

Production Transcript for REWIND\_26COG\_ECHAVARRIA

[00:00:25.940]>>The PGA TOUR proudly presents.

[00:00:29.600]>>The season-long race for the FedExCup.

[00:00:33.790]>>Now coverage of the 2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches.

[00:00:44.209]>>Beautiful look down at the PGA National Resort and Spa and the big bear statue that stands at the beginning of the bear trap, one of the most intimidating stretches in golf and one of the most intimidating statues in golf. That thing is realistic size, you'll see a lot of folks posing for pictures there this week. We've left the West Coast, head over to what they refer to as the Sunshine State.

[00:01:09.699]>>And the sun is shining. A light breeze always blowing here in South Florida. Temperatures will be into the 80s by the time we get finished. We have a veteran team assembled for you along with Wayne Riley, who is out there walking the fairways for us. PGA TOUR veteran and European Tour veteran Jay Townsend, and major champion, Rich Beem. I'm Brian Katrek. All right, some of the action from earlier today. Nico Echavarria, birdie putt at the 16th, already had it going.

[00:01:40.569]>>Just drills that one and now we're in the middle of the bear trap here. Over at 17, Jay, looked like a little bit of a save with the right hand, well, maybe an attempted save. Oh, it just trickled into the wet stuff. This was 2nd. We're gonna try it, Beemer. Why wouldn't you?

[00:02:00.000]>>He's sitting up right there, just play like a bunker shot. Nice big explosion out of the water, and why not? Come on, it's got par written all over it, doesn't it? And he made that for a wet par at 17. He goes ahead and makes the birdie at 18. That's 63 for Nico Echavarria.

[00:02:19.699]>>Pretty strong stuff.

[00:02:22.669]>>Yes.

[00:02:25.130]>>A great finish. He goes through the bear trap 2 under par, even getting a ball wet.

[00:02:32.330]>>So, how good is that? Well, it's not quite as good as this man had. Austin Smotherman. Pretty good start to his round also made the turn at 5 under par in 30.

[00:02:45.050]>>Smotherman bogey free for his day. There he was at the 9th, trying to put that 5th birdie on the card.

[00:02:53.089]>>A tough shot out of that fairway bunker. Uphill 2nd shot wind helping from the right, just brilliant. Couldn't see the bottom of the flagstick from where he was. He would make that one for 3 in a row, he would make 2 more, and now this at the 12th, that is 6 in a row for Austin Smotherman. That is insane, especially on a golf course as difficult as this is.

[00:03:16.589]>>Austin Smotherman would not be held back.

[00:03:22.169]>>He would shoot 62. He is your leader at 9 under par. We have indeed left the West Coast, come over to the east coast of the United States all the way across the country. 50 different international players, 20 different countries represented.

[00:03:39.300]>>England bringing 7 players into this field this week.

[00:03:45.570]>>All right, we're back over here at the 14th. This is right across the lake from 15. Christian Bezuidenhout.

[00:03:54.559]>>Yeah, good putt there. It looked like it was trying to break up into the dark grass there, kind of breaking uphill. Over to Patton Kizzire on the tee at 7.

[00:04:06.449]>>Worked for me.

[00:04:10.910]>> Patton Kizzire, go on, go on, do it for him. Oh, you gotta be, oh, a whip out at 8 for Patton Kizzire.

[00:04:22.589]>>And has to tap in for birdie.

[00:04:26.130]>>Yeah, it's almost better not to see it sometimes. Everybody trying to chase down Austin Smotherman.

[00:04:35.410]>>This is Dan Brown over at 15.

[00:04:40.459]>>OK, that's his first hole on the bear trap. He starts off with a birdie.

[00:04:48.649]>>John Perry

[00:04:50.700]>>Similar position as Dan Brown, a couple of years older as Perry, Long birdie putt at 14 is nice. He's a rookie.

[00:05:02.630]>>Hao Tong Li out here at 8.

[00:05:07.290]>>Tuffling out of the left rough into the wind, trying to get the.

[00:05:10.709]>>Distance, correct?

[00:05:12.630]>>Especially with the left hole location, not comfortable for Hao Tong.

[00:05:17.779]>>What a shot, wow, there was nothing going for him there with his shot shape coming out of the rough. OK. Yeah, he knows he stole one there.

[00:05:30.250]>>Your guard Peterson.

[00:05:32.049]>>Ball striker extraordinaire went to Oklahoma State.

[00:05:36.630]>>His rookie year in the PGA TOUR, and that is a great shot.

[00:05:42.540]>>And we'll go over to 15 now and Eric Cole.

[00:05:48.390]>>Starting to let the water play the big draw in the wind.

[00:05:52.279]>>Oh wow, that a baby, that a baby. That's what I'm talking about.

[00:06:03.880]>>Rasmus Højgaard, eagle putt here at the 10th.

[00:06:08.230]>>There you go.

[00:06:10.440]>>That's gonna get Rasmus to 20 on the round. We've got both Rasmus Højgaard in this field. 4 players from Denmark.

[00:06:19.500]>>Now Matti Schmid

[00:06:21.470]>>Across the golf course, the par 5 3rd.

