

ROUND 3 QUICK QUOTES
APRIL 26, 2026



RETIEF GOOSEN (+39)

Q. Just first question, emotions right now, what are you feeling?

RETIEF GOOSEN: You know, I think the biggest emotion is that I've won in front of my son, him actually seeing me win, not seeing me on TV win. Was nice to pull it off in front of him. Last time I won in front of him he was one year old in 2004's U.S. Open, so really proud moment to have him here and see me lifting a trophy.

Q. This week was your 150th start on PGA TOUR Champions. What does it mean to you that you've been able to be competitive for 150 starts and hopefully even more?

RETIEF GOOSEN: I can't believe it's been 150 already, the years are flying by.

No, I'm very fortunate to still be able to get around. And having a few wins under my belt, it's a great feeling. I'm only 42 or so behind Bernhard. I don't know if that's necessarily going to happen in my lifetime.

No, it's great to still be competitive and have a chance out here, winning, beating the rookies that are just coming out on Tour, so it's great fun.

Q. You're now the second player to win on this property on both the PGA TOUR and PGA TOUR Champions. What does that mean to you?

RETIEF GOOSEN: It just shows you what a great golf course this is. The test of time really, been around for so long, this golf course still hosting these great events. Take a hat off to Sugarloaf, they do an amazing job here. The weather was just beautiful this week, too, so it was a great event.

Q. Obviously the format was a little bit different with this one, but how does this win compare to your BellSouth Classic win in 2002?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Well, the difference is you can make a double bogey and pick up. The BellSouth Classic, you have to keep going until you're in the hole. That's the big difference. The point system makes you be a little bit more aggressive and take a chance.

I think if you -- stroke play, you play some of the shots differently, maybe a little safer, but with this point system you just feel like bogey is OK, you only lose one point, but you need birdies. Birdies are the only ones that are going to get you up there. Today I felt I hope those two bogeys I made are not going to cost me, but they didn't in the end.



Q. What was the mindset at the turn? Like you said, you had those two bogeys on the front. Was there anything that you kind of told yourself or that your caddie told you to kind of lock back in on the back?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Yeah, I made a bad bogey on the first really. Under hit the second shot and missed it in the worst place you could miss it. Hit a great shot on the par 3 to a few feet and the next hole, so suddenly three birdies in a row, I was back in it.

And Zach seemed to struggle there around a few holes, too. He just never really got it going, but then he got it going these last few holes and then it was on. You know, eagle for him could have put him right up there, 39 points, I think.

Yeah, I'm happy. On that last tee shot too, I hit it nicely and managed to catch that slope and run all the way down. Hit a poor 9-iron, but the last place I wanted to leave it was left. I probably missed my spot by about four or five yards. Was nice to roll a putt in.

Q. You look so unflappable out there.

RETIEF GOOSEN: No, no. I mean, you keep trying, trying, telling yourself stay calm, stay calm. You know, it's not -- it doesn't come around too often being top of the leaderboard or chance to win.

As you get older, you get a little more nervy and start doubting yourself, but I think the experience that I've had around this course helped. Some of the putts and the things you remember from the past, things like that can help definitely.

Q. You shot a 66 all three days, 12, 13, 14 points. What's the key to just staying that consistent all three days at a course like this?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Well, like I said, I think we were lucky with the weather. Yesterday we had that little rain that went through on the front nine and I struggled a bit. Otherwise, every day the course just pretty much played the same. I got into a great rhythm all week. I drove it really well in the first round, yesterday pretty poor and today was a little better.

The putter this week got me going and that's how you win tournaments.

Q. That's what I was going to ask you, about the putting, because I think you finished first in the stats for the week. That's something that's been part of your game for a long, long time. How do you keep it going like that?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Putting, pretty much every week somebody wins this ranked up there one or two in putting, but you've got to hit the ball well too to make those putts. So I hit a lot of iron shots close this week, made a few nice longish ones, made the par ones when I needed it except today.



Yeah, I changed my putter grip this week actually. I went from being the two thumb grip to just a normal reverse overlap that I've always putted with. I changed that the second nine of the pro-am on Thursday. I suddenly felt like, oh, this feels OK, maybe I should go back there. I stuck with it and there we go.

Q. Just something that --

RETIEF GOOSEN: Went back to the grip that I sort of -- when I putted my best with. It felt a bit weird at times, but I managed to release the blade nicely this week.

Q. Did you know your son was going to be here this week --

RETIEF GOOSEN: Oh, yeah.

Q. -- or had you planned it out?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Oh, no. He came with me early in the week. He's now changed his mind, he's going to come next week, too. Hopefully he brings his calmness with me because he's a pretty calm lad.

