.

[00:51:42] >> Boy, he did not get conservative at all. You think he was able to left to that stick there, Kis?

[00:51:52] >> Doesn't matter now because that's all game, boys.

[00:51:54] >> Yes, two putts from there and it is over.

[00:51:58] >> Aim it right at the flagstick with no fear of left.

[00:52:02] >> At the birdie that -- a good shot at birdie in the last two with what all transpired on this back nine.

[00:52:07] >> Crazy.

[00:52:13] >> Now up to the green.

[00:52:16] >> Now Hideki Matsuyama pours in a birdie to make it official. He's got his first playoff win. It came with all sorts of drama. But Hideki headed to the BMW as the champion here in Memphis. What a week, what a day for Hideki Matsuyama; wins here in Memphis.

[00:52:39] >> This concludes the PGA TOUR's coverage of the FedEx St. Jude Championship from Memphis, Tennessee.