[00:06:24.910]>>This is his 3rd. And it did go in.

[00:06:33.290]>>A hole out eagle for Matti Schmid.

[00:06:37.700]>>Jesus.

[00:06:44.029]>>Go to 5.

[00:06:52.369]>>Do you want to talk about a shot that is tougher than what that made it look. That back left hole location to 5, that gets your attention.

[00:07:02.769]>>Saw David Ford make a.

[00:07:05.670]>>A quadruple bogey on that hole, he's made the turnover here to the front nine, and that's a nice way to get a couple of shots back. A hole out at the 2nd.

[00:07:17.269]>>Oh, you gotta love this game, don't you? I was just thinking the opposite. You have to hate this game, but it keeps us coming back. It does. We got 3 birdies and an eagle, and you're still 2 over par.

[00:07:31.209]>>Back over to 16, Rasmus Højgaard for birdie.

[00:07:35.079]>>Should be just top edge, left edge.

[00:07:38.630]>>There you go, fell in dead weight.

[00:07:42.369]>>It's the 16th hole of the day for Thorbjorn Olesen. Thunderbar.

[00:07:52.079]>>So go

[00:07:54.390]>>And it went.

[00:07:56.440]>>Again, he pushed it though.

[00:08:01.100]>>Well, David Ford over at the 3rd.

[00:08:04.209]>>Is for back-to-back Eagles. Why not? Are you kidding?

[00:08:12.309]>>That's how you make up ground. That is a scorecard only a mother could love.

[00:08:18.799]>>Let's go back over to the 7th, Kris Ventura.

[00:08:27.850]>>Another shot at this par of 3 that's uh on a gorgeous line.

[00:08:33.340]>>And he pulled that just a little bit. There's just something about the 7th hole today.

[00:08:41.640]>>So moments ago at the 4th, we saw David Ford after back-to-back eagles, the shot that he had for his 3rd Eagle in a row plugged in the green side bunker.

[00:08:51.940]>>So that was the 3rd. Now this is the 4th. Here we go again. You realize this is gonna go in the hole, right? That would be fun.

[00:08:59.450]>>Oh my goodness.

[00:09:01.640]>>Really Rich Beem, I, I mean lottery tickets. I, I, I mean, where else was it gonna go, guys? I mean, everything is going in.

[00:09:13.239]>>Austin Smotherman tied the best round of his career with a 9 under 62 to take a one-shot lead. Round two is next.

[00:09:30.840]>>2nd round coverage of the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches.

[00:09:37.419]>>Oh, not too far from the Atlantic Ocean, the Golden Bear built one of 5 golf courses at the PGA National Resort and Spa. We're playing The Champion Course.

[00:09:49.070]>>One of 9 different courses that have hosted this event over the years, 54th year of competition in and around the Palm Beach Gardens area here, one of the longest-run PGA TOUR events on the schedule, along with tour veterans, Jay Townsend, Wayne Riley, and our major champion Rich Beem. I'm Brian Katrek. We got radar out there on the golf course. We're glad to have you along with us.

[00:10:16.179]>>Brooks Koepka was outside the cut line heading into today. What about this 5-time major champion? Well, he meant business today. 3rd shot at 18.

[00:10:28.520]>>He would make that one, and then this for birdie over at the 4th.

[00:10:35.260]>>Koepka with a hard push today to try to get inside of that cut line, and he would make it. Koepka shot 5 under today. Max Homa going for the 18th and 2.

[00:10:47.960]>>It's a tough one to keep far enough to the right with that wind off the right side, but Homa sticks it in there, close, set up an eagle putt.

[00:10:56.700]>>And here it is. This to get to 5 under on the day also.

[00:11:03.489]>>And he matches Brooks Koepka with sixty-sixes, and they're both inside the cut line heading into the weekend now, the weekend will factor. The round of the day so far belongs to this man.

[00:11:15.710]>>What a round.

[00:11:18.070]>>For AJ Ewart, makes the birdie at the 8th, shoots 7 under par with a double on the card. So that's what happened this morning. These guys that got blown around a little bit yesterday afternoon, got some revenge. 9 birdies for AJ Ewart.

[00:11:34.469]>> Karl Vilips is in the group here at 7.

[00:11:41.830]>>These players are making this, this par 3 7th look very benign playing straight downwind. I mean, it's just, it's not this easy, folks. We got two of them right there, kicking distance.

[00:11:55.700]>> Adrien Saddier has this over here at 13.

[00:12:02.520]>>that's gonna help right there for the ah.

[00:12:05.840]>>French rookie

[00:12:07.440]>>Chad Ramey at 15, and that's a rich Beem shot right there. Oh, it's.

[00:12:14.369]>>Oh, it's gonna get there, good man. When he was watching, I was thinking, boy, did he spin that too much into that breeze? No, he did not.

[00:12:26.239]>>Lowry here at 9.

[00:12:29.619]>>Then all the way back here at the par 4. That is a beauty. That is a beauty. He will go out with the birdie there, get at the 4-under. Jimmy Stanger is what, uh, everybody's waiting on here at 14. He's out there in the fairway.

