

Production Transcript for **26INTCUTCH - MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CHAMPIONSHIP**

[00:00:42.049]>>Today's coverage is brought to you by Mitsubishi Electric Train HVAC, official HVAC products of the PGA TOUR and PGA TOUR Champions. Charles Schwab, the official investment firm of the PGA TOUR.

[00:00:57.250]>>Peter Millar, luxury meets performance.

[00:01:08.779]>>You know, Fred Couples was telling us on the range, he goes, you better get your cameras out there and start following Jay Haas. We're like, we don't want to jinx him either.

[00:01:17.160]>>But Fred was pure in it and he's off to a good start, off to a good start, you know, this guy, I've heard he's been under the weather a little bit and he just showed up here a couple of days ago. He probably hadn't played much golf, but talk about making it look effortless. Fred. Thank you.

[00:01:32.355]>>Is that, was that par there? That was par there. Well, you look at these three guys, you talk about different energies Freddy Couples, Vijay, and Bernhard Langer. There's 3 different ways to go about it exactly right. Now David Duval has a putt for Birdie, and, you know, Jay, I mean, he's been grinding the last couple of years after working in TV, and you kind of root for a guy like that to, to finally get it all to come together because he was such a great player.

[00:01:58.129]>>I played with David a couple years ago and he still has it by

[00:02:03.870]>>All intents and purposes, he, he is still as long as he needs to be, uh, beautiful rhythm.

[00:02:11.660]>>And I told him, I said, David,

[00:02:14.059]>>And I, I meant it as a compliment. I said, you should be doing better, you know, because you still have it, and I think he really wants it. He's working hard at it. And is there a place in your mind, you know, mentally where you just freeze and stall, or like, you know, that's the next challenge for David Duval? Can he continue to grind and concentrate? These guys love those little close-in bunker shots like that. All right, John Cook, nice start from Mike Weir. Yeah, good to see left-handed Canadian Mike Weir see playing good here on the.

[00:02:41.759]>>First round, he still loves this pin little.

[00:02:45.619]>>Left to right, a little draw in there. Beautiful shot. Yeah, it is. He still swings fast. His, his clubhead speed is, is still ballistic. He's strong. Yeah, he is.

[00:02:55.490]>>Now Vijay Singh for his birdie at 12.

[00:03:00.000]>>Fun little hole downhill.

[00:03:02.919]>>Just a short iron and right off the center of the stick.

[00:03:07.419]>>That's probably exactly where he was aiming, Bob. All right, Rocco.

[00:03:12.250]>>See how silky smooth that is, oh yeah.

[00:03:16.160]>>Like a kid without a care in the world, Rocco had a way. Birdie. Good round for Rocco Mediate. Richard Green for Birdie. He got his first win on the PGA TOUR Champions at the Rodgers charity last year.

[00:03:30.100]>>Pours that in.

[00:03:32.429]>>I was gonna say he was going more for like that.

[00:03:35.470]>>Bing Crosby, Bob Hope look from back in the day.

[00:03:40.710]>>Steve Flesch for birdie at 16. Never seen a lefty that couldn't putt. There's another one.

[00:03:47.949]>>That way, Flay, he, he's, uh, still strong and swinging great at it.

[00:04:07.020]>>Steven Ames coming off kind of a, I would say a little bit of an off year, really the first kind of off year for him in a while. Oh yeah, I mean, it was, he, he was nowhere near the player that he's been he had won 3 times a year before that was in the race for the Schwab Cup, and Ernie, the opposite was in contention a lot, and he didn't putt like that. That is, uh, really the only thing that held him back from winning 3 or 4 last year's own self. He or Davis from.

[00:04:35.910]>>Way downtown. Yeah, I'm not sure that.

[00:04:40.399]>>The TV view can pay justice to how steep that slope is where he's putting from. That's one of your worst case scenario putts, Bob. You go to that portion of the last year, remember we did it all the way down to 18, yeah, all the way at the back trying to putt down towards the front. That was the hardest putt we could find.

[00:05:00.269]>>What a view.

[00:05:01.809]>>And see if Steve Flesch can.

[00:05:04.000]>>Rolling this putt for birdie at 17.

[00:05:08.109]>>Good 2 for Flish. He gets it for 4 under back-to-back birdies.

[00:05:13.420]>>Go.

[00:05:17.230]>>Well, Jim Furyk has this putt for birdie. Jim has dealt with injuries. You ask the question, is he a Hall of Famer?

[00:05:24.040]>>If you look at others that are in the Hall of Fame.

[00:05:28.200]>>17 wins.

[00:05:30.489]>>Won a US Open

[00:05:32.880]>>He won the TOUR Championship.

[00:05:35.390]>>Had the lead at the players in 2019. Birdied the last couple of holes and posted a number. Just Rory beat him. It's not like he lost it. Rory just went past him, shot 59, maybe 58 at Hartford.

[00:05:51.239]>>And he's won 3 times on the PGA TOUR Champions, including a major. I would say absolutely Hall of Fame.

[00:05:58.799]>>All these guys that, you know, are still kind of searching, maybe coming back from injury, maybe didn't have a last, a good last year.

[00:06:07.109]>>They're all looking for that one thing, you know, that maybe I'm doing that you're not, just, just this little element of self-belief.

