

Production Transcript for **REWIND\_26VALSPAR\_FITZPATRICK**

[00:00:26.059]>>The PGA TOUR is proud to bring you the season-long race for the FedExCup.

[00:00:32.770]>>Now coverage of the 2026 Valspar Championship.

[00:00:42.459]>>Celebrating 25 years in the Tampa area this year, the Valspar Championship, always one of the toughest, most demanding courses on the PGA TOUR. Narrow fairways, small greens, nasty rough. This Larry Packard par 71 design is normally one of the most difficult on the PGA TOUR, but not for Sungjae Im this morning.

[00:01:06.180]>>Here he was for birdie early in the co-lead to move it 5 under and James Nittis, he had it rolling this Sungjae Im and was ready for it. Just under 16 ft, always good to get one to go early.

[00:01:19.919]>>And Laura Davies all the way across the green here at the 1st for an eagle as he made the turn. Absolutely, and why not fill it up, 7 under par after just 10 holes on this layout. Couple of wins in his career on the PGA TOUR, but he came in on the heel of two missed cuts. He had rehabbed the right wrist, James, and, well, nothing seemed to bother him today. Well, at this point, this isn't a number that's usually associated with this track.

[00:01:51.209]>>Gary Woodlands at the 6th.

[00:01:54.430]>>It.

[00:01:58.519]>>Well there you go. Just leave it short and chip it in, former champion round here. I think there's 7, yeah 7 past champs in the field this week.

[00:02:06.930]>>It'll be great to see him back in the winner's circle.

[00:02:11.449]>>And Garrick Higgo.

[00:02:13.800]>>Yeah, short par 4, but they have to play it sensibly, and there you go.

[00:02:19.669]>>Nice birdie there for him. He and Sean Foley have done some good work.

[00:02:26.520]>>Slide over to the fifth, catch up with the 2024 champ here, Peter Malnati. Yeah, past champion, still rocking the yellow ball. Oh!

[00:02:37.520]>>OK, 2 hop dunk at the par 5, that'll work.

[00:02:41.720]>>Why does he look confused?

[00:02:45.039]>>Because something good happens. Yeah, I wasn't expecting it, what a bounce back.

[00:02:50.690]>>Jaeger at 14

[00:02:56.830]>>How about it? Very nice. How many holdouts have we already seen? And earlier in the day, Corey Connors hold out on the 18th and made the turn and did it again at the 1st.

[00:03:09.740]>>Now Fitzpatrick

[00:03:13.020]>>I do wonder with Fitzpatrick, he's someone who chips with that left hand below right, but with the bunker shot, how close. What a shot. Well, he nearly got it to go with this, this awkward front to back sloping green, nearly broke it in there nicely and I mean he's, he's just trended really over the last six months as Fitzpatrick.

[00:03:33.940]>>2nd at the 10th, Isaiah Salinda just a little bit aloft and Laura playing from the fairway. Yeah, nice pin this, just 13 on.

[00:03:43.009]>>Well, I didn't think it was that easy, beautiful shot from him.

[00:03:48.509]>>The wind gets blowing around here, you better hold on to your hats because this golf course can punish the players.

[00:03:57.490]>>That's Højgaard, the Rasmus edition.

[00:04:01.250]>>Nice birdie at 16, back to 1 over on his round.

[00:04:08.330]>>Seamus

[00:04:13.259]>>Ah, there you go, yeah, nothing to it. I'm assuming he had a lovely lie there, cos that was full tilt, that gets him in the red.

[00:04:24.959]>>How's speed.

[00:04:32.200]>>Oh look at this.

[00:04:34.619]>>Well, he got a break off the tee, stayed in the 2nd cut and.

[00:04:39.950]>>I mean that's fantastic.

[00:04:42.869]>>Jesper Svensson at the 13th.

[00:04:47.339]>>Oh, come on, again.

[00:04:51.089]>>This is getting ridiculous now. I mean, see the.

[00:04:55.570]>>The acceleration, stop it, impact, you knew that, that lie was hideous. And he got it to go down.

[00:05:03.989]>>Well, Fitzpatrick, looking to hold something, I just feel like he's been a little bit off today. Bit of high expectations after last week.

[00:05:14.609]>>Yeah. Justin didn't do himself any good, but certainly helped his playing partners along.

[00:05:22.239]>>Jacob Bridgeman in the fairway now at the 12th.

[00:05:30.029]>>He's looking at it.

[00:05:33.429]>>And he knew that was on an absolute line, really good shot from Jacob.

[00:05:42.839]>>See now, now, the 11th.

[00:05:45.929]>>This for birdie

[00:05:49.899]>>Good to see it. Last week we saw him make a, a fair few putts of that range, but then he also backed it up, missing some short ones inside 4 ft.

[00:05:59.179]>>Back to Bridgeman who has this for Birdie.

[00:06:06.190]>>Jacob Bridgeman's starting to feel it now. That's 3 birdies in his last 4.

[00:06:13.510]>>Paul Peterson, the lefty at the 18th.

[00:06:17.799]>>

[00:06:20.369]>>And beautifully played, and of course another one bites the dust from off the green.

[00:06:26.649]>>Relentless, and that was really nicely played. This is incredible.

[00:06:34.790]>>Woodland up at 16, a little left to right, maybe turn back at the end. Oh, thank you very much. John Woodland, popular, popular figure, former US Open champ.

[00:06:47.000]>>18.

[00:06:49.269]>>Ideal, 1, I think that's a 127.

