Production Transcript for **26INTCUTCH - STIFEL CC - MASTER**

[00:00:41.510]>>Open to the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs here in Saint Louis, Missouri. Steeple Charity Classic, day one on a Friday. Beautiful weather expected all week and weekend long here in Saint Louis.

[00:00:52.500]>>And kicking things off in style with some great groupings today. Shane Bacon alongside Paul Azinger, John Cook down on the ground following a trio of big names that have played great this season. Right now, Darren Clarke atop the board, 5 under, Steve Allan floating around there, a couple of holes left to play. Jamie Donaldson, he's bucket at 4 under par as well.

[00:01:14.180]>>And Alker always near the top of the board it seems on PGA Tour Champions Zach Johnson, Goose and David Toms all under par. Great golf course here in Saint Louis, Norwood Hills.

[00:01:27.460]>>Always an excellent host here on PGA Tour Champions. Mentioned Alker floating near the top of the board. Here he is at the 8th, 2nd shot into this par 5.

[00:01:38.820]>>Another pure swing.

[00:01:42.830]>>Right for the middle of the green. And, you know, he's just been like that. It seems like the last 6 or 8 events.

[00:01:52.810]>>He has put it together and it's always fun to watch Clarky, Darren Clarke play well here at the 11th, short par 4 drivable for these players and Darren Clarke, Zane got off to a great start, Birdie his 1st 3 was 40 through 6 today and

[00:02:08.280]>>Just picked up his 5th birdie at the 10th. Well, you know, he's got all the charisma, you know, he's got the Ernest Hemingway beard going, got the little belly working, that's the Irish hard-earned belly.

[00:02:21.660]>>Properly dressed today.

[00:02:26.730]>>Great time champion Zing on PGA Tour Champions. He's gone back-to-back the last couple of years at the American Family Insurance Championship. Uh, he is a real artist around the greens and, uh, just feeling it today for sure.

[00:02:44.500]>>Looks like a brand new club face, doesn't it? Maybe he broke out some new irons this week.

[00:02:49.300]>>And not a lot of loft. I mean that looked like a 5 or a 6 iron. I wonder if he caught that. Yeah, just right on line. So he's gonna have a little tester to state at 5 under par. Now sink at the 8th, he'll move it.

[00:03:04.880]>>7 straight pars to open his round.

[00:03:08.250]>>Love to make Birdier better here at the 8th. Plenty of power here for Stewart Cink. Taking less than driver, going up the left-hand side, needs to go.

[00:03:21.080]>>That's fine too. No problems there. Pretty short par 5 there. Only 3 par 5s on the golf course.

[00:03:29.930]>>From a short par 5 to a short par 4 and Darren Clarke.

[00:03:34.750]>>Kind of just shoved that one down the hill and in, so Clark another birdie back-to-back on this back nine. I'm not sure he knew where to go. I need a traffic cop for him to get it out of the hole.

[00:03:45.180]>>Alker now at the par 5 is for Eagle.

[00:03:50.130]>>This is a big part of what changed.

[00:03:52.720]>>In this run, he's been on 4 wins now this year.

[00:03:58.620]>>His speed is perfect. He's surprised when he misses, and he's unflappable when it does miss. He just goes to the next hole.

[00:04:08.190]>>And he's, he's just, uh, looks like he's got a 54 hole brain. I said that three weeks ago.

[00:04:16.040]>>Yeah, I mean, he doesn't have to worry about it too much, but it's good for Boo and definitely George McNeill, who he's paired with, who, uh, is in his rookie year. George McNeill's made the most money of in points of all the players, uh, this year that haven't won in his first year, which is really good. And Boo got a win under his belt.

[00:04:34.540]>>Your guy, yeah, he did. That was good. Yeah, my guy, Ryder Cup hero for us.

[00:04:44.530]>>That just makes me feel like I'm way out in the country somewhere. What a putt through the shadow.

[00:04:53.100]>>Train horn whistling in the background. That's, that's epic. That's nostalgic feeling. Well, Goose would sure like to get this one, Cookie. He, he really putted great last week, the first day, and then the second day in that horrendous weather, it came apart.

[00:05:09.640]>>Yeah, he just did not have it at all on Saturday. Like you said, horrendous weather. He just didn't strike the ball very well, missed putts. Looked like he was very, very frustrated. Well, he took it out on Sunday and almost won the golf tournament, but he'd like to get this one in. 2 birdies, no bogeys on his card, maybe just left of center with some speed.

[00:05:33.180]>>Yep, what a great look that was. That green rolled like a pool table, didn't it? Beautiful.

[00:05:44.200]>>Now back over to the 8th.

[00:05:48.430]>>Yeah, the same percentage for Harrington this season, not great, hovering around 50%.

[00:05:54.420]>>On the year and of course mentioned with Harrington, he's not been playing a lot on PGA Tour Champions as of late, was on a run on the DP World Tour playing over there, missed a whole bunch of cuts in a row, played well at the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship T35. We've been bragging on Padrick's.

[00:06:11.480]>>Being one of the game's great ambassadors as he's gotten older.

[00:06:17.350]>>Stewart Cink always knows how to behave. Finally breaks the old streak of pars with a birdie. That's, you don't want to break it with a bogey. You go that long.

[00:06:27.550]>>Go up to 14, Clark, who just three-putt from distance at the 13th.