[00:06:14.640]>>That'll get them back on track. The confidence can come back really almost instantly, Bob. Well, you think about this man, Mike Weir, right? I mean, he's had chances to win a lot of events, the PGA TOUR Champions, just, you know, some things have gone wrong on Sunday, not able to finish it off, but

[00:06:35.540]>>He's got more than enough game to win consistently out here.

[00:06:41.970]>>And Vijay has a great attitude, you know, to this day.

[00:06:46.149]>>He outthinks most guys. He out prepares. We all know he hits more balls than anybody.

[00:06:52.000]>>But Stewart Cink, uh, got the big reward, didn't he?

[00:06:56.049]>>And it, it was for him, it was as simple as the process, like not taking a single shot off.

[00:07:03.380]>>Well, I mean, this is a big weekend in the NFL with conference championship games and that's how these teams got there through the gauntlet is one play at a time, never looking ahead.

[00:07:17.339]>>I just thought it was interesting. It felt, it felt like to me that, uh, it was a kind of a way to think. I know this is how Freddie thinks, you know, he deflects and he, uh, redirects the pressure.

[00:07:27.619]>>And I felt like that was what Stewart had done. When he had his chance to win. I'm sticking to my process and whatever happens, happens.

[00:07:39.940]>>Couples to 6 under. Easy birdie for Freddie.

[00:07:44.089]>>It's like falling off a log.

[00:07:53.609]>>Miguel just pours that in.

[00:07:56.350]>>A familiar cross-handed style got him to 5-under. Now, Steven Ames for birdie and this post 8 under. Now, this could be round of the day if he can get it.

[00:08:08.709]>>Looks good.

[00:08:15.320]>>So Ames pours that in.

[00:08:18.260]>>And shoots 64.

[00:08:35.789]>>Dustin Leonard still strokes it nice. They practice, you know, they go, they show up, you know, their first thing. They all go right straight to the putting green when they get to the course.

[00:08:45.750]>>Most of them start from short range. Some start hitting long lags and when they jump on the green, most start from short range.

[00:08:54.530]>>Just a moment ago, Bernhard Langer.

[00:08:57.530]>>For his birdie at 18.

[00:09:09.890]>>Oh

[00:09:11.630]>>Good role for Langer there and.

[00:09:15.049]>>Tap that in for.

[00:09:17.950]>>2 under par 70 for today.

[00:09:22.080]>>Not a bad score. He came here with multiple drivers in the bag. I heard that and, uh.

[00:09:28.010]>>He told me he hadn't played a lot.

[00:09:30.559]>>So he wanted to knock a little rust off and he sure did with a couple under par. Now, Ernie Els at 17.

[00:09:41.619]>>It might be a 7 iron for Ernie here.

[00:09:44.859]>>It's gonna be an 8 iron all day every day for most of the field, but with that breeze now, it's got some left or right in it. Is that Pacific starting to get a little angry looking out there. The whitecaps, the wind is definitely picking up.

[00:10:06.059]>>But I knew I was going to be out prepared by these guys. Look at this guy go. What a birdie at 17. Well, he's gotten it to 2-under, 6-under after making the quad at the 5th hole. Look at that ugly little thing on that scorecard.

[00:10:24.409]>>Good putt there.

[00:10:32.260]>>Yeah, sports psychologists could learn from these guys.

[00:10:43.349]>>So Ernie with.

[00:10:46.780]>>More than enough left here for his par.

[00:10:55.549]>>This is the range right here, Bob. When he runs these in, you know, his confidence source. Obviously, we've only seen him miss one today maybe that was makeable. He has been money.

[00:11:08.929]>>Yeah, the birdie at 15.

[00:11:14.250]>>Great look here. Give him like 7 ft. Not much to this. If it does anything, it might fall just a little to the right, but not much. I think if he hits it straight, he would make it.

[00:11:27.760]>>That's a good read. I was actually on the screen earlier today and did a ton of putts from over there pin high right because I figured that's where everybody would be.

[00:11:35.940]>>It's pretty straight like you say, but if it, it could go right.

[00:11:41.380]>>And it did.

[00:11:43.210]>>Hm, yeah, well, yeah, with speed too yeah.

[00:11:48.580]>>Yeah, he's got a little chicken left there.

[00:11:53.929]>>There's definitely an influence of that, uh, volcano up the top of the hill there. And you saw what is it, the largest mountain in the world from the bottom of the ocean to the summit, yeah, summit, yeah, how about that 33,000 ft. We drove over to the

Kila whale volcano the other day and we had 40 degrees going up over the hill here in Hawaii.

[00:12:19.429]>>When we're playing golf, it's about 75 and perfect.

[00:12:24.400]>>So Stewart Cink shoots a 6 under par 66. Steven Ames with a bogey-free 64 today. Couples, Jacobsson at 7 under par. Still can't get over the Jay Haas story today shooting that 6 under 66. David Duval, Mike Weir, Richard Green, all with 6 under par.

[00:12:56.369]>>Paradise for the PGA TOUR Champions. The first event of the year, the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, the Four Seasons Hualalai playing host for the 30th consecutive year in Paradise.