[00:06:52.929]>>Oh yes, oh good. Beautiful, and kick in birdie to get into the red numbers.

[00:07:03.040]>>Subwer at the seconds come up short.

[00:07:07.690]>>Just trying to run this one up.

[00:07:10.200]>>Take the pressure off, not another one, of course it is. I tell you what, we're hard time picking out the shot of the day. Yeah, but again, like you said, James, that's not a chip in, that's a pitch in again. Out of the rough, it's incredible what's happening.

[00:07:26.489]>>Nicolai on the 16th.

[00:07:32.829]>>So

[00:07:34.230]>>So

[00:07:35.760]>>Oh, beauty. Nearly jarred it. Højgaard a chance to move to 2 under.

[00:07:43.559]>>This will show us a lot, this stroke, if he's confident, he's been a little,

[00:07:48.769]>>Unpredictable from short range, he's missed two putts of around 2 2.5 ft, and when you stand over it, you're like, not gonna get this opportunity much, I need to make this, so it shows you a lot about the player's stroke.

[00:08:04.679]>>Deserved it.

[00:08:07.059]>>He's trying hard to miss, really. What a way to bounce back after those couple short misses and then the par at the 14th.

[00:08:22.380]>>Fitzpatrick on the way at 16.

[00:08:25.059]>>169 yards to go, a little bit in between clubs.

[00:08:29.950]>>Fitzpatrick would birdie to get to 3 under.

[00:08:38.369]>>Now forward at 15, the left-hander.

[00:08:43.468]>>We say it suits the left-hander a little bit more, this whole shape, and that is sensational.

[00:08:51.739]>>Um, yeah, this one.

[00:08:54.169]>>Or Hisatsune. 000, yes, you can.

[00:09:01.219]>>South Korea's Sungjae Im leads the way with a 7 under 64, while England's Matt Fitzpatrick and Aaron Wright each carding a 68. Round two is next.

[00:09:18.820]>> Innisbrook Resort, the Copperhead Course, that's where we are for the final step in the Sunshine State, the Florida swing coming to a close, and this Copperhead Course, narrow fairways, small greens, nasty rough. It's supposed to be one of the most difficult on the PGA TOUR, not so fast. Yesterday we saw low scores in the morning. The wind picked up, it, it stiffen in the afternoon, but earlier today.

[00:09:45.750]>>James Nitties, Matthew Fitzpatrick doing what he did yesterday with the irons, he only missed one green. Well, he's doing what he did the last couple of weeks. This was an absolute beauty in there to around 3 ft.

[00:10:00.000]>>Little chilly this morning, but as the sun came up.

[00:10:04.090]>>Laura Davies, so did the warmth.

[00:10:08.289]>>And a putter for Fitzpatrick. Yep, he's liking the par 3s today, and there you go, a little left to right up, nothing but net.

[00:10:17.659]>>And

[00:10:20.150]>>27 year old Marco Penge.

[00:10:23.640]>>Putting well this week, starting to find his way on the greens in America. Made 126 ft of putts in the second round, but the man at the top of the leaderboard, David Lipsky, the 37-year-old, he has missed 15 greens, he has gotten it up-and-down all but once, Laura.

[00:10:43.979]>>Yeah, got a little bit of luck there, had a backswing, uh, a, a relatively easy shot, but he's still got to hit it off that pine straw, and he did, he had an absolute beauty up there to what, 5 ft.

[00:10:55.409]>>It led to a bogey free, 65 for David Lipsky. And let's get out to the golf course a moment ago, Corey Connors, who holed out twice yesterday from the fairway.

[00:11:06.690]>>No, certainly not.

[00:11:11.989]>>They say holdouts come in bunches of threes, Laura, that was about as close as you can get to an ace without making it.

[00:11:18.280]>>Yeah, that was a beauty, wasn't it, stone dead for birdie Koepka, 166, you can see they've moved this tee up to date, all the par 3s playing a bit short, well, hello.

[00:11:27.340]>>Well, if you'd have said someone's gonna get inside that, in the same group, no chance.

[00:11:34.520]>>And at the 13th

[00:11:36.380]>>Steven Fisk off the upslope. Short par 3 today. Oh, how about that one?

[00:11:43.369]>>Would've been stressing off the tee, he was close to the water there. Now walking away with another birdie. He gets the 2 under for the day.

[00:11:52.580]>>Just a little while ago, Alex Smalley.

[00:12:01.890]>>Another one bites the dust, they just keep holding shots round here.

[00:12:08.489]>>Quickly to 10

[00:12:10.219]>>Yeah, 3rd shot here for Paul. Oh, I like the way he played that.

[00:12:14.729]>>Go on. Well, of course, it's going in, they all do. Oh really great technique there, just popped it up in the air, very easy to get that one jumping on you and racing away down the hill. A little bonus birdie.

[00:12:30.020]>>Tosti.

[00:12:31.979]>>Yeah, this looks awkward. Although he might have had a good lie there, he's thrown it miles up in the air, just out of that cut of rough, well, nothing to it. Tasty from Tosti.

[00:12:44.340]>>Cross-handed pitching of Zach Bauchou.

[00:12:48.630]>>You're at the 2nd

[00:12:51.010]>>Oh come on with it. There you go, another one pitched in and he's using the same method there as.

[00:12:57.750]>>That's Matt Fitzpatrick, what a start for him.

[00:13:00.880]>>Izi is with Corey Connors. Oh, he's got a great look for birdie here, inside that left edge.