[00:12:48.020]>>Hm, front hole. OK. Oh, hello. Yes, a deuce on 14. That is one of the harder holes on the golf course.

[00:12:57.690]>>Hole out eagle. Here's a teenager at 6.

[00:13:02.719]>>It's a wicked putt. It has to deal with a big slope left to right break. TV really flattens that green out. You cannot make that putt. I'm sorry. You're trying to get it within 5 ft.

[00:13:15.609]>> Echavarria at 18. 104 yards, have some fun with this thing.

[00:13:23.119]>>Certainly did, almost jarred it in the fly.

[00:13:28.030]>>Over to 10, Aaron Rai for birdie.

[00:13:32.890]>>And here's a guy when conditions get tough. He's a grinder, uh, good birdie putt there, big swing from the right. I think the conditions are gonna get tough this week. They're gonna have to deal with some rain, some wind.

[00:13:43.640]>>So this should be a nice high cut move left to right. Let that wind grab it. go hard. Yeah, it's on a good line. It's just kind of needs a one big kick. He gets it.

[00:13:56.229]>>putt

[00:13:58.130]>>That's Adrien Dumont de Chassart who can't see it all the way back there at 7.

[00:14:06.140]>>Taylor Moore now to get to 8 under.

[00:14:13.500]>>OK.

[00:14:17.140]>>Over at 12, Horschel, who's playing with Shane Lowry.

[00:14:26.039]>>And Horschel is 5 back now.

[00:14:33.030]>>Well, 2 ft from the hole, 4 ft circle.

[00:14:39.270]>>And it's got an excellent line.

[00:14:44.349]>>Yes, pretty good speed too. Austin Smotherman from long range.

[00:14:53.260]>>Nice little up slow.

[00:14:56.739]>>Nice, bud. Hey.

[00:14:59.880]>>I

[00:15:01.340]>>Nice enough. No problem for Kevin Yu, that's an eagle.

[00:15:06.679]>>Yeah.

[00:15:08.700]>>Draw this one back into the breeze, kind of hold it up just a little bit.

[00:15:13.440]>>Now stance holds on beautifully through impact.

[00:15:19.010]>>Wonderful play.

[00:15:24.030]>>Smotherman here at 18, gets this up-and-down for birdie.

[00:15:28.960]>>Doesn't look like we'd have a better lie right here. The slide up slope, everything going his way.

[00:15:37.229]>>That's about what you'd expect from, from some of those guys that have their name on their bags.

[00:15:42.940]>>All right, over at the 8th now. Taylor Moore, just 3 back.

[00:15:53.580]>>Oh.

[00:16:01.020]>>Joe trying to hold it up against that wind.

[00:16:04.710]>>And he did great shot. Best shot we've seen all day. Best shot we've seen all week there at 17.

[00:16:12.789]>>And we'll go to the other side of the golf course, one of the Højgaard twins.

[00:16:17.669]>>At the 13th

[00:16:20.630]>>I'll get it done 8 days a week.

[00:16:23.340]>>Austin Smotherman, our leader, uh, the first cut.

[00:16:33.590]>>And that's great control out of that first cut. Such a difference going downwind with.

[00:16:44.400]>>Jeffrey Kang holding out.

[00:16:50.020]>>Very narrow stance.

[00:16:52.440]>>Again, I think this is gonna be a very abbreviated follow through, punch wedge, gap wedge it should be.

[00:17:02.380]>>I like that. Beautiful play.

[00:17:06.568]>>Lowry to close it out with a birdie.

[00:17:12.900]>>That away, that's what you're looking for right there. Nice day's work this afternoon.

[00:17:20.838]>>Chris Kirk here in this group, also of past Champions.

[00:17:26.250]>>This at 18, going for the green out of the fairway bunker.

[00:17:32.260]>>Had nothing to lose, needs to make an eagle and wow, he's given himself a chance to get to one over par. Yeah, whoever said that, I agree.

[00:17:45.930]>>right

[00:17:48.079]>>Come on.

[00:17:50.390]>>Whoa.

[00:17:52.209]>>Again, again. We've seen a ton of hole outs this week.

[00:17:57.359]>>Stanger, that's his 2nd today. That's his 2nd today, isn't it? you make up for a double to 17 now. Sudarshan Yellamaraju inside the cut line, but a lot of danger here.

[00:18:13.329]>>Good news is they got rid of all those arrows showing where the wind is going because there isn't any.

[00:18:19.209]>>Now that is a pretty special shot. Jordan Smith needs birdie at the last.

[00:18:25.920]>>Wedge.

[00:18:27.689]>>Just trying to pipe one.

[00:18:30.739]>>Oh. A nice aggressive shot right there, you heard the finger click, he knew it was good.

[00:18:41.060]>>At a baby. Good work. Great work.

[00:18:45.819]>>Well, PGA National is always a wonderful test. It has certainly been for the 1st 2 days, only 1 player in double digits under par, even pars enough to play the weekend.

[00:18:57.959]>>Round 3 is up next.

[00:19:10.000]>>Third round coverage of the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches, the 54th edition of this great event.

[00:19:20.099]>>Weather's the big story here on Saturday morning, playing early under cloudy conditions right now. The question is, when will this picture change? Currently, the forecast has lots of badness happening later this afternoon. Currently surrounded by goodness.