[00:13:10.320]>>Take a look at some of the highlights from earlier today and Ángel Cabrera, 3-time winner last year, off to a fast start. He played a 6-hole stretch, 7-under, including this birdie at the 7th, went out in 29. Freddie Jacobson had a really good day in round number 1, rolls this in for birdie at the 3rd. This would get Jacobson to 10 under par, looking for his first win on the PGA TOUR Champions.

[00:13:37.299]>>Fred Couples, 4 times a runner-up here at Hualalai after a birdie at the 4th, his gorgeous tee shot, Paul Azinger at the 5th. Well, we know it was a 7 iron because Freddie's using hybrids, 6 iron through to the 3 iron, and, uh, that is a great shot. He'd go on to make birdie there, gets a 9 under par. Guy's taking

[00:13:57.426]>>Advantage of the par 5s. This was Cabrera at the 10th, plays a gorgeous pitch, avoids the sprinkler head, sets up another birdie opportunity, which he would convert on. That would get him to 12 under, 8-under on his round today. Steven Ames, who shot 64 in the opening round, well, he rolls in this putt for birdie over.

[00:14:17.552]>>At 6, and Ames right in the mix did not win last year on the PGA TOUR Champions after winning 7 times in the previous 2 years. With the win down, they are going

low. Ángel Cabrera, 8 under today, leads by 1 here in round two of the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Haalala.

[00:14:42.640]>>PGA TOUR champion.

[00:14:45.330]>>Proudly presents the year-long race for the Charles Schwab Cup, coast of Hawaii. It's 2nd round coverage of the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai.

[00:14:57.679]>>And for the 30th consecutive year, four seasons, Hawaii playing host to the Mitsubishi Electric Championship, absolute paradise. So many gorgeous things on this Kona coast and the weather is Chamber of Commerce, 81 degrees and sunny. The wind is down, and there is a lot of excitement on the property in this 30th edition.

[00:15:19.229]>>From the Four Seasons Hualalai and the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at stake that trophy, which means so much to the players who will hoist it this week. Ernie Els is the defending champion here at Hualalai. Bob Poppa along with Paul Azinger, so glad you can join us. John Cook won twice on this property. He's out on the golf course.

[00:15:45.099]>>Let's go out to the seventh where David Duval has this for birdie. David shot a bogey-free 6 under 66 yesterday. He sure did, and that was a tremendous start, and he has not gotten off to a lot of great starts, but, uh, a little different here this week and.

[00:16:00.880]>>You know, you come here to relax, Bob, and then all of a sudden you shoot a score like that, uh, suddenly, it turns into something different this week for David Duval. Yeah, I was talking to David Duval. He was going through his warm-up and he said, you know, we had the nervousness, the excitement yesterday, kind of getting things started. He had dealt with some injuries to his knees and shoulder, got that worked on in the offseason and said, you know, I feel really good about my game and the way I'm progressing over the last couple of years. Stewart Cink is the reigning Schwab Cup champion. He's got this for birdie.

[00:16:31.020]>>He really hasn't taken any time off after the Schwab Cup win. He's been trotting about. I know he went down to play a practice round at the concession there. Actually didn't play. He rode around the course prepping for the upcoming senior PGA Championship there. So he's still hustling. He's not taking any time off until after the tournament in Naples. Mention David Duval who, you know,

[00:16:53.219]>>Took time off after the regular tour and worked in television and then trying to get that game back. He has really battled over the last couple of years and feels it's all coming together for him now. Well, I watched him hit balls. He's very specific. He's very regimented in how he goes about it, um,

[00:17:10.880]>>And I think, you know, it takes great concentration.

[00:17:13.989]>>When you don't do that, I think it's a learned behavior for sure.

[00:17:18.719]>>If he can put it all together, really just stay one shot at a time, why can't he win? He still has the heart for it.

[00:17:26.660]>>Jim Furyk, good to see him healthy again. He has this putt for birdie to get to 9 under. Yeah, had his hip replaced. Says his back's still a little tight, you know, but, uh,

[00:17:38.239]>>Nothing a little workout can't take care of. Good start for Furyk here in the 2nd round.

[00:17:43.920]>>Uh, this was a moment ago. Y.E. Yang.

[00:17:47.630]>>PGA Championship winner.

[00:17:50.119]>>Playing his 2nd at the 10th with that hole in the front low hole location and.

[00:17:56.410]>>Y.E. leaves it right below the hole, so he'll have a very makeable putt for eagle.

[00:18:03.089]>>Now Cabrera trying to bounce back for his birdie at the 12th.

[00:18:09.680]>>Well, this is an intimidating figure. I have to tell you. He is so confident, so powerful, and, uh, he's like major-minded. You know what I mean? Look at that scorecard.

[00:18:23.369]>>That's a major-minded brain. He is really an incredible player still.

[00:18:33.459]>>Now, Freddie Jacobsen for eagle at the 7th. After that beautiful 2nd here on the par 5, now putting up the hill, not much to this. You, you think it might want to go away from the mountain and move to the right, but it really doesn't. It kind of moves to the left.

[00:18:50.810]>>Slightly

[00:18:52.819]>>He's one of the most reliable guys on the greens, I think.

[00:18:59.680]>>Oh, good try.

