

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
March 29, 2019



FRED COUPLES (-3)

Q. Fred, nice finish right there with a birdie, 3 under par, got yourself back in the mix. When you look at this day as a difficult day, what do you take away positive from this day?

FRED COUPLES: Well, I felt like I judged the greens pretty well. They're really, really nice. They're very fast. So, you know, I'm happy they're like that because Augusta's in a couple weeks and they're not far from Augusta pace.

So hitting the ball, I took a few days off. I tweaked my back a little bit so I didn't play in the pro-am, I didn't play Wednesday, but I got in the round today. The guys worked pretty hard in the truck to get me going, so I owe them a good thanks. I'm going to go see them again.

But as far as the day, this golf course, it's a little thin in the fairways in some spots, you're walking down them, but the greens are 12 out of 10.

Q. You talked about the Masters. Do you take this week and the pace of the greens right now, this is really a good lead-in to that week, isn't it?

FRED COUPLES: 100 percent. I'm so glad they moved this up a week because the last few years I do play on Sunday now at Augusta, so I skipped this. But it's one of my favorite events. I love the course and the greens are unreal. You get it on line, I mean, I made a lot of nice little short putts, but the 30-, 40-, 50-footers I lagged very well.