

ROUND 4 QUICK QUOTES
November 12, 2023

ERNIE ELS (-17)



Q. Ernie, I tell you what, what a challenge it was, you hung in there today. That second shot on 18 was so close to being perfect. Tell us about that.

ERNIE ELS: Yeah, thanks, Phil. Yeah, I had 208 to the front. I can hit a 5-iron 205 in perfect conditions, so I had to get on it to get to the front. After you hit a cut swinging really hard, you've got to get out of the way quickly and I kind of got out of the way too quickly, kind of hung it out. I hit it solid, but too far right.

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Q. Yeah, it was only three yards off. You had such a great start and then the miss at 9. Did that kind of derail you a little bit?

ERNIE ELS: Yeah, yeah. I mean, the first day I putted so beautifully, made a lot of putts. Then second, I kind of missed a couple and it put a little doubt in me, to be honest, for the rest of the week. I kind of fought it well, but yeah, I just kind of -- when you're a little unsure, you're unsure about the line that you pick. I was kind of hoping for that putt to turn left, which it didn't. I hit a solid putt, but that slowed me down, slowed the momentum down. I can look back at those.

Q. Take me through what happened on 18.

ERNIE ELS: Yeah, I hit a beautiful drive. I had 208 to the front edge and it's all I wanted to do was carry the front edge, let the ball release. So I picked a 5-iron and I needed to really get on it, which I did, but trying to hit that fade, you've got to get your body out of the way a lot, and I kind of got out of the shot a little quick so it went a bit right and kept cutting.

Yeah, I kind of went for it, but I'll look back at that shot.

Q. Great start. I mean, you got out of the gates the way you wanted to, I think. What happened with the stall in there from like 10 to --

ERNIE ELS: It was really No. 9. I was 5 under through eight and I hit it real close on 9 just up the hill five feet and I overrated, I missed that putt and it kind of slowed the momentum. Coming to 10, 11 are tough holes, 12 I was right in front of the green, I didn't get up and down. I played pretty solid. If I make a putt here and there early on in the second nine, you know, the momentum changes again. But it's fine. I had a good tournament. Just got to just dust up a little bit, get ready for next year.