[00:19:04.849]>>Putter will always make the difference for a guy like Freddie Jacobson, you know, he kind of has to be sort of red hot. Although I keep saying I do believe his swings better now than ever. All right, Y.E. Yang trying to pay off that nice shot into 10 with an eagle, and this would get him to 10 under.

[00:19:23.040]>>Doesn't it feel like the entire field is at least 7 under? It feels like it. Look at those birdies.

[00:19:29.739]>>What a start.

[00:19:31.630]>>Now over at the 7th, Fred Couples trying to.

[00:19:37.310]>>Knock another birdie in. Yeah, nice little pitch shot from just shore of the green. You have to pay attention to this one, guys. It does have a little bit of right to left movement.

[00:19:59.479]>>Right in the middle, perfect speed and a terrific start. Flawless golf for Fred Couples.

[00:20:06.300]>>4 in a row for couples.

[00:20:09.030]>>Yeah it's him to 11. Well, it's always fun to watch him. He's gonna get his airtime today. Steven Ames, who loves to get airtime.

[00:20:17.680]>>Fusses when he doesn't

[00:20:24.760]>>Yeah, not much to that. Nice up-and-down.

[00:20:27.500]>>Keep playing like that, he'll be on camera every day.

[00:20:32.699]>>Now Jacobson for his birdie.

[00:20:40.130]>>Yeah, that eagle putt just narrowly missed on that right-hand corner.

[00:20:46.609]>>Freddie Jacobson trying to become the 7th player to win here at Hualalai in his debut on the property. Last to do it, Darren Clarke in 2021.

[00:21:03.020]>>Had a nice chat with Steve Flesch today on the range and

[00:21:07.000]>>Oh, he's grinding away. He has this putt for eagle at 10.

[00:21:12.000]>>Oh, look at that.

[00:21:14.869]>>Come on, you can smile. Come on, flesh. It was so good. That's another beautiful scorecard.

[00:21:21.729]>>Stewart, sink for birdie attack. Pretty confident. Stewart Cink, man, I'll tell you what, he's gonna be a force again this year. I'm sure of it. His desires are the same.

[00:21:31.589]>>Let's go to 17. Tommy Gainey for birdie. What a story last year as an open qualifier, he wins the Constellation Furyk and Friends to earn exemption into the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai. So he gets a win and he earned the Rookie of the Year for the PGA TOUR Champions and gave a nice speech the other night at the awards dinner.

[00:21:57.079]>>Twenty-third player in history to win on the Korn Ferry Tour, the PGA TOUR, and the PGA TOUR Champions.

[00:22:05.170]>>See if Fred Couples can make it 5 in a row. Cookie? Yeah, after that brilliant tee shot on this par 3 down the hill, it's gonna pay off. He does. What a run Fred Couples is on. Yeah, no kidding.

[00:22:19.969]>>It's timeless, you know, he still makes it look easy. What a streak of birdies. That one. John Steven Ames ready to go. Yeah, he played a lot of golf in the offseason. Watching his Instagram, he was over in New Zealand with his wife Kelly, and he played golf all the time, a bunch of different great golf courses. So he's come in here. This is a beautiful tee shot right in the wind. Watch this ball take off. Boy, look at that thing go.

[00:22:45.219]>>Yeah, he was giving us a little breakdown on the range yesterday about New Zealand and all the cool spots. Guy always has a smile on his face, Ricardo Gonzalez for birth, uh, for birdie.

[00:23:00.579]>>Hello. Uh, if Cookie was out there, we'd get the call. Yeah, we would.

[00:23:08.699]>>I heard it.

[00:23:14.380]>>Ángel Cabrera at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai has this putt for birdie, and he now moves to 13 under.

[00:23:23.280]>>2 putt birdie at 14.

[00:23:26.479]>>Third for David Duval at the par 5 10th.

[00:23:30.699]>>Oh, that's nice, David. Nice speed. Oh, it looked good all the way.

[00:23:37.040]>>You know, that's the one thing that could leave a guy, you know, you start obsessing, getting it in play and hitting nice irons, what have you, and then suddenly your touch is gone, but boy, not this week. David Duval is still on fire.

[00:23:50.520]>>Well, Langer is a three-time winner here and so is this man, Miguel Angel Jiménez.

[00:24:01.479]>>It's good.

[00:24:04.380]>>Uh, Freddie Jacobson for Eagle at the 10th. Yeah, key here is keeping the pace up. Hitting this putt earlier, Bob, you and I, we, it was amazing how hard you had to hit this. There's not a whole lot of break, but it's all about pace.

[00:24:18.140]>>Oh, drilled.

[00:24:21.630]>>Yeah, that was a no doubt pace.

[00:24:24.479]>>Confident look at that scorecard. What a start.

[00:24:29.849]>>Over 17, Bernhard Langer for birdie.

[00:24:34.569]>>Get to 9 under. hello.

[00:24:38.119]>>That's why you hit it 20 ft right of the flag, just tap it in.

[00:24:48.290]>>Angel Cabrera to get to 15 under.

[00:25:06.280]>>Oh, no, no, that might be one of the prettiest scorecards I've ever seen.

[00:25:10.560]>>Gets into 11 under on the day.

[00:25:14.689]>>Well, we saw the 2nd of Stewart Cink.

