

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES
August 6, 2026

DENNY McCARTHY (-6)



Q. Denny, bogey-free 64, that's a nice start. If we can get some comments on your round.

DENNY McCARTHY: Really solid start. No secrets, I've got to have a really good week to get into next week. Figured come out firing, playing really freely. I feel like I did a really good job of that for the most part today. Really committed swings. Geno and I here, we did a really good job picking targets and clubs and really committing to it. Yeah, I played really nicely. That was one of the better ball-striking rounds I've had this year for sure.

Q. What have you found lately?

DENNY McCARTHY: Just putting in the work. I mean, it's been a tough year. I feel like it's been a really, really slow climb to get to a point where I've kind of had an a-ha moment. I feel like I had that a couple times earlier in the year, but I feel like I've gotten onto some really good stuff here in the last month or so. Just feeling -- it all comes down to feeling really comfortable and confident when you get on the course and hitting the shots. It's one thing to do it on the range, but when you get in tournament play on the course, feeling really comfortable with what you're doing is important and I feel much better than I did a few months ago.

Q. When did you go back to your old coach?

DENNY McCARTHY: It's a good question, I don't know exactly. Before the PGA a few weeks. Kind of right after Miami I think it was.

Q. And what's the biggest change that you guys implemented?

DENNY McCARTHY: Just doing stuff with my body. My trainer and Brian, my coach, we've done a really good job of stuff in the gym. Had a couple good sessions where Brian's come to the gym with my trainer, Alex. They're both very smart with the body, I trust them both very much. So we've even had some really good sessions where the trainer comes out to the course just checking movement and stuff. I feel like we've gotten on some really good stuff here in the last month or so.

Q. Was there an approach shot early that made you feel like you might be dialed in today?

DENNY McCARTHY: That's a good question. I really liked the 4-iron I hit into 12. Nos. 10, 11, 12's a tough start early in the morning, wet, dewy. You've got to put the ball in the



fairway on 10, 11 to start. I hit a really good 4-iron on 12 and a really good 4-iron on 15 that kind of felt really good. Then I hit another good 7-iron on 16. I had a pretty good feel from four, five holes into the round and played a really nice front nine, pretty stress free. Had some putts that could have dropped, but overall ball-striking was really solid.

Q. You've been in really good shape for the 50 the last two years. What's it like having your back kind of against the wall to make the Playoffs?

DENNY McCARTHY: Yeah, it's a little adversity I've got to face this year, right? It hasn't been the kind of year that I've wanted, it's been tough, but it doesn't mean -- I feel like I'm playing really good golf right now. I feel like I can a -- things can change quickly out here. I like how I feel and just try and continue to play like I did today.

I played really freely today. Even at 3M I hit a lot of good shots a couple weeks ago. I played really freely in a spot where I hadn't really been in a while, semi in contention. I was on the outside looking in of trying to compete to win the tournament, but nerves I hadn't felt in a little while being in the top-10 competing for a good finish. So I liked some of the stuff I saw there and just been trying to build on that the last few weeks.

Q. How much is Memphis on your mind in terms of trying to qualify?

DENNY McCARTHY: Yeah, it's definitely on my mind. I want to play -- I want to play well this week to play next week, but like I said over there to Ryan, I'm accepting of what happens. I'm not going to put so much pressure on myself to -- I'm not going to be like I have to play well, I have to play well. I'm just going to go play freely and see where that puts me.

I did a really good job today of just picking shots, committing to them. I hit a lot of them exactly how I wanted. It was just fun to play golf that way. I'm not really thinking ahead, I'm just going to enjoy the golf that I played today and try and continue to build on that.

Q. Is it extra frustrating when your superpower, your putting, kind of lets you down a little bit?

DENNY McCARTHY: I wouldn't say it let me down. Are you saying today?

Q. No, this year.

DENNY McCARTHY: I wouldn't say it's really let me down. I don't know what I am in the putting stats. I think they're still pretty good.

What are my putting stats there? Do you know my putting stats?

I wouldn't say my putter's let me down at all. There's about -- there's four putts on the front nine that I hit really good putts that all could have gone in that didn't. A 6 under could have been a 9 under pretty easily.



I like the way I have been putting the ball most of the year. Whether it goes in the hole or not is a different story. In my mind, I've made a lot of putts that don't go in. I've hit the putts I've wanted. I would still consider it a strength. What's my putting at?

Q. Fourteen.

DENNY McCARTHY: He just said 14, but this guy's telling me it's letting me down.

Q. Usually 1 or 2. 14 is bad for you.

DENNY McCARTHY: It's still pretty good. That's not too bad.