[00:13:07.729]>>We had it going early yesterday and fell back a little bit.

[00:13:16.179]>>Taylor, his 3rd shot on 16, and another one, thank you very much. And he needed it, he needs more, back to 3 over.

[00:13:28.489]>>At the 4th.

[00:13:30.349]>>Norlander bobbled, but.

[00:13:35.469]>>No, I'm not counting that one, it's a brilliant putt and it's a birdie, but he putted it, so I'm not having that as a hole out.

[00:13:42.299]>>Now Tom Kim, this for birdie at 5.

[00:13:46.219]>>Has to get to 4 under, OK.

[00:13:49.630]>>Tom Kim enters the chat.

[00:13:54.039]>>To 7.

[00:13:55.369]>>Can Sungjae Im get something to go?

[00:13:58.650]>>For a birdie, took a hop and yes, hopped straight in the middle.

[00:14:05.260]>>Turns his momentum around.

[00:14:09.729]>>Good golf swing here, Henrik Norlander, that is a reliable action.

[00:14:14.070]>>And normally end up playing on a sponsor's invitation.

[00:14:17.909]>>Look out.

[00:14:20.539]>>Oh, I thought we had another one.

[00:14:24.469]>>This old location, a little bit more approachable than we saw yesterday. Yeah, and the yardage also, only 168 yards today. Not a lot of trouble outside of the water. And Grillo here, showing us just how easy this hole location is, a kick in for birdie.

[00:14:42.929]>>This golf swing, S.H. Kim, this is a thing of beauty, Laura. Yeah, absolutely, load it up in a perfect spot, 168. This pin today on that back right corner, so not easy.

[00:14:56.080]>>Oh, well it is easy for him, and there you go, there's.

[00:14:59.530]>>Witness to that lovely swing, perfect distance, and a very good birdie chance for him.

[00:15:08.669]>>And the 18th, I've seen this putt a couple of times, nice break left to right early doors and then tries to filter back the other way at the end, and in you go. What a putt.

[00:15:20.489]>>That's nice, that makes the back line a little bit more enjoyable now with the par 5 1st to come.

[00:15:27.010]>>Sand is a little powdery this week, we haven't seen many guys spin the golf out of the bunkers. I don't think you can spin it much, but if you've got a little bit of slope, you can definitely get a lot of height on it, which I feel like is, uh, is helpful. Just like Patrick Haley did. He's for eagle. Easy one for Pat there.

[00:15:43.260]>>That's how you do it.

[00:15:46.609]>>So just the ball a little above your feet and a little upslope and you just are able to throw it up in the air a little bit more. Yeah, definitely, definitely.

[00:15:54.640]>>Now Brandt Snedeker, good to see him playing so well yesterday, Hanging in there today, one over par.

[00:16:04.090]>>It's pretty well done. There's gonna be another hole, another hole. Look at this. This is ridiculous. This is ridiculous. I tell you what, you come out here and everybody starts holding it from everywhere. I'm gonna have to go in. This is, uh, this is the last, last minute.

[00:16:18.830]>>Wow, what a shot from Brandt Snedeker. That was about a 40 yard long bunker shot, which is not easy.

[00:16:26.679]>>All the way across the green at the 9th.

[00:16:29.590]>>Long range left to right, such an important day for Norlander.

[00:16:35.250]>>Oh, has he done it? Oh, what a bonus.

[00:16:39.179]>>From the Swede, playing on a sponsor's exemption, 4 birdies on his front nine.

[00:16:47.820]>>Im for birdie at the 11th.

[00:16:53.200]>>Very straight and quick.

[00:16:56.780]>>Oh, always in. Really just taking care of business today without his best stuff, Sungjae.

[00:17:05.109]>>And we're starting to see this compression now. No one really breaking out. Everybody is starting to pile up.

[00:17:12.300]>>Svensson, good angle to the pin, and a beautiful shot, stands to attention and that's a, a tap in, get him to plus one.

[00:17:22.780]>>This for share. Sungjae Im tight spiral and it hits the mark.

[00:17:33.930]>>At 11, this should have some pace, a little nudge, that's about it.

[00:17:38.420]>>Get to 5 under. OK, 3 back Tom Kim.

[00:17:42.699]>>He's got that pep in his step.

[00:17:46.930]>>Barely any breeze.

[00:17:49.719]>>Ideal conditions right now.

[00:17:52.140]>>OK, pay attention to this.

[00:17:55.380]>>He's just, he's the Terminator. He's so locked in.

[00:18:01.319]>>With his mid irons.

[00:18:03.500]>> Sungjae Im would go on to birdie 17 and maintain a 1-shot lead through 36 holes. The 3rd round is coming up next.

[00:18:20.650]>>25th anniversary of this wonderful championship. We're just outside of Tampa, Florida on the west coast of the Sunshine State in Palm Harbor.

[00:18:31.280]>>And the breezes yesterday laid down in the afternoon. The golf course was there for the taking, but this morning, the wind's up, gusting maybe to 25 miles an hour and from a completely different direction.

[00:18:44.719]>>This par 71 has averaged nearly a shot over par for the first two rounds. Today, well, we might see a little bit more carnage, especially as we make our way down to the last three holes of the snake pit.

[00:18:57.989]>>If you want to take advantage of the golf course, you better get out and do it early. S.H. Kim at the first James Nitties, this for Eagle. Well, picking up from where he left off yesterday, played the back nine in 4 under. Feeling good with this glove in his hand, that from just outside 20 ft for Eagle.