[00:25:17.770]>>Now, this is for birdie, this is for 3 in a row and this would get him to 14 under.

[00:25:22.619]>>And a share of the lead.

[00:25:24.900]>>Pretty solid, Stewart.

[00:25:27.089]>>Another good tournament.

[00:25:29.979]>>Now, Freddie Jacobson for his eagle.

[00:25:33.849]>>Yeah, from behind the hole, it doesn't do much here. I'm sure he watched Steven Ames' ball just flatten out at the end.

[00:25:40.400]>>You may slide a little right, but not much.

[00:26:02.180]>>Nope.

[00:26:05.030]>>Easy birdie but lost opportunity there. You know, it'd be great to capitalize. This 14th hole could not play any easier. This is not a gimme.

[00:26:15.719]>>Unless the wind switches around like it has, and that is just a beautiful scorecard.

[00:26:21.719]>>Settles for par at 15. Stewart Cink nearly hold out for eagle. So he's got the short birdie putt to post 15 under.

[00:26:31.760]>>To the reigning Schwab Cup champion, 63. How do you like me? That was something else, huh? Now, here's the interesting one here. It, it, it's fairly slow, and now you think, oh, well, this has got to break big time to the left. Well, guess what? It doesn't do much. No, this putt's pretty straight.

[00:26:51.750]>>And he probably.

[00:26:54.839]>>Has to hit at a pretty good clip.

[00:26:58.810]>>See if we can get the speed right on this one.

[00:27:11.310]>>Get there, perfect speed. What a putt. Great birdie by Steven Ames.

[00:27:18.010]>>So that gets him to 14 under.

[00:27:21.869]>>So Freddie needs this putt to, to be in the last group because Ames has now posted 14 under with that birdie. So if Jacobson falls a shot back, he'll have posted 14 after Ames, and this would knock Jacobson out of the last group. So that's how it works, folks, right there. You see how he hovers that thing in his practice stroke. He tries to hit the equator of the ball on these putts.

[00:27:48.119]>>This for the last group, which may be a big deal to him or not, I don't know. Some guys don't want to be in the last group. That's a good putt. I think he learned a little bit off of Fred Couples putt. Bogey free, 64 for Freddie Jacobson. He birdied the 1st 4 holes of the day, eagle at 10, birdie at 14.

[00:28:08.170]>>And Freddie Jacobson shoots 64 and he will start the final round in a share of the lead with Stewart Cink, Ángel Cabrera, and Ames will start just a shot back. Couples will only be two back, and then you got Els and Flesch, Jimenez, Furyk, Bjørn, all within striking distance.

[00:28:39.560]>>PGA TOUR Champions starting the 2026 season in Paradise. The Big Island, the Mitsubishi Electric Championship, 30th consecutive year here at Hualalai.

[00:28:54.650]>>Well, Retief Goosen got off to an early start. He started 5 back of Stewart Cink today and rolls in this eagle putt at the 4th. That got him to 14 under par. And then it's the difficult 8, Retief Goosen's tee shot, and this would set up yet another birdie opportunity, and this would get Retief Goosen to 6-under on his round through the opening 8 holes trying to chase that.

[00:29:20.869]>>Stewart Cink.

[00:29:23.160]>>Speaking of Stewart Cink, he started the day in a share of the lead with Freddie Jacobson, rolls this putt in for birdie at the 6th.

[00:29:31.969]>>And that would get him to 18 under par.

[00:29:35.939]>>And then Ernie Els trying to make a run. He's the defending champion. Missed the green at the 8th, pitched it up on the green, using the ground to perfection, and knocks it in for birdie to get the big easy.

[00:29:48.890]>>The 15 under par and 3 off the lead.

[00:29:52.949]>>Star studded leaderboard here at Hualalai with Stewart Cink leading Retief Goosen by 2, Els, Couples, Ames, Jacobson, and Cabrera 3 back.

[00:30:12.020]>>Hey, Cookie, uh, did.

[00:30:14.699]>>Did Cink think that he reached the green?

[00:30:18.540]>>I, I was gonna say it might have been a strategic layup, honestly, he had 280 to the pin.

[00:30:24.790]>>And laid, hit an iron up there just, you know, 65 yards from the hole. So I think, I don't think he was trying to reach the green with that club, but, uh, opportunity.

[00:30:37.189]>>Wasted there for Stewart. He could have really separated himself from the field with that putt getting to 190, but he'll have to settle for par.

[00:30:45.849]>>We interviewed him yesterday, guys, and he was in full acceptance mode of whatever happens. I think that's probably the most relaxed mindset you could ever get heading into the final round with a lead.

[00:30:57.939]>>There we go. We got the fan club out there on the water. Now, who'd you pay to paint that?

[00:31:03.290]>>Hey, I don't know who that is, but we have to get on that and find out who that is. We need to get close up and see if there's anyone we recognize. It's just enough wind, you know, you can start to maybe think about it on the greens when you get out there towards the water.

[00:31:18.099]>>Oh, perfect speed. Darren Clarke drips it in, that gets him to 13 under. He is 4-under on his round today.

[00:31:26.739]>>Now over at the 10th, Retief Goosen for Eagle. This for a share of the lead.