[00:19:38.880]>>In the South Florida area and I'm surrounded by greatness here on the broadcast team, tour veterans Jay Townsend, Wayne Riley out on the golf course, and Rich Beem, our major champion. Jay and I have already taken care of the weather, folks, so it's all good. We're gonna be smooth sailing all day. That is greatness. Well done. This is Taylor Moore, our final group here on the very first hole.

[00:20:05.020]>>Threesomes, split tee.

[00:20:08.479]>>We've got folks going off of both sides, they've been at it for a couple of hours now. Wayne Riley never even slept, he just kept his gear on and it's gone right back out there. Good morning, radar. Morning everybody. Birdie time out here for everyone. The wind's down, blowing at about 3 mile an hour.

[00:20:29.400]>>Dead air, softish fairways.

[00:20:33.260]>>A time 163, and the wind's just gently out of the left, a little bit of hurt in it so this is a green light flag.

[00:20:51.050]>>Well, what a great shot there, opening shot. You know he's gonna be nervous and hitting a, a good iron shot like that right out of the bat is just going to calm the nerves and a great chance for birdie.

[00:21:00.619]>>As we go to Shane Lowry out here at the 4th.

[00:21:10.280]>>Not an easy hole location you're gonna find on this 4th green, right in the middle of the green.

[00:21:16.829]>>At the 3rd, Pontus Nyholm for birdie. Everybody.

[00:21:22.410]>>Here in this half of the field playing the course in order. That's a real good birdie opportunity early in this round.

[00:21:28.699]>>Up at the 4th, Shane Lowry's trying to move it to 7 under.

[00:21:34.650]>>Absolutely loves this golf course. It's just his 3rd start on the PGA TOUR this season.

[00:21:40.869]>>Now back to Nico Echavarria.

[00:21:45.170]>> Nico Echavarria cuts the lead to 2 now after Smotherman has missed a couple of chances and will go over to 5.

[00:21:55.969]>>You're gonna see a lot of balls come up short of the hole here, back hole location, not for Lowry. I'm telling you, he, he absolutely loves playing here.

[00:22:06.170]>>Now Kanaya looking for the bounce back here at 8.

[00:22:10.910]>>Just a wedge to a left hole location at 8, and that is a good one, getting better and better. OK, that's going to be a bounce back birdie.

[00:22:19.319]>>Back up a couple of holes. Adrien Dumont de Chassart for birdie here at 13.

[00:22:32.579]>>To the 9th. Matti Schmid has this for Birdie.

[00:22:38.920]>>In there.

[00:22:41.540]>>And it was right in the heart.

[00:22:44.800]>>Go out in 34, 1 under par with par 5 upcoming.

[00:22:49.709]>>Up to 13, Marty Dou put it through a couple of different cuts of grass here.

[00:22:56.520]>>Oh, that worked out just fine. He caught some fiberglass.

[00:23:02.180]>>Back to 11 now. Ricky Castillo.

[00:23:09.099]>>OK.

[00:23:12.189]>>Brooks Koepka from 48 ft for birdie at 12.

[00:23:19.880]>>What a day for Brooks Koepka.

[00:23:26.880]>>Shane Lowry going the other direction, this to get to 4 under for the round, and he's now just 4 shots back.

[00:23:34.560]>>Austin Smotherman to keep the lead at 3.

[00:23:43.339]>>Still 1 under today, but it has not looked smooth. The lead is down to 2.

[00:23:51.069]>>Echavarria missing wide here at the 7th. No way left, shortsighted himself. What a shot that was.

[00:24:01.359]>> Echavarria to save his par, that's awful nice. Stays right in the thick of this, just 3 shots back.

[00:24:08.479]>>This was Danny Walker back at the 6th.

[00:24:20.680]>>No.

[00:24:24.680]>>This is not a place you expect to see all these holeouts.

[00:24:29.979]>>Smotherman with a tough shot, buried lie above his feet. Yeah, I've always found that buried balls when they're above your feet, tend to not get the distance out of the shot that you had expected, and, uh, that's the case there.

[00:24:46.510]>>Different story right here.

[00:24:51.270]>>Shouldn't be an issue, but it certainly has not been.

[00:24:54.900]>> Smotherman. Gotta make that just to maintain a one-shot lead. Shane Lowry can get it to 10 under, but this.

[00:25:07.010]>>And that he does. Shane Lowry out in 30.

[00:25:14.209]>> Echavarria here at 8.

[00:25:20.410]>>There's just a short iron in there and he's nearly flew it in the hole.

[00:25:27.709]>>Over into the bear trap, Matthieu Pavon here at 17. And this is nothing today, just 1:39. Penn moved up, tee moved up, and that's an excellent shot right there.

[00:25:42.130]>>Smotherman.

[00:25:44.569]>>A huge putt here. This is for bogey. Oh, threw it right in the middle with pace. That was a confident stroke, but he loses another shot.

[00:25:55.250]>>Up to the 8th, Echavarria trying to stay within shouting distance here.

[00:26:04.400]>>He's a two-time winner looking for a hat trick.

