

ROUND 3 QUICK QUOTES
March 29, 2026



ERNIE ELS (-15)

Q. What did you think of your round today?

ERNIE ELS: Yeah, I did some good things. All week I was just a little off. Tried a new driver this week. I started really hitting it well today. Yeah, the one on 10, I made a bogey on 10. That was a big --

Q. Big turning point?

ERNIE ELS: Exactly. Then I didn't birdie 11. I had a birdie opportunity from eight feet on 12, I didn't make that. I still felt if I had a strong, quick finish, I could maybe have a chance, but I needed to make an eagle or something. I think Stewart was just a bit too far away. But I had a really good week.

Q. What do you think of Stewart's game? Why is he doing so well out here?

ERNIE ELS: Well, this is perfect for him. Anybody that can hit it far, you're going to have fun here. Him and Pdraig are our two longest hitters. You saw yesterday that beautiful 6-iron he played. Those par 5s are really 4s for him. He's stayed steady. He's a force out here right now.

Q. You must have a lot of confidence every time you come here though?

ERNIE ELS: I love it. I told you guys from the first time I was here, I was like man, I just want to keep coming back. Golf course was even in better shape than ever this year, so the greens staff gets a lot of credit. The tournament being run this well, it's really one of our top tournaments on tour. When the weather's like this, you can't beat it.

Q. Does it almost feel like a major though because everybody's here?

ERNIE ELS: Beautiful turnout, isn't it? Wonderful crowd. Well educated for golf, too. They like to have a good time. It's a great place to play golf.