[00:31:33.750]>>Our teeth started

[00:31:36.050]>>5 groups back of the leader, so he could post a score for sure. That's going to be a nice, easy birdie.

[00:31:44.619]>>All right, this gets him to 1 back and remember, uh, Sink still has 15 ft for par at the 8th. 0, is that a pretty scorecard or what?

[00:32:01.150]>>I love walking on these fairways, playing off this turf, this Pass Pelham, Sea Island 2000. Pass Pallham is just a great surface to play off of now.

[00:32:10.640]>>Stewart Cink.

[00:32:12.760]>>Oh my, what a nice battle there for Stewart. That, that is key.

[00:32:18.540]>>Better believe it's key. He'll talk about that one in the press room if he was to go on and win this golf tournament.

[00:32:24.290]>>Miguel Angel Jiménez.

[00:32:26.750]>>For eagle here at the 10th.

[00:32:32.219]>>So that gets Miguel back to 13 under.

[00:32:36.349]>>Miguel last won here in 2022. 2 of his three wins here have been in playoffs.

[00:32:44.819]>>This was the 3rd for Ángel Cabrera at the difficult 9th.

[00:32:55.670]>>I'm gonna say that's very impressive, really.

[00:33:00.270]>>That's probably Retief Goosen.

[00:33:03.910]>>For a share of the lead, he rolls in the birdie at 11. Goosen is 8 under through 11 holes today.

[00:33:18.760]>>From Stewart Cink here with the British Open Player of the Year last year.

[00:33:24.380]>>Hit one of the best irons of the week right here, John. Absolutely right behind the hole a couple of feet, does move from right to left, so he had to be careful with that. But what a great birdie at the 9th and nice outgoing 9 holes for Stewart Cink.

[00:33:41.510]>>Tim O'Neal coming off a birdie at 16, rolls this in for birdie at 17. So the 53-year-old who got his first win at the Dominion Energy Charity Classic in 2024.

[00:33:57.699]>>Yeah, tricky putt. It does go uphill. It's fairly slow. It doesn't break as much right as you think.

[00:34:05.270]>>Judge that pretty nicely. Well, it's almost the exact same speed limit as Jacobson's walk. Did you notice that the ball and Jacobson exact same pace right until the end. Good two putt though for Stewart.

[00:34:18.439]>>So that's gonna get synced to 20 under.

[00:34:23.050]>>Now a two-shot lead over Goosen and.

[00:34:33.168]>>Cabrera

[00:34:34.959]>>Cabrera is gonna have to two-putt here, John, for birdie because.

[00:34:39.489]>>You know, right now he's 4 back with Cink making that birdie there. Absolute must. Absolutely, John, this will be a good teach for Cabrera, won't it? 100%. They're right about the same spot.

[00:34:51.469]>>We know that this goes into the wind.

[00:34:55.158]>>It moves a little bit from left to right.

[00:34:59.310]>>Is downhill a little bit, so you have to be careful.

[00:35:05.250]>>So a good putt there by Jacobson. That'll be his first birdie of the day. Again, start of the day in a share of the lead at 15-under with Stewart Cink, but

[00:35:16.760]>>A bunch of pars to start the day. He didn't birdie either of the two par 5s, then the back-to-back bogeys.

[00:35:27.270]>>And he just beat that course with his full brute force. He's an intimidating figure. You know, he's a big guy with lots of power, longest player in the group.

[00:35:37.600]>>Got a good look. Yeah, this would be handy if it went in and look at that. Oh, it made it. How about it? Ángel Cabrera with a long eagle pot at 10, and that gets him to within 2.

[00:35:54.959]>>Retief Goosen for another birdie, this to get to within 1 of the lead at 13 and he pours in.

[00:36:01.800]>>The eight-footer and Goosen.

[00:36:04.699]>>Is 9 under on his round today and just a shot back. What a show by the Hall of Famer.

[00:36:28.040]>>He's got a nice opportunity here though, Paul, about, you know, 14 ft, a little bit of left or right movement.

[00:36:36.050]>>There it is.

[00:36:39.060]>>He's a battler. He is a battler. He's grizzled, you know, he's traveled the world.

[00:36:44.969]>>To play this sport, Fred Couples.

[00:36:49.649]>>For birdie, putters gone a little cold here over the last day and a half, but he pours that one in.

[00:36:58.179]>>Couples 2 under on his round today.

[00:37:01.810]>>Over 13. Short one for Ernie Els, and this will get him to within 3 of the lead if it goes. So the defending champ hanging in there. Now Cabrera for birdie. Yeah, good opportunity here. Just moves a little bit to his right, but he got it through the break.

[00:37:21.889]>>He had a terrific shot in there though, didn't he, that he did. That was very makeable.

[00:37:33.179]>>A good look at that green simple enough, but anyone hitting that right bunker was thinking, what did I do that for.

[00:37:42.209]>>Now Stewart, this little tester, John.

[00:37:44.979]>>Yeah, not much to it other than it's the back nine of a championship final round.

[00:37:51.500]>>Pretty straight putt.

[00:38:02.090]>>two-putt par for.

[00:38:04.340]>>Cink and a little water. He's got a 1-shot lead over Retief Goosen. Cabrera is 2 back. Ernie Els, 3 back.