[00:26:08.979]>>Meanwhile, up at the 10th, eagle putt for Shane Lowry.

[00:26:16.510]>>He just feels like the guy.

[00:26:19.609]>>To beat right now, if you beat Shane Lowry this week, you're probably the winner. I, I, I think you are. You'll finish top three for sure.

[00:26:28.479]>>His last 4 starts here, 2nd, 5th, 4th, and 11th.

[00:26:38.050]>>Nothing good happens if you leave it short, because Rai throws one in there at 10. Nicely done for the Englishman.

[00:26:46.619]>>I think that the pitch over the ground.

[00:26:49.359]>>I think it's, I have to just go ahead and hit this hard.

[00:26:52.790]>>And just a little, yeah.

[00:26:55.780]>>I think it like I think it's no problem but I sort of feel like if I hit try to hit something softer rather go after yeah yeah where are you looking at it pretty aggressive at the flag like that not a lot just go ahead and strap.

[00:27:11.260]>>I think that's what you gotta do all the time coming out of this rough, uh, you know, if you're trying to float anything in there, it's

[00:27:18.109]>>It's gonna fall in the sky and go right in that drink.

[00:27:21.219]>>See if they got their thinking spot on. I like it when he was talking about where he wanted to miss it over the green.

[00:27:29.339]>>No over the green there. That was a fantastic shot. Yeah, OK. And that's a downslope there, kind of feeds a little bit.

[00:27:38.949]>>He realized that he's gonna chip that in. Yeah, great shot.

[00:27:42.939]>>All right, now Aaron Rai, birdie at 11.

[00:27:47.400]>>Uphill left to right.

[00:27:50.380]>>He had to go diagonally up that ridge and holds it, great putt from Rai. You count Rye out and he's still right there and only 3 back.

[00:28:02.250]>>Over at the 9th, Rasmus Højgaard.

[00:28:08.310]>>That's just easy power for both of the Højgaard twins.

[00:28:13.199]>>Beautiful shot.

[00:28:16.949]>>Shane Lowry is going to enter the bear trap.

[00:28:21.530]>>A little bit of a dry spell right now for Shane. 4 pars in a row.

[00:28:28.209]>>That might just get him back.

[00:28:33.459]>>He looks a little startled to me.

[00:28:40.930]>>I don't think you're alone in seeing that.

[00:28:47.239]>>And Saddier, his last hole of the day, birdie at the 9th.

[00:28:53.010]>>That's a nice way to finish things up.

[00:29:00.000]>>Meanwhile, up on the green, Echavarria saves the par and stays right in it.

[00:29:07.050]>>Shane Lowry from 11 ft to take the lead.

[00:29:14.699]>>There we go, he's 50 through 10, and then a string of pars, but that birdie at 17 now gets him the outright lead at 12 under.

[00:29:24.420]>>Back at 9, it's the finishing hole for Chandler Phillips.

[00:29:33.839]>>Go on, go on, that a way to finish.

[00:29:38.079]>>And to move you up 11 spots, get you a little later tee time tomorrow.

[00:29:44.219]>>Lowry trying to stake a claim for the 54 hole lead here.

[00:29:54.390]>>Oh, beautiful putt.

[00:29:58.569]>>Didn't waste any time, set the putter right behind it, pulled the trigger right in the heart. And what a fantastic round, 8 under par 63. The best of the day for Shane Lowry.

[00:30:13.290]>>Dahmen did not love this tee shot.

[00:30:21.619]>>didn't seem to love the putt either, and it went in.

[00:30:28.410]>>Austin Smotherman on the tee at 17.

[00:30:38.680]>>He had a good number. You could just tell the way he went through that. He, he, he's very comfortable with that distance.

[00:30:49.680]>>And Nico.

[00:30:52.189]>>Gets it to 12 under, but he has run out of holes.

[00:30:56.160]>>Great round today for Echavarria, 66, and he's won back heading into Sunday.

[00:31:04.329]>>And if Austin Smotherman does not birdie the last, then he will be alongside Shane Lowry.

[00:31:20.589]>>Great shot right there, especially out of the first cut of rough downwind, great control. A putt for the outright lead for Austin Smotherman.

[00:31:31.020]>>Great look, we know it goes a little right to left as it loses pace.

[00:31:36.569]>>It was a good try

[00:31:45.920]>>If it's twos, this short one for Austin Smotherman to put him right there, shoulder to shoulder with Shane Lowry.

[00:32:00.569]>>That was a hard fought day for Austin Smotherman, but he shoots 2 under at the end of the day.

[00:32:07.979]>>And is tied for the lead with one round left.

[00:32:14.449]>>Shane Lowry shoots a 63 and is tied at the top with Smotherman on a tight leaderboard heading into championship Sunday.

[00:32:28.359]>>We are here and we are playing for history and we're playing for the players that came before us.

[00:32:34.180]>>I've worked since I was 2 or 3 years old to have a chance to play professional golf for a living. The, the guys that win the most, they're in contention so much, they're up there all the time. That's where I want to be.