[00:19:18.180]>>And Laura Davies, how about this young man who is feeling it, Hisatsune.

[00:19:25.540]>>Yeah, he's been a terrific player on the DP World Tour, now over here applying his trade, and I think he's gonna fit in very nicely indeed. Good finish here and maybe next week he could find himself inside the top 50 in the world rankings and a ticket to the masters.

[00:19:40.579]>>At the 12th. Kuala Karl.

[00:19:44.790]>>That'll work. Just add it to the tally of holdouts here this week, the Aussie making a birdie here at 12. The 24-year-old trying to collect his 2nd victory on the PGA TOUR, he's got some work to do.

[00:20:00.000]>>Snedeker, this would feel awfully nice to get one early.

[00:20:07.829]>>Uh-huh, remember the one at the end yesterday just hung on the end of the hole and it didn't go down, it was a bogey, his final hole yesterday. So some redemption for Snedeker.

[00:20:18.560]>>Big Tony Finau just through the back here, downhill.

[00:20:23.310]>>Go on, reach, reach, yep, oh, we've seen some nice putts going in there. Another hole out, Laura.

[00:20:30.920]>>Yeah, keep

[00:20:35.170]>>At the 2nd Snedeker.

[00:20:39.819]>>After that part, he'll be feeling good and this pin absolutely gettable.

[00:20:47.130]>>He would birdie to reach 7 under.

[00:20:53.589]>>Billy's found himself a bit of a spot here, just a little pop shot, there you go.

[00:20:59.109]>>And why not, why not have another one? Now there's a chip in and up and in, loving it. That one actually counts though.

[00:21:09.930]>>At the 5th, Connors now. Can we get another hole out for Laura? Yes we can.

[00:21:15.739]>>We're gonna start nicknaming those.

[00:21:18.949]>>The Laura special.

[00:21:23.760]>>Snedeker, this is the 4th for birdie. Yeah, real chance, left to right, and walking him in.

[00:21:30.530]>>Here we go, age is nothing, it's just a number.

[00:21:34.260]>>And class is permanent, form's temporary, and this man's always had class throughout his career, look at that start.

[00:21:42.349]>>And we've got a close up of the live Sungjae, and he's just under the eyelash here in the back rough.

[00:21:53.829]>>Yeah, that's exactly how you want to start in the final group.

[00:21:58.150]>>Sungjae would tap that in and move to 10 under par.

[00:22:03.619]>>Nicolai, you've seen Rasmus just finish his round on 18. He's still got 11 holes to go. This needs to turn a bit more. Yes, lovely.

[00:22:14.589]>>Here we go, absolute perfection.

[00:22:19.579]>>Now it's see, we've seen a couple of putts from Long here at the 3rd. This is one you have to be delicate with. Oh, big time, this is rapid, and that final 3rd, it really will snap left to right, quite aggressively.

[00:22:35.439]>>Well this is a

[00:22:37.609]>>Great effort here.

[00:22:50.680]>>And Sungjae trying to save a par.

[00:22:53.310]>>Not an easy putt to leave yourself, that's for sure. It's got a big swing on this as well, left to right.

[00:23:02.069]>>What a save. That to avoid a 2 shot swing.

[00:23:07.069]>>I love these overhead views, by the way, they are the best.

[00:23:12.229]>>Now S.H. Kim down the hill, left to right for another birdie. Yeah, just drops it in there, he gets to 7 under. So he's the lowest man on the course now, at 5 under for his round.

[00:23:25.500]>>Rico Hoey plays and once again finds the bottom of the hole.

[00:23:38.030]>>Out of position but maybe caught a break in see Sungjae at 70, he's got a window, he likes this.

[00:23:45.670]>>Great.

[00:23:48.780]>>Had to hit a bit of a punchy one, a low draw, that was an absolute beauty.

[00:23:54.900]>>Well, they followed Brandt, Brandt down here, is for an outside chance of a par turn in, he's leaned on that putter again.

[00:24:03.660]>>And he is hanging tough.

[00:24:09.969]>>Awkward part to read this, especially near the hole, it almost flattens out, it's got to have a hint of left to right for him.

[00:24:19.699]>>Out of the right trees.

[00:24:22.359]>>Put a birdie down for Sungjae.

[00:24:26.619]>>S.H. Kim opened his round with an eagle, then a birdie at 2, another at 10 and 11.

[00:24:33.760]>>And 14 as well, a bogey.

[00:24:36.739]>>At the 13th, and that's gonna cost him 1 at the 18th, but 4-under on the day, 6-under on the tournament.

[00:24:45.630]>>And if the winds kick up and the leaders have to fight the swirling breezes this afternoon, S.H. Kim will have a chance tomorrow.

[00:24:54.500]>>The lead up to extend the lead and up the top, puts Koepka an outside birdie chance. Sungjae first and in she goes.

[00:25:08.219]>>Koepka from long range.

[00:25:11.689]>>Uh it's good pace, but how about Sungjae? Extends his lead on the difficult par 3 by 3 shots now.

[00:25:23.270]>>Snedeker looks to ride the hot putter and he is just filling it up now. My goodness. Big as a bucket. He's got, look at the smile on his face.

[00:25:38.780]>>Yeah, Matt Fitzpatrick down here on 10. He pared the front 9. Not a birdie, not a bogey, just solid golf.