[00:38:24.760]>>Stuart sank for his birdie at 12 just off the right edge of the green dangerously close to that bunker.

[00:38:31.979]>>Give him 30 ft. Not much to this other than getting the speed right.

[00:38:44.560]>>Goosen.

[00:38:46.129]>>Needs to make this to stay one back.

[00:38:52.360]>>So critical for his psyche coming in. If nothing else, scorecard too. Good putt, but a disappointing, uh, par. Probably actually pretty happy about it now though. I mentioned Vijay Singh.

[00:39:07.689]>>For his birdie here at 18, buries it. That looked like the one he finished out at the Hawaiian Open last week. Went in with authority.

[00:39:25.580]>>gimme for Ernie. Cink now for eagle to get to 22 under. He just wants to cozy it up there, get it down that slope. Let it take a little bit of that left righthand turn and right on line. Beautiful pace. Oh.

[00:39:41.729]>>So Cink will go to 21 under. Cabrera has a tap-in for birdie to get to 20 under.

[00:40:00.989]>>No mistakes for Stewart Cink.

[00:40:04.860]>>Looks like it might be Stewart and Cabrera.

[00:40:09.699]>>Two of the best players last season.

[00:40:14.229]>>Goosen and Els both won last year.

[00:40:17.560]>>Goosen's lost a little momentum. He's definitely gonna need a couple of birdies.

[00:40:34.629]>>Nice 2nd shot in there for Freddie Jacobson.

[00:40:39.080]>>Down that other little slope I had some speed going in that direction.

[00:40:44.989]>>Ernie Els

[00:40:46.810]>>Finish up that birdie and.

[00:40:49.919]>>Knocks that in. So Ells gets to 17 under, but again, the costly bogey at the par 5 14th. Now Cabrera to brush this in and to stay within 1.

[00:41:02.379]>>Yeah, I ought it'd be a nice little battle between Stewart Cink and Ángel Cabrera.

[00:41:07.669]>>One of the most beautiful places in the world. These guys seem just relaxed, dialed in, and, uh,

[00:41:15.389]>>All 4 of these guys, I think, came in here, Bob, with the intent of getting in contention and winning this golf tournament. Ernie Els defending champ.

[00:41:26.969]>>Freddie, of course, has got to be disappointed.

[00:41:32.169]>>Yeah, but like Bob said, every shot is a dollar amount for Freddie. Make a couple of birdies coming down the stretch, you know, get him a top 3 or 4 finish.

[00:41:49.719]>>Well, this would be an all-world par for Retief Goosen who's 8-under today.

[00:41:56.860]>>Well, he deserved it.

[00:42:05.500]>>Ernie Els has this Putt for birdie at 16.

[00:42:15.129]>>Ernie's not going to win this week, but a really nice start to the season.

[00:42:20.260]>>In a good defense of his title, he's played great.

[00:42:26.959]>>Well, boy, if Stewart could capitalize on that shot here.

[00:42:41.899]>>Yeah, get a little bit of separation from on hill right here.

[00:42:46.239]>>Not much to it.

[00:42:49.459]>>You just have to be confident.

[00:42:57.709]>>Super. That birdie at 9 and the birdie right there at 15.

[00:43:03.179]>>How about the par save at 8 to go with that birdie? I'm gonna ask him. I'm gonna ask him about that one. Yeah, that par save was huge, and, and, uh, even when he made it, we were saying, hey, he'll, he'll be asked to, he'll talk about that one in the press room. He backed it up with the birdie at 9.

[00:43:18.820]>>I mean, the only, the only bogey that Cink has made this week was yesterday at the 16th hole.

[00:43:29.060]>>

[00:43:31.689]>>After Birdie at 16, Thomas Bjørn for birdie at 17. There we go, Thomas for each. Yes, it does. He putts so well.

[00:43:42.709]>>So Bjørn now at 17 under in a tie for 4th with Els.

[00:43:49.729]>>Uh, Retief Goosen.

[00:43:51.949]>>Made a run.

[00:43:55.030]>>Has this for par at 18, finishes at 18 under. Can you shoot a 64 and feel disappointed? Yes, you can. And he does. He really, he really thought I can post and get this done. A shot at 15 cost him.

[00:44:13.469]>>Stewart Cink, Ángel Cabrera playing the 16th with Sink in front by 2.

[00:44:27.729]>>Cabrera must make birdie here at 16. No doubt about it, Bob.

[00:44:33.149]>>Pretty simple putt. Gotta keep the speed up. Not much break. Oh wow, I think he broke across the hole. Yeah, I think he thought he had that the whole time.

[00:44:46.050]>>OK.

[00:44:47.199]>>Stewart, what I've noticed about his putting routine, he's getting in there a lot quicker than he used to.

[00:44:52.850]>>Very confident.

[00:44:54.959]>>One look, go.

[00:44:58.139]>>Boom, Stewart Cink with a birdie at 16. 3 in a row, gets to 23 under.

[00:45:10.649]>>Cabrera

[00:45:12.649]>>For his birdie and at least to make 18 a little more interesting. Must make right here. Not much to it. If it does anything, it might fall to the right slightly.

[00:45:31.989]>>Right in the center.