[00:06:34.210]>>I watched Frank Caliendo last night. How did you get on that? Oh, come on, Darren, baby.

[00:06:41.480]>>I wish he could have done an imitation of Darren Clarke. It would have been so good, I'm sure.

[00:06:47.620]>>Now Harrington for his birdie.

[00:07:00.290]>>He's more underneath the hole, so he's putting uphill. He doesn't have to really worry about speed. Got to keep the speed up and it's just outside the right.

[00:07:12.280]>>Come on, get up and in.

[00:07:16.770]>>Yeah, that's a really good up and in. That's a hard bunker shot, you know, you're way down below the green.

[00:07:22.810]>>Well, I'm gonna give him this one. We already gave it to him.

[00:07:26.780]>>All right. So we've done it all the last 3 holes. He 3-putt at 13 from distance, makes the long putt at 14, a nice 2-putt there at 15, 8th birdie of his day.

[00:07:36.540]>>This man right here, Vaughn Taylor, been on a tear as of late, picked up his first win on PGA Tour Champions at the Constellation Furyk and Friends in a playoff over Alex Cejka right there once again, one off the lead.

[00:07:50.280]>>Clarke out of position here at 17.

[00:07:54.660]>>Good positive swing. See if you line that up.

[00:07:58.450]>>Paul, who'd you say he looks like? He did a little Ernest Hemingway out of us that that Darren Clarke look with that sweet silver beard.

[00:08:10.180]>>Clarkey continuing to move up the board. How about the bounce back, Paul, after the double at 13? Amazing, resilient.

[00:08:17.780]>>Veteran, he knows what he's doing.

[00:08:21.110]>>There's that lovely beard. There it is.

[00:08:25.480]>>Go to 16. McNeill coming off that eagle at 15. Well, you're right, that's what practice rounds are for for McNeill on that previous hole. We thought maybe he pulled the shot. How about these two approaches? Make it. What a run. Now let's get this guy go. He's had an incredible season.

[00:08:44.620]>>Now Cink

[00:08:46.760]>>Pretty good breaker from left to right also with some speed, but finds the hole. Good birdie there. That's what he needed. Best putt of his day and sink now just quietly to 3 under. Something about being around those legends, no matter what age they are, just watching him do it. I, I had a great opportunity when I caddied over in Saint Andrews after college. Peter Thompson in our group one day playing the old course. Well, Darren Clarke's one of those guys now, and this is to get to 8 under par and what nice run.

[00:09:14.790]>>What a finish for him after the double bogey strong.

[00:09:18.710]>>That's gonna be his best round of his career here at Norwood Hills. 64 for Clark.

[00:09:30.480]>>Back here with Zach Johnson. Great look here at the par 5.

[00:09:39.090]>>Just been a ridiculous year for this guy. Turned 50 in February, won the next week.

[00:09:45.090]>>And has now won 6 times.

[00:09:48.180]>>Let's go up to the 17th, Boo Weekley.

[00:09:56.140]>>Just nudging it down the hills. Is he gonna make it? Did he make it? Come on, boo. Yeah, he did. Why wouldn't you? That's perfect.

[00:10:03.020]>>Boo would be the best mascot on like for any college team. He'd just be just brilliant.

[00:10:10.550]>>Up at 17, Alker.

[00:10:13.680]>>Keep the speed up on this one.

[00:10:18.720]>>Just like that

[00:10:20.930]>>Yeah

[00:10:23.040]>>Beautiful pace, all around, just that miscue there, a couple on the back nine, flashing a little bit from the awkward spot, now Cink.

[00:10:33.050]>>From 100 yards.

[00:10:37.190]>>Looking straight down the barrel right here. What a nice shot. Well controlled, controlled distance and spin.

[00:10:45.080]>>Go to the 18th, the game within the game between these three Tag Ridings.

[00:10:50.260]>>6 pack of.

[00:10:53.350]>>Two guys he's playing alongside, $200,000 up for grabs from these three this week. Good-looking putt, good-looking putt.

[00:11:01.600]>>Highlight of his day at the home hole.

[00:11:09.600]>>Both those players now sync. Beautiful approach.

[00:11:13.990]>>Yeah, right at hole high, this is gonna break slightly to his right.

[00:11:24.850]>>Easy 3 for Stewart Cink breaks out of that logjam at 3 under par.

[00:11:39.550]>>Now Retief, just short of the hole, will start to move left and then it'll stop breaking, kind of hang out to the right.

[00:11:50.080]>>And that about how the back nine has gone, that was a good roll.

[00:11:57.750]>>He's shown some signs of brilliance.

[00:12:00.970]>>Even today.

[00:12:05.340]>>And he's dug a little hole here with a rough back 91 under par for Goosen, 57-year-old, 1 of 6 World Golf Hall of Famers in the field, and he's actually never won multiple times in a single season on PGA TOUR Champions. So trying to do that over these final three events. Take a look at that leaderboard Darren Clarke there, 7 under par, 64.

[00:12:27.990]>>Really impressive round of golf considering what he was able to do. And of course, we're looking into this Saturday and Sunday, Stewart Cink right there, Zach Johnson right there. Alker always hanging around 3 under par 68. So these players done for the day.

[00:12:51.110]>>Saturday in Saint Louis kicking off the playoffs in style. Been a beautiful week here in Norwood Hills Country Club Stifel Charity Classic. 3 events left in this season. We got a bunch of board, got a whole bunch of characters involved. Shane Bacon alongside Paul Azinger, John Cook down on the ground today, Darren Clarke.

[00:13:10.320]>>Where he finished off things a day ago, shot 64 out of the gate right there with a one-shot lead, but we got movement. Henrik Stenson making a move. David Duval on a tear today. At one point, he got it to 7-under on the round. Scott Parel is making a move as well as we go out to the 8th and Stewart Cink has this for birdie. Sink 4-under a day ago, struggling on the Saturday.

[00:13:38.350]>>Parel making a move, Zing. Here he is at the 10th, just made eagle at 8, Birdie at 9. He's been out here a long time now. He's been out here a long time now. This is a true veteran and still a good player.

[00:13:55.750]>>Go back to the 8, see if Hensby could pay off that.

[00:13:58.560]>>Crazy good pitch shot. What a birdie there.

[00:14:07.310]>> Parel

[00:14:09.240]>>Still a Birdie look, not his best pitch shot.

[00:14:25.770]>>And he keeps the run going.

[00:14:31.310]>>You know, I like seeing putts go in at that speed. You know, it just, it was never going to go more than 10 or 12 inches by.

[00:14:39.320]>>Go up to the 11th, just a moment ago. Thongchai Jaidee, lengthy putt at the short par 4. You know, he was in the Thai military and jumped out of a bunch of planes, paratrooper.

[00:14:50.890]>>Look at this guy.

[00:14:53.170]>>He's seen life. He's seen all of it. He sure has.

[00:14:57.150]>>Seeing his name move up the board right now, Jaidee just a couple off the lead.

[00:15:02.080]>>Welcome to the 18th. Tiziani. It's for birdie outright lead and to tie his career low on PGA Tour Champions as if this goes in.

[00:15:10.970]>>What a move he's made today.

[00:15:30.630]>>Yep, one more. Doesn't that look like the same cadence as Stricker, that pace of that stroke? Well, I mean, he's a good person to watch. I'll say that. Alker now down the hill, good look.

[00:15:43.960]>>Just floating around, isn't he?

[00:15:46.770]>>No doubt about that one.

[00:15:48.840]>>That's just confidence, pure and simple confidence.

[00:15:56.210]>>Par putt trying to save par.

[00:16:03.060]>>Oh boy, blasted it.

[00:16:05.720]>>He's shocked by it. That's the putt Clarke hit, it seems like.

[00:16:10.130]>>Similar or it looked like it would go right and didn't.

[00:16:16.010]>>Shane Bertsch, one of those players making a move on this Saturday. He's 3 off the lead. This at the par 5. What a pairing for Shane Bertsch. He's got local Michael Block. What a shot too. He's got Alker, Michael Block, and right now Birch in full showoff mode. 5-under with that eagle on the day and Henrik Stenson now for birdie and to tie Mario at 9 under par.

[00:16:44.300]>>Sure, curls it in the left side, so Henrik Stenson, he's 7 under.

[00:16:54.940]>>Zach, he's just been on fire, not today so much, but 6 wins this year.

[00:17:07.870]>>Stewart Cink. Beautiful approach here at the 13th, see if you can pay it off.

[00:17:14.160]>>Yep, good birdie. He did something positive.

[00:17:19.760]>>Mark Hensby couldn't have been much more than a 9 iron, but full club short.

[00:17:26.060]>>And like you said, Shane, this is a little roller coaster, it goes up the hill, that that slope's gonna kind of kick it to the right, and it's gonna be real flat.

[00:17:36.360]>>Yes, you have to just slam it up the slope, but if you hit it too hard, it will rip on by.

[00:17:45.870]>>He's one of the game's, uh, most endearing gentlemen, you know, for you kind of, how about it, how about it? Top off. That'll start this group going. Could that be the spark for this group? Come on, it could be.

[00:18:04.950]>>Go up to the 15th. Rory Sabbatini seen this putt made today.

[00:18:12.000]>>Oh, come on, do it to him, do it to him. There we go, another eagle. Everyone in Slovakia is going crazy. Their favorite golfer, and it's not even close, Sabbatini, go back to 15.

[00:18:25.550]>>Allen

[00:18:26.900]>>Just sneaking up on the

[00:18:29.040]>>Top of this leaderboard. Nice two-putt birdie there. So, Alan.

[00:18:35.370]>>Doing what you gotta do with the 15th.

[00:18:39.410]>>Now Alker the 18th.

[00:18:45.070]>>Follow this guy long enough and these putts.

[00:18:48.430]>>A lot of the time find a way of going in, didn't hit it, perfect read.

[00:18:53.650]>>Yeah, look at that look, he knows it was dead on it.

[00:18:59.430]>>Well, the leaderboard's getting pretty crowded and he's just laying in the weeds, you know, kind of like he always does.

[00:19:09.170]>>He's been the hottest player lately, no question about it.

[00:19:13.760]>>He's got a chance to overtake Zach Johnson and Stewart Cink.

[00:19:20.350]>>That was going nowhere but center. Great, it's a good 18, Michael Block.

[00:19:27.320]>>Little highlight, there we go.

[00:19:29.790]>>Point and shoot baby. Give him a little. I mean, listen, if he makes the putt, he's gonna let people know what's going on. That's kind of what he does. That's what I do.

[00:19:39.970]>>Go up to the green at 16 Vijay.

[00:19:42.980]>>Good run yesterday, not so much today.

[00:19:46.060]>>Got a highlight in him? Yeah, he does. Oh yeah, he fancies himself one of the best fringe putters in the game, practices it all the time.

[00:20:01.180]>>Up at 16, Greg Chalmers has this for birdie.

[00:20:08.650]>>Yep.

[00:20:10.540]>>And with some speed.

[00:20:13.320]>>This would be a good group to watch today, Paul.

[00:20:15.750]>>We got some tempo town in that group too.

[00:20:20.920]>>From 80 yards driving it in there low, you're trying to use some slope on the left. Oh how creative is this could work out nice. Gotta kick that one in. Wonderful from Hensby. That's a great shot.

[00:20:41.800]>>It's good. I thought he hit the coin. I think he hit the coin. That's, I think maybe he was using it as a bumper, like when you take your kids bowling, little ricochet, like a bowling bumper. That's right. Just if I hit one or the other, it might help me out. I know you'll be disappointed with that 5, but.

[00:20:57.560]>>Could have been worse. He's trying to reset and find something over his final 3 holes. Taylor gonna tap in for his birdie.

[00:21:06.070]>>Yeah, beautiful little pitch shot there for Vaughn Taylor and Mark Hensby as well with from 80 yards, hits it in there, kick in after looking like his tee shot was gonna be in the penalty area.

[00:21:19.060]>>Taking advantage of a good break.

[00:21:28.880]>>Kicking off these playoffs here in St. Louis, Stewart Cink making a move as of late, this at 16.

[00:21:37.020]>>Another one, iron play has been on fire the last half hour.

[00:21:43.770]>>Chalmers up ahead trying to go back-to-back.

[00:21:51.200]>>OK.

[00:21:54.320]>>How about that Potgieter?

[00:21:57.090]>>Go back to Hensby.

[00:22:00.730]>>Oh nice catch. Left side of the hole curled in the left side. Cookie, we missed the pitch shot. Did he go with a wedge? Did he bump something?

[00:22:11.200]>>He putted it up there, OK.

[00:22:13.770]>>Bring you through some of the highlights from the 2nd round.

[00:22:20.750]>>Steven Alker at the 8th. I mean, this guy did exactly what we expected to see today, made the move necessary to give himself an opportunity to another victory and they're tight at the par 5, would kick that in for Eagle. He was even.

[00:22:36.860]>>At that point and Parel at 8, a little longer, but same score dead center part of a run of Eagle at 8, make birdie at 9, 10, 11, a couple of non here he is at that 11, not really didn't play the PGA Tour much if at all. Uh, Parel, same with Alker played a little bit.

[00:22:58.690]>>And, uh, they've had late great careers. Alker has just been a force out here within that Charles Schwab Cup a few times. Yeah, Alker, 87 career starts on the PGA Tour, never had a top 10, and has been a completely different player.

[00:23:15.590]>>When he turned 50, Tiziani at the 18th, that 4th round of his PGA Tour Champions career, he was so surprised he threw the ball up in the air like a celebration. Looked like LeBron with the chalk there before the game. Shane Bertsch at 15. How about this putt for Eagle?

[00:23:32.930]>>Up and over and dead center where he's aiming.

[00:23:38.440]>>It's an easy game. Of course, I'm aiming there. I'm just trying to make it.

[00:23:43.010]>>And of course, Bertsch is gonna be in that final grouping tomorrow talking about players that have been there and haven't. How about Henrik Stenson, the move he made today, can have a real opportunity, Paul, come tomorrow. He's the most accomplished player on that board. He'll be in the last group tomorrow. He's just now turned 50, so Stenson, the Terminator himself is back. We get to watch him play golf again. We just had a nice word with Hensby.

[00:24:09.190]>>Said the putter's been working, said he's just got to figure out the driver. This is 3rd at 15.

[00:24:16.480]>>This is really cool. I mean, that is so creative. That is why you play practice rounds right there, get a feel for the golf course, know all the knobs and movement.

[00:24:25.740]>>And just going back to Henrik Stenson, and of course, he spent his time over the last few years on LIV, picked up a victory there, but it was some 4 years ago. Gonna be a little bit in terms of something different for Stenson come tomorrow back in it with an opportunity to win. Yeah, I wouldn't be surprised if Stenson kind of followed in the footsteps of Vijay Singh last week when he got a chance to win.

[00:24:47.810]>>Uh, everything that became Vijay's strength was what used to be his strength is mine, and then his driver Stenson could do the same thing. He's famous for hitting that three-wood. Uh, there's been a lot of movement this week, more than I thought. Guys moving in and out of next week's event. This is the first week of the playoffs. All the players here that qualified had pretty darn good seasons.

[00:25:10.380]>>How about Stewart Cink and Zach Johnson tied there at 2 under par, so they will stay if that maintains the position. And Michael Block, you see there, projected to move a little higher in terms of the points list, but still comfortably inside that top 54.

[00:25:36.450]>>It is a Sunday here in Saint Louis. Norwood Hills Country Club, the host for the first of three playoff events, the Steeple Charity Classic. We got a bunch bored. We've got some players trying to win for the first time in their careers on PGA Tour Champions. We've got some studs chasing them down.

[00:25:55.440]>>Today, players positioning themselves to pick up the first of these playoff events, take home this trophy right here. That is one that you could put right in the front of your house, maybe put that in the office as well.

[00:26:10.750]>>Got a bunched leaderboard. You've got some players looking to win for the first time in their careers on PGA Tour Champions. Mario Tiziani, a man that is playing in his 98th career start on PGA Tour Champions final grouping today, shot the low round of the week a day ago, 63 from.

[00:26:29.230]>>Tiziani and he is right now leading by one. Shane Bacon joined by my guy Paul Azinger, John Cook down on the grounds today following our final grouping of Tiziani, Henrik Stenson, and Shane Bertsch.

[00:26:41.700]>>Tiziani and Stenson started the day at 9 under par, tied for the lead. Birch was a shot back and Stinson just 3 putted the par 5 seconds, so stuck at 9 under par. Here he is at 3.

[00:26:54.940]>>Yeah, that's 3 putt was for par back there and from 160 on a good line, good shot there for Henrik. Interested to see what Stenson does today. It's been a while since he's raised a trophy. Got to go back to 2022. This man right here, not the case, Zing, one of the best of the over 50 department. He's Mr. Consistent and he's been red hot. He's been consistent at winning. Getting to see how these guys like Tiziani feel on a Sunday with the lead.

[00:27:28.500]>>This also from 160 cannot go wrong, cannot miss right. This is another good shot.

[00:27:35.210]>>Yeah, oh high and they're tight. Great about the opportunities and headed into the day and in this final grouping of players that are not just trying to win but advance in these playoffs. Darren Clarke off to a great start this week, shot 64 on Friday.

[00:27:50.510]>>Golf swing hasn't continued the way it did in that opening round. Struggled with the ball striking yesterday, especially with the driving and.

[00:27:58.810]>>Clarke, a couple of shots off the lead right now, looking to pick up another victory here and.

[00:28:04.410]>>2026, but right now it's Tiziani at 10 under par. Early birdie for Mario, Henrik Stenson chasing Alker right there as well.

[00:28:16.960]>>I hit a really nice iron shot in here, just short of the hole, but this, this green runs from the front left to the back right, so this putt's definitely got some speed.

[00:28:27.960]>>Not a ton of brake, might slide a little to his right.

[00:28:47.160]>>Looking, good looking, walks it in. Excellent birdie and after the 3 putt immediately back to business is Henrik Stenson to 10 under, he goes.

[00:28:57.450]>>Tiziani now now

[00:29:05.160]>>Beautiful approach in here for Mario. So this is a great opportunity for 2 birdies in a row, 2 putt birdie back at the second.

[00:29:12.250]>>This has definitely got some off the hold of the right brake. So you gotta match speed and line here, get it up on that high line. This will really do a lot for his self-confidence if he can hold it. Yeah, beautifully done.

[00:29:27.510]>>Talking about being in a position he hasn't been in before, mentioned the round of golf he played yesterday, shot 63, low round of the week to this point, and what a great start for a man trying to win for the first time in his 50s. He's played a lot of golf in his career all over the place, but for Mario, he understands today is that opportunity. A little more on, on Mario, the 56-year-old as we take a look here.

[00:29:51.080]>>At Alker for birdie at the fourth. I mean, this is a guy that, that took 12 times to get through PGA Tour Q-School and then got through on his 12th attempt back in 2004. Resilience comes to mind. He's one on the Canadian Tour and won the Wisconsin Open back in 2002, but

[00:30:07.930]>>The golf has been solid on PGA Tour Champions, but this was obviously an unfamiliar position.

[00:30:17.400]>>Sabbatini needs a red hot round.

[00:30:21.520]>>Uh, they, you know, come out of the pack, maybe post a score. Got off to a great start. Birdie Eagle start, dropped the shot at the 3rd. Sabbatini. Yeah, he hasn't been out here very long, and he's actually sitting at 23rd in the Charles Schwab Cup point standings. He borrowed your shirt too, Paul. You know, you might get a free bowl of soup with that shirt. We had a similar camera angle.

[00:30:46.410]>>Watching him putt right at us on the last hole, John, and it was kind of a no-doubter. We're a little more to the left, but

[00:30:53.790]>>Still, this is going to be a good look. We'll know almost right away, Shane, if he makes this or not, but

[00:31:00.280]>>He's, you know, you and I faced this guy head-on in our careers, Cookie, and, uh, he's an amazing putter.

[00:31:08.020]>>Has been that there's no question about that, Paul and

[00:31:12.220]>>You know, with his, you know, with his, you know, ball striking prowess and, you know, this catches up and that's what you get, you know, winning an open and players and a match play and

[00:31:23.790]>>All of that, so just a couple of feet, no problem.

[00:31:28.950]>>And after the three-putt at the second for par, back-to-back for Stenson, a man that we mentioned turned 50 in April and pretty stout career, Paul Azinger. You think about all the events he's won, a lot of those events on the PGA Tour, you see the six wins, big-time events including, of course, that Open Championship, silver medalist in 2016 in Rio, FedExCup Champion in 2013, won a couple of FedExCup playoff events that year, won the players in '09.

[00:31:55.460]>>22 career wins worldwide, and he's got some big wins as well over in Europe. He won the DP World Tour championship a couple of times in a row. He's a thoroughbred. He's one of the superstars of the game. We had Vijay Singh win last week, one of the game's great superstars. Now, Stenson's trying to get that feeling back. It's been gone for a while.

[00:32:16.000]>>Alker

[00:32:18.090]>>That is perfectly read. Great role there. That is a pretty thing to watch, isn't it?

[00:32:23.790]>>Alker knows how to win and he's done a bunch of it lately.

[00:32:28.350]>>Zooming down on this 5th green, Henrik Stenson's got to look for birdie.

[00:32:33.870]>>Yeah, I hit a nice approach shot in here just underneath the hole.

[00:32:37.860]>>Uphill putt, not a whole lot to it. Fall left at the end.

[00:32:43.190]>>Pretty slow putt though.

[00:32:47.100]>>It's a little wide right and.

[00:32:49.800]>>Left himself a couple feet.

[00:32:51.970]>>Looks like Duffy Waldorf got a hold of Stenson's golf ball without that Sharpie marker on there. Let's go to Chalmers at the 7th, hardest hole on the golf course today.

[00:33:02.260]>>Oh, come on now, keep moving Chalmers. There we go, unlikely to here at the lengthy par 3.

[00:33:13.140]>>Clark here at the 6th.

[00:33:20.170]>>Clark's speed was off yesterday as much as anything.

[00:33:24.600]>>And that speed was ideal.

[00:33:30.940]>>Sabbatini up ahead. Birdie's the par 5, so.

[00:33:37.820]>>Doing the work needed

[00:33:39.770]>>On this side of the golf course up-and-down day at this point for Sabbatini.

[00:33:44.260]>>Clark, he really rolled the rock the first day. Nothing too much went in yesterday. That looks good. There we go, back-to-back for Darren Clarke. And again, a rare 2 here at the 7th, just the 3rd birdie of the day.

[00:33:57.760]>>Here at this par 3.

[00:34:00.780]>>So Stenson nearly hole out with the Eagles, got this left for Birdie.

[00:34:13.220]>>Yeah, not much to this. Maybe right of center has a little bit of left break to it, but.

[00:34:18.290]>>He's rocks rock solid on these.

[00:34:22.330]>>Pretty easy right there for Henrik.

[00:34:24.910]>>And right now, I mean, the three-putt par, he could be 4 under through 6 without having to do too much. The iron play has been elite, ball striking been great. Right now, Henrik Stenson taking command of this golf tournament.

[00:34:35.980]>>And limited starts this season on PGA Tour Champions. So Henrik, 3-under quickly in this final round, finds himself 2 clear of the rest of the field. Stinson, as we saw, started the week 56 on the points list. So, they had a good week trying to pick up a win.

[00:34:59.680]>>Stenson here, he let go of the club, you know, that's a pretty good miss hit from that far back. Just had to slam it up that slope.

[00:35:09.180]>>Underneath the hole

[00:35:10.890]>>Parel's got this for his birdie. Scott Parel could use a putt right about now.

[00:35:20.460]>>OK, he said, sure, I will. Why wouldn't you? He's sitting right on the bubble entering the final round. I think he's really in pretty good shape now.

[00:35:33.930]>>Clarke after that beautiful pitch shot, another birdie and playing a little bit more like what we saw on Friday from Darren Clarke, 4-under early.

[00:35:44.320]>>Go up to the 9th and Darren Clarke. Nobody rolling it better right now than Clarke trying to tie the lead.

[00:35:54.320]>>Look at that ball hug the rug.

[00:35:57.300]>>Got him.

[00:35:59.580]>>How about this opening 9 holes for Darren Clarke, 5 under out of the gate.

[00:36:05.250]>>Go up to the 11th Rory Sabbatini and this is that whole hole we were talking about, yeah, and this is your favorite shirt. I love that shirt.

[00:36:13.750]>>I love this putt, great speed. Can I get there? Sure, dead center. Sabbatini making some noise up ahead.

[00:36:24.390]>>Scott Parel now. Similar putt to what we just saw from Clark. Yeah, I always liked Scott Perrell's game. He is an aggressive player.

[00:36:35.010]>>He's a fan of that putt. Pretty good putter to boot.

[00:36:46.610]>> Boo Weekley

[00:36:48.320]>>Having a really nice week, having a good solid season.

[00:36:52.630]>>Boo Weekley, your guy. Oh, every team should have a mascot like Boo. He is truly something special that is an American treasure.

[00:37:02.800]>>Go back over to the 10th and

[00:37:04.800]>>Tiziani for a much needed birdie.

[00:37:07.590]>>And got a great read off of Henrik Stenson. Like almost the same putt, just a little shorter. It's quick and moves to the left, and there you go, Mario. Great roll for Mario.

[00:37:21.300]>>Not going away, Zing. No, and it's something he kind of needed, you know, that's a hard hole.

[00:37:30.260]>>We'll go up a hole. Sabbatini just off the green has made everything it seems today.

[00:37:36.290]>>Gonna get another one. He is so Sabbatini.

[00:37:40.830]>>Tack on another circle up-and-down day for Rory Sabbatini. He's in trouble. Alker stuffs it here at the 12th.

[00:37:50.390]>>We pay it off.

[00:37:53.470]>>You will, so hanging around 2 off the lead.

[00:37:58.500]>>Opportunity up ahead to post the number.

[00:38:06.070]>>Now Clark up ahead.

[00:38:10.310]>>It's on a great line, it's on a great line, there we go, Darren Clarke heating up on this Sunday and continuing to pour birdie putts in.

[00:38:23.140]>>Let's go to the 15th. This guy has just made everything today. Already has an eagle on the card. He's made a couple of putts from off the green.

[00:38:31.860]>>Just go in. Did he make another one? He made another one. Yeah, look at the reaction. A double fist pump. It's all worthy and it deserves it. I'd love to see that scorecard in colors. Just look at that. That is a big time putt for him. He's trying to win, man. He's trying to post a score.

[00:38:51.540]>>I mean, how about the fist pump? You don't see guys make that fist pump when they win golf tournaments. Sabbatini poured another in. The putter has been electric on this Sunday.

[00:39:01.930]>>Tiziani now.

[00:39:08.600]>>100% with you on Sunday. Let's see it. 172 for Mario. 165 gets him all the way back there's get up, stay up. Foot away, Cookie.

[00:39:21.790]>>How about Sabbatini? I mean, this has got to go in. Every putt's going in today. He's got all the momentum. Did he hit it? Did he hit it? He hit it. Better believe he hit it. And what a perfect reaction after the double fist pump. This, that's more of a, I'm in full control of my emotions. I have a chance, you know, he's smelling the bloodline, I guess, uh, like a shark in the water.

[00:39:46.480]>>Clarke's 2nd now into the par 50, this is beautiful. Way, way up in the air. That is a real gift right at it. These guys are all out to win, man. Nobody's backing off now. Let's go to Clark at 15. Yeah, but Bertsch's status is different than those other guys.

[00:40:10.490]>>Uh, I think he had designs on holding that.

[00:40:14.280]>>I really do.

[00:40:16.250]>>Go to 17. Perfect tee shot for Sabbatini. Yeah, he's the man of the moment now. This guy, big freeze, beautiful rhythm.

[00:40:25.210]>>Another one. Another one. There's no stopping, no defense in golf, baby. When a guy gets it going like that, you just have to sit back and enjoy.

[00:40:36.860]>>Just missed that tiny little putt there for Birdie, about a 3 footer.

[00:40:42.030]>>Alker not gonna miss that one. So he makes his needed birdie here at 15. And it is really the best players out here are at the top of the board. Petrovic, there we go. There's that birdie. Oh, man, is he hanging by a thread? He, I don't know. I think he's got a little more status than, uh, Bertsch.

[00:41:03.180]>>Maybe not quite as urgent for him, but still, he wants to play next week.

[00:41:10.420]>>I think that's the key is continuing the season and now projected fifty-second, so that would advance him into Arkansas.

[00:41:20.470]>>Vaughn Taylor cleaning this up for his party. You see the mark just to the right of the golf ball there, that's Sabatini's for his birdie. Great angle to watch his stroke.

[00:41:30.740]>>Yeah

[00:41:34.410]>>Good visual. And now for Rory Sabbatini, this, if he can convert this, a run of eagle at 15, birdie at 16, birdie at 17 would get him to 8 under on the round with 3 bogeysing.

[00:41:50.110]>>Should be color coded scorecard.

[00:41:56.160]>>That's not a gimme he's staring at.

[00:41:59.470]>>Take the outright lead.

[00:42:15.120]>>Curls it in that right side, just catching that ball, but good enough and with the local hat on, Sabbatini walks over to 18, an opportunity.

[00:42:27.500]>>To potentially birdie and make Svensson and company rip this finish to catch him.

[00:42:35.290]>>Perfect tee shot for Steven Alker. He's got a little momentum right now with 3 holes to go. He's 2 behind though. Tiziani, one of the best tee shots of the day, Cookie.

[00:42:50.260]>>Oh, absolutely, 201 front, 219 hole, 3 iron here for Mario up the hill.

[00:43:00.630]>>It's not an aggressive line, needs to get up a little bit.

[00:43:05.210]>>And that's going to be awkward. The pitching and the scrambling for Tiziani has been a struggle today. Now Sabbatini find this fairway and turns it into a birdie hole with his distance. Hang on.

[00:43:20.090]>>There's a rough there. He needed more than a hair. That would have been a whole crop of hair. Good news back right old location at 18, so the angle will be his right now. It's all Sabbatini. What a run. Eagle, birdie, birdie to take the lead.

[00:43:43.440]>>I understand that he had, look, you've got the greener grass. I got, I just got the dry grass. Let's do it.

[00:43:49.380]>>Come on, dude, you hit the S on the Stifel. I got to, I can't hit the other one because the other, the other one, it's got Stanger all day long. This one's got to be the smart play, even if it comes up short, at least you're going up the green. We have a chance with it, correct? Are you on the S?

[00:44:03.150]>>Uh, I'm going to try and get this right on the eye in it. Do it.

[00:44:09.460]>>Well, here we go. Brandon Antis, one of the best caddies out here. Now this is just a mystery lie.

[00:44:18.650]>>Holes all the way in the back of the green and on the right hand side.

[00:44:23.630]>>See if you can judge it.

[00:44:27.010]>>No, it came out soft, left.

[00:44:29.770]>>Left, it's to go.

[00:44:34.680]>>OK, just finds the surface and how about a difference in a week? Paul Azinger last week Sabbatini shot 81-77 to finish.

[00:44:46.120]>>It's not uncommon. You know, a guy will have a horrible week and something clicks, you know, instantly and they become a superstar again, just like that.

[00:44:55.390]>>Well, Tiziani now, good break off the flagstick, see if you can convert this for birdie.

[00:45:00.850]>>He just saw Shane Bertsch make a similar putt from just outside his ball. Does have some right to left in it.

[00:45:09.770]>>See how much this looks like. See how much this looks like Stricker.

[00:45:15.900]>>Completely same putter everything, yeah, arms, the way those arms hang, the little, that little forward press there, the jigger and there you go, just jiggles it a little.

[00:45:26.860]>>Same result

[00:45:28.970]>>Needed it. Yeah, he's a good player. I gotta tell you, he's really, uh, held his own with.

[00:45:34.740]>>Pretty strong field. Go to Clark off the green.

[00:45:41.800]>>Makeable

[00:45:44.960]>>A good line, it's on a good line, it's on a really good line, he made it.

[00:45:49.210]>>After he misses a birdie at 15.

[00:45:53.190]>>Pours in 1 from off the green here at 16 and Darren Clarke now joins Sabbatini at 13 under par.

[00:46:03.560]>>Well, this guy's still in the mix. Alker in here tied at 16.

[00:46:10.240]>>Just nudging it in the hole, dying speed the way he rocks and rolls Paul and he's right there back-to-back.

[00:46:18.060]>>It's got 18 Sabbatini. You mentioned it, Paul, 40 ft. Yeah, maybe even a little bit longer than that, but you know, it comes down to great lag putting on Sunday, never more so than this time right here for Sabbatini.

[00:46:33.080]>>On a really nice line, did he make it? He made it in the middle. 23 putts on the day, Sabbatini. Incredible finish.

[00:46:43.870]>>Ties the tournament record and now makes everybody come and get him.

[00:46:53.430]>>He hit it perfect speed, didn't he? Just absolutely perfect pace on this putt and when you can do that, sometimes they fall in.

[00:47:04.820]>>He knew it right there. 29 on his back nine. Birdie at 13, eagle at 15, birdie, birdie, birdie finish for Rory Sabbatini.

[00:47:18.760]>>Oh man, took a big swing way up in the air. Paul Azinger might get to the front of the green. That is really a shot and a half to get it that far. There's Tiziani. He's 16. He's got to run them all.

[00:47:34.640]>>Well there's one great birdie there, so he joins that crew at 12 under par.

[00:47:40.920]>>Now Clarke got a birdie.

[00:47:44.930]>>Gonna put this tee ball in the fairway.

[00:47:55.960]>>Went down for his tee pretty quickly for good reason, right up the left center of the fairway right next to Steven Alker.

[00:48:07.160]>>I

[00:48:15.120]>>Stenson, big putt for Birdie here.

[00:48:33.220]>>He didn't hit it, struggled to get the ball to the hole on this back nine and

[00:48:38.310]>>For Henrik Stenson after that great start, he was 3 under through 6 with a 3 putt at the second for par since then.

[00:48:47.830]>>That is now 12 holes, all pars for Stinson when everybody else is going bananas, including, of course, Sabbatini with that closing 29.

[00:48:57.830]>>And I hit this Putt 6 times.

[00:49:05.560]>>It's really straight until the very end it's gonna fall to the right.

[00:49:10.860]>>Easy to miss this putt to the right thinking it's going to go left, but it actually falls slightly to the right at the end.

[00:49:22.100]>>Sabbatini pulled the rabbit out of his hat at exactly the right time. Can Clarky follow up on it?

[00:49:35.950]>>And that one not going to move that much, so Sabbatini dodges another one.

[00:49:41.860]>>Alker gone, now Darren Clarke done.

[00:49:46.950]>>Somebody gonna have to.

[00:49:49.620]>>Hole out here at 18, or Sabbatini will be a winner on PGA Tour Champions.

[00:50:02.020]>>I guarantee he doesn't want to make bogey to finish off his season.

[00:50:07.730]>>He is taking forever to hit it. It means the world to him.

[00:50:19.470]>>Be the one walking after it.

[00:50:24.140]>>What a shot. Yeah, you could tell by his body language that is something special, man. Was it worth the wait? I think so. Just about hold it out. Heck yeah. There's so much at stake for him. And as you mentioned, season might be ending, but there's a lot of dough left for these players, and I mentioned earlier Stinson with the 2nd. Tiziani still with an opportunity to tie, but this has got to go. So last chance.

[00:50:58.020]>>In reality, he's just Bertsch is not trying to finish 3rd. He could finish, uh, solo 5th though. It should be pretty nice beauty there, but that going in title belonging to Rory Sabbatini, 62 to close and it's official. Your champion here in Saint Louis.

[00:51:17.650]>>Yeah.

[00:51:19.290]>>I wasn't expecting it, but definitely wasn't expecting the one on 18.

[00:51:26.880]>>But here he is, it's a

[00:51:29.850]>>It's just an amazing round of golf out of this guy today.

[00:51:36.510]>>And some crazy putts. I mean, nobody was making that putt at 11, broke about 6 ft. This one from off the green at 13 after a drop shot at the 12th. You can never count on this, you know.

[00:51:49.940]>>It was just magic. I mean, he played the last 6 holes, 6 under par. This was the double fist pump worthy and really at this point you knew there was a certain sense of momentum, no doubt. I don't think, uh, any of us are surprised to see Rory Sabbatini win, maybe surprised to see 62, uh, come out of the pack to do it, but you know he's so competitive and so intense, and, uh, he did it on Sunday, man. He put it all together.