[00:33:00.000]>>And a Happy Sunday to you from the Bear Trap. PGA National Resort and Spa were playing The Champion Course, one of 5 great golf courses in the complex, the only one that's hosted a PGA championship and a Ryder Cup, and it's time. Storms came through late yesterday afternoon and through the evening, but they have blown off, and it is gorgeous right now, and the wind is back.

[00:33:27.050]>>This is our team. We're so glad to have you along with us. TOUR veterans, Jay Townsend and Wayne Riley, and a major champion in Rich Beem. I'm Brian Katrek along for the ride, as are you. And this is the hottest round on the golf course. Nicolai Højgaard's trying to put a number up here. 60 through 10, just 2 back right now. Dangerous pin here at the 11th, on the way back right. Good news is the wind is helping from right to left.

[00:33:56.369]>>Nicolai would make that for Birdie and move to 12 under.

[00:34:02.119]>>Over to Shane Lowry at the first for par.

[00:34:06.349]>>Even if it is for a par, just get that putter.

[00:34:09.648]>>Behaving early doors.

[00:34:12.229]>>Yeah.

[00:34:14.830]>>Yeah, it's nice to get into a good rhythm out there. That was a wonderful save.

[00:34:21.209]>>Back to 2. Taylor Moore.

[00:34:27.860]>>All right, now we've got a three-way tie for the lead. This probably won't be our last time today. Back to Austin Smotherman in the fairway.

[00:34:37.489]>>164, flat out wedge. Get up there.

[00:34:42.060]>>No, I'll say it did.

[00:34:45.340]>>Again, another golf ball that nearly flew into the hole.

[00:34:49.408]>>He taps in to take the lead at 14 under.

[00:34:52.648]>>Yeah.

[00:34:54.219]>>Ahead to the 3rd now, reachable par 5, very scorable, and Nico Echavarria has this for Eagle.

[00:35:01.139]>>You can see a lot of little waves and the color changes between himself and the hole. This is not exactly an easy putt to get the pace correct, but from left to right as well, and there it hits something about 1215 ft short of the hole comes up short.

[00:35:17.489]>>To 3 now

[00:35:19.570]>>And Taylor Moore, I like his routine, he doesn't really take a whole lot of time once he gets over the golf ball, he's made up his mind already.

[00:35:30.729]>>Nice free flowing stroke right there.

[00:35:33.919]>>Not quite going to get there either, but much better effort.

[00:35:40.260]>>Echavarria to move within one of the leads.

[00:35:44.580]>>And

[00:35:45.889]>>Nico.

[00:35:47.409]>>He's got plenty of fans out there. You can hear him in the distance rooting him on.

[00:35:53.770]>>13 under 1 back.

[00:35:59.479]>>Well, this is, boy, this is to tie for the lead. There you go.

[00:36:04.580]>>So Nico's at 13. We'll try to get him tied for the lead a couple of times today. Taylor Moore is there now.

[00:36:13.780]>>Move up to 4 and Echavarria.

[00:36:19.860]>>He'll be taking dead aim from here. Ball slightly above his feet, which adds a little difficulty.

[00:36:25.600]>>Do.

[00:36:29.489]>>This is a no man's land here. 3rd shot now for Taylor Moore, straight down win, pin cut up front.

[00:36:37.590]>>Out of the rough, that's gonna go wandering over the back edge of the green.

[00:36:43.699]>>Nico up here on the green at the 4th. Good look.

[00:36:49.000]>>Went downgrade just a little bit and that one goes right in the center.

[00:36:54.979]>>Nico gets it to 140.

[00:36:58.939]>>Co-leader.

[00:37:01.239]>>It's Echavarria and Smotherman at 14 under.

[00:37:05.530]>>Moore missed his par attempt and now has this for bogey.

[00:37:10.929]>>More for bogey at 4. So take away one of the 14s.

[00:37:18.340]>>Pontus Nyholm over here with a chance to make a closing birdie at the last.

[00:37:27.330]>>Oh, it's a nice way to finish, making birdie at the last.

[00:37:30.889]>>5 under par 66 today for Pontus, 9 under for the week.

[00:37:37.340]>>Here at the 5th, this is a tough one, putting out of that bowl, steep uphill until that point right there.

[00:37:47.250]>>It's, it's, it's what now? tough putt. That was beyond a tough putt. That was a putt you'd be happy to get within 2 ft, but that's 3 out of the last 4 holes for Taylor Moore with 1 bogey in there.

[00:38:02.330]>>We stay here at the 5th for Shane Lowry's birdie try.

[00:38:13.830]>>Obviously that's where you want to putter from.

[00:38:17.080]>>They are figuring it out from the thumbprint over there on the right-hand side. Lowry, that's his first birdie of the day.

[00:38:27.449]>>All right, Taylor Moore was in this water and has taken a drop. That was his 5th. Moore would go on to make a double and drop back to 12 under.

[00:38:44.510]>>These are the ones you need to hole, come Sunday afternoon, slightly out of the right, down the hill, down grain.

[00:38:52.729]>>Can you believe it? Made a gutsy par save at the first.

[00:38:57.360]>>Long birdie at the 5th and now another great save at the 6th.

[00:39:05.000]>>Chance for birdie in the outright lead.