[00:45:39.500]>>So Cabrera, who's 6, or who's 7 under today.

[00:45:44.790]>>Taps in for his par, but 3 back with 1 to play.

[00:45:49.580]>>Brendan Moynihan, the director of golf here, and his entire team. Wow, what an effort they've put in all week. Long as Ames makes birdie. He shoots even par 72 today, finishes at 14 under.

[00:46:07.250]>>Interesting the way he sets up, you know, pretty much like all of us, he just.

[00:46:12.010]>>Kind of looks down the line, gets over there parallel left.

[00:46:17.270]>>It's fully released.

[00:46:20.360]>>That might have been a hard pitching wedge actually.

[00:46:25.570]>>Something right in there might come back a little bit, but no harm done. No, no mistake. Now he's going to get the reward which.

[00:46:36.800]>>He's sticking to the process. He's gonna have a nice walk up to this screen.

[00:46:43.629]>>Cabrera from 101 has to make it.

[00:46:48.280]>>Oh ho ho.

[00:46:54.270]>>Yeah

[00:46:56.379]>>What a week for Cabrera playing here for the first time.

[00:47:00.340]>>Yeah, Cabrera started today actually with a bogey at 1. Now Freddie Jacobson, who started the day tied with sink at 15-under, 1 under on his round. He too playing here at Hawala Live for the first time.

[00:47:15.610]>>95 yards here for Freddie.

[00:47:18.969]>>See if we can end

[00:47:21.429]>>With a splash

[00:47:25.120]>>No

[00:47:27.070]>>Blob.

[00:47:30.280]>>Yeah, well done.

[00:47:37.709]>>Good battle by Jacobson, but the center of attention is this man, Stewart Cink.

[00:47:45.679]>>Stewart Cink.

[00:47:47.649]>>He's won the Schwab Cup Championship.

[00:47:50.830]>>was voted as the PGA TOUR Champions 2025 Player of the Year.

[00:47:58.489]>>You know, since turning 50, you know, a lot of guys when they turn 50, and he talked about it in our interview that he was playing good competitive golf late into his 40s. Guys turned 50 and they want to play a little bit on the regular tour, the PGA TOUR Champions, and Stewart kind of eventually just put his entire focus on the PGA TOUR Champions and.

[00:48:20.060]>>Uh, certainly has reaped the rewards of that focus with 3 wins last year and he's gonna kick off 26 with another.

[00:48:31.399]>>Well, a lot of this is momentum built from the ending to last season, John. What a year for Stewart Cink. Yeah, we'll ask him about it. I mean, to, to start the year in this fashion after winning all the awards last year.

[00:48:46.500]>>Uh, it just has to be a

[00:48:49.060]>>I mean, just a great way to start. We'll just, uh, we'll, we'll talk to him a little bit about it.

[00:48:54.659]>>For his birdie. This is a little speedy down that hill, but he judges it perfectly. That was his gift today for sure. You know, his touch was magnificent. And look what he's shooting, you know, he starts the day with the lead. He's shooting 64, 8 under par.

[00:49:12.189]>> Cabrera, he's shooting 66 today. These guys last group came out.

[00:49:18.169]>>Really with their best stuff.

[00:49:36.729]>>Now this of course.

[00:49:39.060]>>It requires precision and to get to 2023 under par, takes a lot of good shots, Cookie. Yeah, it sure does, you know, mistake-free for the, for the most part, you know, to get into the 20s here, that 3 rounds of golf. Let's see if Hunt Hill can keep some speed up. Now, I think his pace was off mostly. He had a lot of chances, just looked like the ball was just creeping around the hole, wasn't going in with much authority.

[00:50:05.620]>>But a great week for on hill. Great way to start the 2026 campaign. No doubt about that. That second round, my goodness, I mean, he was pointing at the camera after shots and putts. He really is a, you know, I think a feared competitor by these players. Well, just think about it. He shot 62 with bogeys at 11 and 17. Yeah, that's right. It was pretty spectacular.

[00:50:29.679]>>And Stewart Cink was able to stare him down. Freddie, I don't know at what age you stopped learning from being in the last group and getting whooped, but he ran into two big bullies today.

[00:50:48.239]>>Great way to finish though for Jacobsen here for the first time at Hualalai. Shoots the final round 70, and that birdie at 18 gets him to 17 under. Great start to the season. That's a solo 6th for Freddie Jacobson. Now that moves him into a tie for 4th with Bjørn and Els. Oh nice, sure did.

[00:51:09.750]>>Big jump. That's a cash putt.

[00:51:12.679]>>Cabrera with par.

[00:51:14.889]>>He shoots 66 and finishes at 20 under.

[00:51:20.560]>>So Stewart Cink has this putt for par.

[00:51:28.429]>>He delivered all week, Bob.

[00:51:33.159]>>Last year's Player of the Year starts 2026 off with a win. Stewart Cink has captured the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai.

[00:51:52.530]>>That might be a warning shot for the rest of the season. Stewart Sat just, I think, living off the momentum from the end of last season, came right in here, all business, gets it done. And with the win, Stewart Cink picks up \$340,000 to sit atop the season-long race for the Charles Schwab Cup. The first of 28 is in the books. Stewart Cink shoots 23 under.