[00:25:48.310]>>Yeah, finally, finally moves in the right direction.

[00:25:52.260]>>Within 6 cause he's just about to change to 6 under.

[00:25:58.050]>>Now Blanchet up by the green. This one looks relatively benign.

[00:26:05.959]>>Yeah.

[00:26:07.729]>>Well, he's enjoyed that, hasn't he? After those two nasty bogeys on 8 and 10.

[00:26:16.880]>>Fitzpatrick, who birdied 10 and 11 as well.

[00:26:21.189]>>oh, yeah, watch out for this man.

[00:26:24.939]>>Yeah, we, we said he he pated the front nine every hole apart and now the back nine. Surely he's not gonna birdie them all, is he?

[00:26:33.400]>>The 4th on the par 5. Yeah, it's that combination between a chip shot or a bunker action.

[00:26:39.400]>>Gonna pop it.

[00:26:41.589]>>How about pop it right in the hole.

[00:26:46.619]>>I think Lipsky heard I.

[00:26:49.439]>>He's like, well, you don't like my action, watch this. You've gotta fire them up somehow, right?

[00:26:56.030]>>At the 13th, Englishman Marco Penge, the 27-year-old.

[00:27:03.459]>>From the fringe, look out.

[00:27:07.750]>>Well, Laura's not gonna be happy, but that counts as another hole out and 3 birdies in the last 4 holes for Penge. and he's really strutting his stuff.

[00:27:17.880]>>I see Sungjae to save par at 12. Yeah, uphill slow, left edge maximum.

[00:27:28.939]>>That's a difficulty too really what you'd say, really well struck irons, all of a sudden one's gone, now you've got the difficult 13th in front of you with a, a tucked right pin, what do you do, do you chase it?

[00:27:40.729]>>It's a tough run in from here, you've got the 14th, but that's about it, that's your only hope.

[00:27:47.640]>>Moment ago, 17, this is Finau's tee shot.

[00:27:59.910]>>That might be the first shot, hang on, wait a minute.

[00:28:02.790]>>I think that might be the first shot we've seen left of the left of the pin and staying on the green.

[00:28:09.349]>>Well this for bogey now for him at 13th.

[00:28:13.260]>>So that's 2 dropped shots for our leader.

[00:28:18.869]>>We jump ahead to the green at 15.

[00:28:24.839]>>is for a share of the lead.

[00:28:34.239]>>David Lipsky.

[00:28:36.859]>>To double digits.

[00:28:41.949]>>Sungjae Im has company.

[00:28:46.280]>>Here's Penge for a closing birdie.

[00:28:50.119]>>But he's got to keep the pace though, he wants to hole it, he has to risk it going a couple of feet past.

[00:28:56.719]>>Otherwise it just dives, oh, he's done it.

[00:29:01.010]>>Hasn't he fought back, double bogey at the 6th hole, but since then, 5 birdies.

[00:29:07.959]>>Players looked exhausted.

[00:29:11.140]>>It's just such a battle out here.

[00:29:15.290]>>At the final hole with the final pairing, and Inci Mehmet has been with them every step of the way.

[00:29:23.869]>>It is an insane atmosphere out here right now. 152 yards uphill, little bit of hurt. Slightly lower down from the fairy, don't feel that breeze as much.

[00:29:40.000]>>Well he seems to like it.

[00:29:42.180]>>Oh, why not? That's the Marco Penge part, will he be able to read it as well as Marco did, maybe a little bit further away.

[00:29:51.260]>>And I he looks like he's pitching, it sure is.

[00:29:55.329]>>Yeah, it was a great lie. He was looking to just try and drive that pitch on the uphill slope, that was a great effort. A testy putt left there for Lipsky, we've got the advantage of seeing it all day, can he manage it?

[00:30:10.900]>>It's the hair of left to right to make a statement. Finish off with a birdie.

[00:30:22.359]>>Just like that.

[00:30:24.359]>>A 2 shot lead restored.

[00:30:27.949]>>That was a well played hole.

[00:30:30.640]>>He's been one of the best on the greens, and he looked the part. James, you said it earlier, if he could find fairways, you didn't think anyone could catch him.

[00:30:37.680]>>Well it was a big fair way to hit and birdie to finish. Now this important for Lipsky.

[00:30:47.430]>>Beautifully done. So missable that, really good chip from the bottom of the hill.

[00:30:53.469]>>I don't think he'll be playing in that last group tomorrow, but maybe that's a good thing, he can relax a little bit.

[00:31:00.000]>>Sungjae Im looking to complete a wire-to-wire win as Englishman Matt Fitzpatrick and Marco Penge loom at 8 under par. The final round is next.

[00:31:14.400]>>We are here and we are playing for history and we're playing for the players that came before us.

[00:31:20.209]>>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.

[00:31:48.229]>>Final round coverage of the Valspar Championship.

[00:31:53.459]>>25 years, the PGA TOUR has been coming to the Tampa area, to the Copperhead Course here at the Innisbrook Resort and Golf Club. It is notoriously one of the most difficult tests on the PGA TOUR. And yesterday we were expecting high gusty winds. They never arrived, so the scoring yesterday, the best it's been all week, and we expect more of that today, championship Sunday here at the Valspar Championship.

[00:32:22.790]>>Ned Michaels, Laura Davies, James Nitties, and Inci Mehmet with you all day long.

[00:32:30.099]>>It's a golf course that has firmed up.

[00:32:33.430]>>It has browned out and it's going to give the players all they want today.

[00:32:39.339]>> Sungjae, 27 years old, Snedeker, 45.

[00:32:44.839]>>And James Nitties.

[00:32:47.150]>>It's gonna be a battle, a war of attrition out here today. I can't wait, er, totally different stories at the top of the leaderboard. You got Im, he could go wire-to-wire. Snedeker winding back the clock.

[00:33:00.219]>>Getting up-and-down from everywhere, and then a couple of young guns, Englishmen, Penge, uh, it's just, it's really what we want from a final round at a difficult golf course. And Laura, the golf course is going to have a big say in who walks out of here champion. Yeah, it most certainly is. I mean the, the scoring again this morning, really good, it's playing nearly half a shot under par, but we've.

[00:33:19.765]>>Seen that every day. The early starters get off to a, a, a nice round post 67, 68, and then as the day goes on, the course firms up and the leaders will struggle more and the scoring will start going up. So it's hard to pick it, but Sungjae with that uh two shot lead, looking good, but I just have a feeling about Matt Fitzpatrick.

[00:33:40.430]>> Hisatsune at the 9

[00:33:44.459]>>Only 399 m today, but it's played as,

[00:33:48.510]>>The hardest hole all week long.

[00:33:52.540]>>And that was spectacular from Fairway Bunker. Gets it up in the air.

[00:33:59.160]>>And you can see the heat coming off of the turf. It's gonna be.

[00:34:04.229]>>A day at the golf course just keeps getting dried out and firms up as Bridgeman attacks.

[00:34:10.418]>>Be good shot from Bridgeman.

[00:34:16.550]>>That's S.H. Kim, and he's at the first. Somewhere over those trees is the green and the flag.

[00:34:22.570]>>Can he hoist it up in the air with a nice fade.

[00:34:25.850]>>He's an aggressive player

[00:34:28.500]>>Looking forward to this final round with him, and that was straight at it. Just got a kick out to the left, that's a really good shot for Eagle.

[00:34:39.898]>>First look at the 18th today, the 2nd for Lebioda.

[00:34:43.860]>>Well, it doesn't often say for eagle.

[00:34:47.550]>>Unless

[00:34:50.209]>>Now that, Laura is a hole out. And that's a real hole out for sure, that's the 2nd 2 of the week here at 18, Corey Connors in the 1st round did that, so it's not that easy a hole, it's played the 7th hardest through the 1st 3 rounds, but what a nice way to finish.

[00:35:10.419]>>As for Birdie after a fantastic fairway medal, S.H. Kim gets off on the good foot.

[00:35:19.040]>>Woodland at 5 down the hill for birdie and James.

[00:35:25.350]>>There you go, Gary, just pump. There's a hole out. Mark it on the tally.

[00:35:31.790]>>The Lord of special nonetheless putter from off the green.

[00:35:38.729]>>Now, he could do with that little 2 we just saw a few groups ago, but a 3 would be nice post 80, he's hit another lovely shot, what a round of golf this has been today.

[00:35:51.889]>>Kevin, you ball back in his stance.

[00:35:54.909]>>The 4th rough is just wiry enough where if you get a lot you can manage it.

[00:36:06.199]>>Right in the middle of the fairway, Fitzpatrick firing away at the 3rd.

[00:36:10.790]>>Wind off the right back right flag.

[00:36:14.899]>>Oh this is a beauty.

[00:36:17.689]>>He's starting to settle in now.

[00:36:23.000]>>Oh, this is now plugged for Sungjae. Unfortunately, a fried egg and a scrambled brain, it's not been a good start.

[00:36:31.879]>>Can't get any spin out of this light.

[00:36:35.790]>>Well, he can have 10 out of 10 from me for that, uh, to leave himself just that is absolutely magnificent.

[00:36:42.129]>>Fitzpatrick at the 3rd for Birdie to get to 9 under, 2 back.

[00:36:47.919]>>He's got it. Sungjae in trouble back at the 2nd.

[00:36:53.780]>>Every single day up till now, he's got something to lose, whereas the chasing pack, they've got nothing to lose, they're playing to win.

[00:37:00.820]>>This would be absolutely crucial just for a momentum standpoint.

[00:37:12.100]>>Yeah, well, it was a really good attempt to make his putt.

[00:37:16.290]>>Well, you couldn't have walked out and placed it any better if you were Marco Penge at the 3rd. Yeah, aggressive drive pushed it all the way down here.

[00:37:24.330]>>And takes advantage, that's a beauty from Penge.

[00:37:31.310]>>Brooks for birdie

[00:37:34.370]>>at par 3, the 8th, trying to get to 5 under par on the par 3s now this week.

[00:37:41.830]>>Oh, thank you very much. That is an extraordinary stat, 500 on the par 3s.

[00:37:49.209]>>Hey, let's go.

[00:37:51.159]>>Over to 9. Jordan Smith for birdie.

[00:38:00.000]>>Huge birdie at the hole that's played the toughest all week long.

[00:38:05.280]>>So Marco was over here, a man of the people, and he was able to take a, a free drop, so the 3rd shot now for the Englishman. No room here, look at that, the face wide open again.

[00:38:18.689]>>Almost 80 degrees.

[00:38:21.820]>>Oh, this is beautiful.

[00:38:24.719]>>Really good recovery.

[00:38:27.639]>>I had to 18

[00:38:29.949]>> Xander Schauffele with his final approach of the day.

[00:38:38.570]>>He's just going to run out of real estate, isn't he? He won't leave just yet.

[00:38:42.989]>>Jaeger for.

[00:38:44.750]>>A Laura special over here.

[00:38:48.469]>>See if he can pull it out from off the green.

[00:38:52.520]>>There we go. Finally, a birdie here at the 15th.

[00:38:58.820]>>Back to 18.

[00:39:01.770]>>And it's a closing 6 under 65 for Xander Schauffele. He takes the clubhouse lead at 8 under par. Inci, what about for Brandt?

[00:39:11.500]>>Yeah, once again, quite amazed that he managed to get the ball here. I very much saw that almost layup shot out to the right side of the green, but he did very well, almost going for this.

[00:39:23.159]>>This is for the par putt though, up the hill.

[00:39:26.330]>>A bit left to right.

[00:39:28.840]>>No.

[00:39:31.520]>>First tentative putt from him, I feel. It's par 5, taking no prisoners, I mean, we saw Brand lay it up on that left side being, would have been blocked out there and.

[00:39:43.590]>>Fitzpatrick now trying to stay in the lead.

[00:39:52.159]>>They're the parts.

[00:39:55.439]>> A.J. Ewart.

[00:39:57.659]>>At 15 here, James.

[00:40:00.199]>>The Canadian

[00:40:02.520]>>Long range, maybe this is a spot to putt from, it is. So there's the 2nd birdie of the day, and he is lighting up this back nine.

[00:40:11.959]>>In the 2nd for Sungjae.

[00:40:14.270]>>Got a big gap, as in he doesn't have a gap wedge, just pitching wedge and then the 54 degree handoff, but this is looking OK.

[00:40:23.149]>>Take that for a one-arm swing.

[00:40:26.919]>>Ahead to 15 tee. Jordan Spieth at 5 under overall. Jordan.

[00:40:34.350]>>Jordan, Jordan Spieth, don't mind if you do.

[00:40:40.209]>>That is the closest we have seen so far in this final round. Tony Finau here's come up just short, probably hit it on that false, that's not really a false front, but you have to pitch it on the green.

[00:40:53.949]>>Well,

[00:40:55.550]>>Kinda knew that was happening somehow.

[00:40:58.520]>>Lovely stuff, perfect contact.

[00:41:05.070]>>As we catch up with Snedeker 2nd at the 8.

[00:41:10.260]>>Unsurprisingly, get out of jail free card has been played. What a par that's gonna be. Magnificent.

[00:41:18.000]>>3rd, 4th.

[00:41:19.790]>>Lipsky at the 9th.

[00:41:22.580]>>Front hole location. Oh, he nearly dunked it. Nearly two hopped it in, that is.

[00:41:31.399]>>And Jordan Smith could tie the lead.

[00:41:35.610]>>Terrific bunker shot to get it to there, superb. It will break from here. He's done it.

[00:41:43.379]>>We'll be right back with the conclusion of the Valspar Championship.

[00:41:49.840]>>We welcome you back to the 12th hole. Tom Kim, 2nd shot, 167 yards.

[00:41:58.719]>>Oh my goodness.

[00:42:04.379]>>OK, listen to the contact for Jordan Smith.

[00:42:10.139]>>OK.

[00:42:12.100]>>You said it, Ned, it would have been easier out of the bunker, but that strike sounded lovely.

[00:42:19.320]>>But now you can hear the fans on 17 oohing and ahing.

[00:42:24.379]>>3rd shot for Lipsky. He's been.

[00:42:27.419]>>He's been steady, he's been smart. Are you surprised Marco's pitching this?

[00:42:33.139]>>Well, he hasn't got a lot of room to land there, it's easy.

[00:42:37.360]>>I like the confidence. There's a lot of fair way to cover to hit a putt there.

[00:42:42.739]>>Good lie here, right to left.

[00:42:51.189]>>Good work.

[00:42:56.399]>>That'll be to stay at 9 under.

[00:43:11.800]>>Huge swing for.

[00:43:14.280]>>Smith, 17.

[00:43:17.530]>>Oh he's got this on a great line, is it enough? Yes it is. Look at this shot.

[00:43:23.770]>>From the Englishman, what a time to do it at the long par 3.

[00:43:30.649]>>Now at 11, Sungjae.

[00:43:36.280]>>Good, right.

[00:43:41.250]>>Is that what Sungjae needed?

[00:43:43.879]>>A little bit of luck. Pavon at.

[00:43:47.199]>>18.

[00:43:48.820]>>Very quick putt here.

[00:43:52.100]>>The Frenchman looking to get a 6 under.

[00:43:56.169]>>What a way to finish.

[00:44:01.360]>>Sneaks just outside.

[00:44:04.189]>>Of the top 10.

[00:44:06.149]>>15th hole, now Smith, this for the solo lead.

[00:44:16.179]>>Another one slides by.

[00:44:20.739]>>Yeah, he doesn't have any room to work with, got free relief because his foot was on the path and that lie a little bit better. It's slashing across this one. It's almost as good as he could have done. Yeah, I was gonna say that looked obviously he did get the drop but.

[00:44:36.689]>>Tied for the lead.

[00:44:46.620]>>He left it out a bit, yep, sit there though, sit there. Well, that is not easy. Now back to 12, Snedeker this for par.

[00:44:59.449]>>Oh.

[00:45:00.939]>>It's on a good line, just too much pace.

[00:45:06.479]>>He obviously fancied that one.

[00:45:14.459]>>He just felt that that was gonna be a tough putt.

[00:45:19.070]>>All of a sudden he drops to 72 back. Has his luck run out? Hopefully not.

[00:45:25.639]>>Back to 18, Jordan Smith for birdie to take the clubhouse lead.

[00:45:30.830]>>I never ever got it online.

[00:45:34.570]>>The Englishman makes 4 to finish 9 under par.

[00:45:38.469]>>Fairway metal out looks like he's going to attack and In Mehmet has moved over to this duo.

[00:45:44.570]>>The 3 wood, everything he's got with this club, slight dogle left to right, but he's completely going over the trees, taking on the corner, which he has to strike it while you're playing it over the water.

[00:45:57.820]>>You're gonna miss it, right is slightly better than left.

[00:46:04.600]>>You get it? I caught it. All right. Well, Caddie is asking, he wants to get confirmation, yeah, and he did get it too. And that's a nice leave.

[00:46:15.699]>>This just a moment ago at 14, Lipsky.

[00:46:20.810]>>Very nice, left himself the perfect spot.

[00:46:30.850]>>Oh, it was bound to happen, wasn't it?

[00:46:43.090]>>This for a share Lipsky.

[00:46:46.270]>>Just will not go away, refuses to go quietly.

[00:46:52.239]>>Last isn't a guaranteed par, but this feels like it's gotta be for at least a chance sniff of the championship.

[00:47:09.570]>>What an opportunity missed.

[00:47:13.399]>>All the work done off the tee shot, there's only been one player to make it from that part of the green today.

[00:47:19.909]>>It has been no friend, the 17th, James, to David Lipsky, 4 over in his 17 rounds here.

[00:47:31.969]>>No need to take this flag on for Lipsky.

[00:47:38.260]>>But he did anyway.

[00:47:41.639]>>Now he gets a

[00:47:43.780]>>Chance at the putt. Sungjae through the back of 16, looks like a ropey old light. Maybe something good's gonna happen for him on this torturous day, just pop it in the air, land it on the fringe, maybe just on the green and roll it out.

[00:47:58.340]>>Light this crowd up.

[00:48:15.350]>>Sungjae Im.

[00:48:20.989]>>It's a little too late, but.

[00:48:24.060]>>He's not done just yet.

[00:48:27.080]>>I head to David Lipsky, 16 ft away, putting for birdie to take the solo lead.

[00:48:40.540]>>Can he hit it?

[00:48:46.350]>>Left it short in the middle.

[00:48:51.479]>>That's nerves right there, leaving that short. And up to the 18th second for Fitzpatrick Inci. I think he's a little bit in between clubs, 118 yards uphill.

[00:49:03.500]>>Flag right at the front, you need some spin to attack this one.

[00:49:11.360]>>That is the perfect leave, unless you're gonna knock it absolutely stone dead, that's as easy a putt as you're gonna have on 18.

[00:49:18.790]>>Get a face full of mud there.

[00:49:24.219]>>And he's got that bit of extra distance and that low bullet shot, now Lipsky needs one of those right here. Has to find the fairway.

[00:49:34.310]>>It's not a tight line, he needs some help.

[00:49:38.500]>>Come on, get a bounce.

[00:49:42.179]>>Shut down.

[00:49:52.679]>>And David Lipsky would be in the fairway watching.

[00:49:57.830]>>One more birdie.

[00:49:59.739]>>On the way, Fitzpatrick.

[00:50:03.439]>>Nailed it.

[00:50:13.330]>>A fabulous finish from Fitzpatrick, what a time.

[00:50:18.770]>>To birdie the 18th for the 1st time.

[00:50:22.770]>>Here at the Copperhead Course.

[00:50:25.479]>>Never a doubt.

[00:50:38.770]>>Back to the right rough on 18, David Lipsky needing a birdie to force a playoff.

[00:50:47.689]>>Oh.

[00:50:54.149]>>Oh, it didn't jump, but if it's, it's gonna go off the edge, it's gonna have the, oh no, now there's a, a nice little stop, that looked like it was going down in the swale, that's a legitimate chance.

[00:51:08.370]>>This was the 2nd for Marco Penge.

[00:51:15.659]>>Nearly for the 2nd time. Remember we saw Hank Lebioda hold out.

[00:51:20.530]>>So Fitzpatrick's fate now in this man's hands and

[00:51:24.909]>>There have been a few players from here, Laura.

[00:51:28.889]>>To have this same shot, but no one has made it yet today.

[00:51:32.679]>>Has to have it.

[00:51:43.050]>>That's the pace.

[00:51:45.199]>>Has the pace, but not quite the line.

[00:51:48.530]>>It's low for Lipsky, and so it's Fitzpatrick.

[00:51:54.850]>>In a flurry to the finish, a birdie at the last.

[00:52:01.050]>>The Englishman is back in the winner's circle again.

[00:52:05.610]>>Tip your cap to David Lipsky, he hung in there all day, never left, he was one under but smiles and laughs and well earned.

[00:52:14.850]>>The 2026 Valspar Championship winner is Matthew Fitzpatrick.

[00:52:22.790]>>One week after coming up one shot short of Cameron Young at THE PLAYERS Championship, Fitzpatrick seals the deal with a birdie on the 72nd hole, winning his third tour title by a shot, his first since the 2023 RBC heritage. This concludes the PGA TOUR's coverage of the Valspar Championship from the Copperhead Course at Innisbrook Resort in Palm Harbor, Florida.