[00:39:15.149]>>Beautiful putt from Nico Echavarria moves into the lead alone.

[00:39:24.570]>>Now, Smotherman.

[00:39:26.739]>>Oh this is just what you want, but he's been so tentative. The ball has been running out of puff as it gets to the hole. Needs to hit them with pace to hold them.

[00:39:41.010]>>Kinda like that.

[00:39:43.669]>>Just enough puff for Austin Smotherman. Up to 14 under, 1 back.

[00:39:52.929]>>Tonight.

[00:40:00.649]>>Birdie for Lowry at the 9th, and he's tied for the lead.

[00:40:06.679]>>Again, we've, we've talked about how good his short game has been throughout the years. He is out there challenging himself every day, this one obviously no challenge whatsoever. Shane Lowry in for a 3, back into a share of the lead.

[00:40:23.149]>>Shane Lowry, steely eyed determination here, this one has slipped away before. Try to make sure it doesn't happen again.

[00:40:35.370]>>We're back with Echavarria on the green at the 10th for Eagle.

[00:40:39.979]>>Did he learned anything about the pace of the putt, he certainly did, and this one's definitely gonna get there.

[00:40:46.469]>>He would make that to get to 16 under.

[00:40:51.429]>>Lowry back in the fairway at 10.

[00:40:55.120]>>So this could be as little as an 8 iron.

[00:40:59.260]>>Just trying to land at 190.

[00:41:03.149]>>If this is the right distance, this is gonna get, uh, this is gonna be one of the better of the day, best of the day almost. That's a wonderful shot right there.

[00:41:14.649]>>Smotherland has a long eagle putt.

[00:41:18.989]>>Can he get it to the hole?

[00:41:21.659]>>Is the question.

[00:41:26.020]>>He would make that to reach 14 under par.

[00:41:33.699]>>Oh, this is an easy putt, I'm going to.

[00:41:36.719]>>Put my neck on the chopping block right here, but, uh, I'd be surprised if he missed this.

[00:41:49.000]>>And he didn't, an eagle to start the back nine for Shane Lowry, he jumped frogs, leapfrogs, I should say. Echavarria gets to 17 under the lead on his own, and the Irish are out in full force.

[00:42:07.709]>>Now the greens open for Taylor Moore.

[00:42:12.510]>>Doesn't get any easier than this, straight down win, 117.

[00:42:17.909]>>That's the way to hit it from 2nd shot in there, close, kicking birdie.

[00:42:24.159]>>Well, Echavarria, close enough to putt this. Looks like he came through without bobbling at all.

[00:42:33.389]>>Not to be, but I'd say he's fairly fortunate to uh.

[00:42:37.429]>>I think his 12th hole fairly unscathed, didn't give himself a, a, a good enough look though for Birdie.

[00:42:44.439]>>Back to 12

[00:42:47.239]>>The lie is good.

[00:42:49.260]>>137, will it jump? Front flag, front left.

[00:42:55.280]>>It looks a little jumpy.

[00:42:59.169]>>He's not barking at it. Usually he does, and no reason to.

[00:43:04.469]>>Excellent shot. Taking advantage of a good break.

[00:43:10.149]>>Austin Smotherman with a much-needed birdie attempt here at 12.

[00:43:22.790]>>Good pace, good holding speed, but.

[00:43:26.080]>>You just have to think that didn't do enough with the 2nd shot.

[00:43:30.669]>>Yeah, but that pace was much more like it, wasn't it, Jay? Yeah, it certainly was.

[00:43:36.010]>>Should've been only half that distance from the hole though.

[00:43:40.260]>>And this man is ready to go forward. Shane Lowry in position with the Cognizant Classic again, and a great look here at 12.

[00:43:56.409]>>And he's casting a bigger shadow with every stroke. Shane Lowry builds a two-shot lead, bogey-free so far on Sunday.

[00:44:06.040]>>Up ahead, the closest pursuer. Echavarria is 4 under par today and has this to get 1 back.

[00:44:19.649]>>His line isn't far off of that mark.

[00:44:27.340]>>Good call. He clipped the the the coin there.

[00:44:33.399]>>I was, I couldn't believe he didn't move the mark.

[00:44:37.750]>>To 14

[00:44:43.409]>>I would imagine Ricky's going right after this flag stick.

[00:44:47.800]>>He certainly is quality shot, great look.

[00:44:52.360]>>Pretty simple putt upcoming for birdie for him.

[00:44:57.199]>> Echavarria not done yet here at 13.

[00:45:03.330]>>All right.

[00:45:04.919]>>Up to the challenge, one hole left.

[00:45:08.790]>>Before the bear trap.

[00:45:12.610]>>Shane Lowry has a birdie putt coming up at 13 and he has a 2-shot lead.

[00:45:21.139]>>Oh, he may have kicked the door down with that one. Can you hear that?

[00:45:25.949]>>I, I almost, almost. She's warming up and I'm haven't heard yet.

[00:45:36.929]>>This is the 18th hole and Takumi Kanaya, who has been hanging around just inside the top 20.

[00:45:43.100]>>And that one will ensure a top 20 finish.

[00:45:47.649]>>1 under par 70 for Takumi Kanaya.

