

**ROUND 3 QUOTES**  
**August 25, 2024**

**STEWART CINK (-17)**



**Q. Stewart, you got the job done. I guess my first question, I want to go back, you had talked a lot -- not a lot, but enough about Tucson to where that obviously remained a frustration with you. How much was that a motivation this week for you?**

**STEWART CINK:** It was a motivation, for sure, once I got near the lead in the first round. I know I'm capable of winning, but we have this funny way of believing in like the two percent of things that happen instead of the 98 percent. Tucson I think was probably a two percent, but it happened. I think any human being would probably let that linger in their mind because it hurt, it didn't feel good at all and I didn't want to repeat that.

Coming out today, I definitely had a goal of sort of rewriting that script in my own mind. My wife, Lisa, is so good about talking to me about things like that. I talked to her some and she just gave me like a real good sort of peace of mind about going out there and just letting it all happen and living with whatever happens at the end. So I owe a lot of thanks to her. She knows me so well, almost too well in a way.

**Q. When I talked to you earlier before you teed off, I said good luck today and you said it's going to be a good day. That was kind of open ended, like win or lose it's going to be a good day, which I've always admired about you. It was a good day and you just talked here about some of the best golf that you've played in maybe even years. If you could just talk about today's round.**

**STEWART CINK:** Well, one thing I work very hard to do is to -- I golf to just fit into the day, I don't want golf to be the pinnacle and the most important crux of the day. It's really challenging as a professional golfer to not let the results of the round sort of dictate the rest of your day before and after.

So I feel like the best way for me to perform best is for golf is just to fit into what I already know is going to be a great day. It was a great morning, it's going to be a great night and it turned out today that the golf was also really good. But I like to try to have that mentality and that was what I meant when I said that to you. I know it's going to be a good day and I hope I hit some really good shots. And I would love to win, but either way, it's still going to be a good day.

**Q. And a couple of the keys to the round today, I think you mentioned a stretch of holes that you felt like was some of the best golf you played in a long time.**

**STEWART CINK:** Yeah. Well, I noticed on, I don't know what hole it was, but it was early in the round, probably four or five, that K.J. had started hot and he had already tied me, so my

lead was gone. All that stuff with having the lead was over.

It actually helped quite a bit to kind of put me into a little bit more of a fight and attack mode instead of protect mode. I played the first four holes fine. I mean, I had birdie putts. I didn't make anything, but I just was a little bit defensive and tentative, I could feel it.

When I saw K.J.'s name up there tied with me, I knew it was, all right, it's time to like put the track shoes on because we'll have to go get this thing. At that point another gear came out and I started hitting fairways and I was just like, I was piping the driver and hit a lot of pure irons and made some putts that I needed to. I didn't fill it up today with the putter, but I made the putts that I needed to and I birdied the holes that were birdiable out there.

I was just really proud of myself the way I stayed in the moment and just did the best I could on every shot. Today the best I could do was pretty darn good, it was some of the best golf I've played in quite a while.

**Q. You also commented down here when they asked you about bouncing back and forth between the tours that winning out here in your 10th start might shift your priorities a little bit?**

**STEWART CINK:** Well, my priorities I think already shifted before this week. I feel like this was the first week of a new priority for me as opposed to winning and OK, now we're going to shift.

After the Wyndham in Greensboro, I was just not in a great place and just kind of decided and talked to my wife and some of my team about, you know what, I kind of think it's time. Like I'm excited to play at The Ally Championship and The Ascension coming up in a few weeks in St. Louis. I feel like that excitement is worth listening to.

I just kind of decided that, you know what, I'm going to focus more time now on PGA TOUR Champions and shift on over. I'm not going to completely stop playing PGA TOUR events, but I feel like I have a home out here that needs -- I need to come and stay in my home. I'm ready. I like it out here, it's fun and it's just a real blessing to be able to have this. To compete at over 50, it's awesome.

**Q. You become the 22nd player to win Korn Ferry Tour, PGA TOUR, now PGA TOUR Champions. How cool is it to be a part of that club?**

**STEWART CINK:** Yeah, it's awesome. It just speaks to, well, the longevity of a player, yes, but also what golf can offer, like a career that can span -- I don't even know how old I was when I won my first tournament back on the Nike Tour. I guess I could do the math, 23 maybe, 22 or 23.

Now here I am in my 50s and I've won in a lot of decades in my life. It's a testament to the game that we all play and we all love. I'm just proud to be part of that. It's a small group and

those are some good names.

**Q. I'm probably going out on too much of a limb here, but would love to hear your thoughts. You're a busy man with everything coming up, Presidents Cup, right now. I was texting with Mark Williams, who's in Denver this week. He was like, you know what, Stewart and Keegan better be careful, they may -- they have a chance of playing their way onto the team. Has that even entered your mind?**

**STEWART CINK:** I doubt that the group of Kevin Kisner and myself and Justin and Keegan and Jim Furyk will be taking a look at The Ally Championship results and factoring that into the picks.

But no, it's not. I don't know what's going to happen at the BMW, but I think Keegan Bradley, he's trying to state a case for himself. I'm not. I'm happy being an assistant captain. I'd love to play, but winning here is not going to get me on the team.

But does it get me into Kapalua?

**Q. Oh, yeah, it does.**