

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES
January 22, 2026



FRED COUPLES (-7)

Q. Fred, 7-under 65, just how pleased are you with your start today?

FRED COUPLES: Yeah, very pleased. You know, I started out not a great drive on 1 and then a bad 9-iron on 2 and three-putted from a long way. Here we are starting 2026 on a course that I absolutely love over par.

But I birdied 3 and eagled 4, which kind of gave me a nice "let's get going." I drove it well, I hit some good irons and when I did get it close enough, I seemed to make the putt. I believe I birdied three of the four par-5s, so that was good.

Q. Fred, we talked earlier in the week, you're not 100 percent, are you?

FRED COUPLES: Well, my body hurts. I mean, the flu is kind of gone, but I'm really, really sore. I mean, it makes my back seem like nothing. Right in here, I don't even know what it is. The doctor thought it was from coughing for three or four days. As Chaney came to the range without a cart, I said, "Where's my cart?" I couldn't walk one hole, it hurt so bad.

I'll get some treatment, I'll work on it, I'll get a lot of rest and hopefully I'll come out and it feels the same. As long as it feels like this, I just get tired.

I've done nothing. I've laid in bed trying to make sure I didn't go anywhere too fast so I'd get sick again. I wanted to come to Hawaii kind of fresh. Seems like it's worked out.

Q. Talk to me about the new sponsor, the new clothing sponsor?

FRED COUPLES: Yeah, the Malbon. You know, Steven and William and all the guys -- William works for Steven, but Steven's my boss. I was very excited to talk to him about it. I'm wearing -- I wear a lot of white shirts and I wear a lot of slacks. Just trying to make them proud because I'm very thrilled to be with them. They're a great, great company. I'm hoping when I play, I represent them well.

There are several other guys that have come on lately to follow Jason Day, and we all love Jason Day. It's kind of fun for me to see what they have in store for me.

Q. Are we going to see you in a hoodie and everything else?

FRED COUPLES: You might, you might, but it will be cashmere, that's for sure. Just think about that, it will be a cashmere hoodie. It won't be anything else.

And they know that, and that's basically why I signed. They were so understanding.

One of the next two days I'll have some different kind of pants on, but they fit me beautifully. They're kind of wide legs, but they're nothing crazy. You'll see tomorrow or Sunday, or Saturday. Depends on what I come out here with. Or I could wash these clothes and wear these again.