[00:45:53.600]>>Here's Smotherman on 14 to save par.

[00:46:02.550]>>Oh, that is great work.

[00:46:07.419]>>He's been up near on top of the lead all week long and all of a sudden just runs into uh Shane Lowry in this final round.

[00:46:16.290]>>Lowry now on the tee at 16.

[00:46:19.540]>>Trying to hit some driver and this is in the water. Uh oh, this is a semirocket.

[00:46:27.370]>>Wow, that was, where, where did that come from? We haven't seen anything like that all day, I mean that.

[00:46:36.840]>>You think winning's hard. That just goes to show you right there. Even a guy of his experience is not exempt from nerves. Whoa, hold the phone. He immediately said, by the way, that's a reti. That's a rea.

[00:46:54.060]>>Now up to the bunker for Lowry's 5th.

[00:47:03.500]>>Wow, what a shot that was. That was so high risk in the heat of the moment.

[00:47:13.780]>>Oh, this, this 16th hole is something else right now. Another look.

[00:47:20.280]>>Just slid the club underneath it with tremendous speed. Look at the way he released the club through, got the elevation.

[00:47:28.360]>>I don't think he wants that one over. No, you can give him 10, he can't get it inside of that.

[00:47:34.580]>>Echavarria is essentially one off the lead right now, and we have to just hit it at the middle of that bunker and try and let it fall left to right. Oh, this needs to get down or get up.

[00:47:50.260]>>It got up, what a shot. You think that his.

[00:47:54.629]>>Hart wasn't just going a million miles an hour. Look at that. He thought he hit it in the water.

[00:48:01.780]>>It's good now though.

[00:48:04.899]>>It picked the right option.

[00:48:07.939]>>There is ground under it after all.

[00:48:11.699]>>And Echevarria's got a putt to get to 17 under par.

[00:48:17.709]>>All right, this is for a double.

[00:48:20.909]>>Your mind's going a million miles an hour. This is no gimme in these circumstances.

[00:48:29.919]>>That's a pretty good 6. Tee shot, wet, drop way back, no chance to get it up here.

[00:48:38.179]>>Can't give the hole away, but it has to go a little bit right to left.

[00:48:42.649]>>You speed inside the hole.

[00:48:45.959]>>Oh wow.

[00:48:49.629]>>Nico Echavarria.

[00:48:53.270]>>Right in front of the leader, joins the lead.

[00:49:01.340]>>Knocked me over with a feather.

[00:49:05.939]>>I never thought that Lowry would be tied.

[00:49:10.350]>>Not a chance.

[00:49:14.939]>>One to play.

[00:49:17.889]>>And Echavarria has a reachable par 5 and a share of the lead left, and he knows it.

[00:49:24.870]>>The whole tournament's about this shot.

[00:49:28.239]>>Is he brave enough, can he muster up the courage to take this flag on, or he just hit it 20 to 25 ft left of it?

[00:49:39.820]>>Jesus

[00:49:41.129]>>Here we go again. Oh no.

[00:49:45.320]>>You can't, you can't believe, I'm telling you, you can't believe how far right that is. That has landed 60 yards right of the flag.

[00:49:54.620]>>We like this decision. He doesn't have a choice. Yeah, he's just so far back.

[00:49:59.729]>>269 back in the breeze.

[00:50:12.399]>>Well, he's got a good lie in the rough.

[00:50:15.949]>>Well, Echavarria, as we saw, has missed the fairway, won't be able to get it super close at 18, you think? Lowry doesn't know any of that.

[00:50:24.649]>>You make this, you just drop one.

[00:50:27.340]>>Still in it.

[00:50:33.979]>>Oh, he took a run at it.

[00:50:36.290]>>It's a great effort, but now it's going to take something special.

[00:50:41.350]>>2 double bogeys since he built the 3-shot lead.

[00:50:46.360]>>And Shane Lowry's gonna go to the last trailing.

[00:50:50.169]>>3rd shot for Echavarria.

[00:50:54.389]>>Get in the hole. Get in the hole.

[00:50:59.310]>>Right there. It's all he needed. From where he was, he couldn't go right to that.

[00:51:18.939]>>Oh, it did. He smoked one, maybe one of his best drives of the week right there. Cut some distance off, maybe he will be able to go forward in.

[00:51:30.199]>>And Echavarria is ready to go.

[00:51:34.000]>>Don't take any time. This is one you've done 100,000 times, a million times. Just execute.

[00:51:42.860]>>The bar has been set. That's a whale of a finish for Nico Echavarria.

[00:51:49.100]>>Birdie, birdie, the last two, come and get me.

[00:51:55.000]>>Don't start celebrating yet, boys. This is not over. Shane Lowry with one last chance to tie it up.

[00:52:05.510]>>Come on, Shano.

[00:52:07.679]>>Make it interesting.

[00:52:14.300]>>Oh, it's on a great line, oh my, oh.

[00:52:19.610]>>He gave it a great run, but with that, 31 year old Nico Echavarria comes from behind in improbable fashion to win the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches.

[00:52:34.020]>>This concludes the PGA Tour's coverage of the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches from the PGA National Champion Cour in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida.