“There are 4 seasonal tournaments like this every year in Taiwan. I use to play this tournament all the time and have won 12 times between the age of 12-15, basically all the championships of all age groups.

Hello, everyone, I am CT Pan, very happy to meet you all here

I have so many memories here; seeing the kids here today just made me think of where I started.”

**2019 RBC HERITAGE CHAMPION CT PAN IS AT HOME IMERSED IN HIS TAIWANESE ROOTS. EVERY YEAR, RETURNING TO HIS HOMETOWN IN SEARCH OF INSPIRATION FROM THE PLACES WHERE EVERYTHING BEGAN.**

What shall we eat? What about the Tong Zai rice cake?

Usually we just go for the street food.

We would just eat our way through the whole street.

Yes, pick whatever we feel like.

What about some roast pork rice?

I want rice cake.

Some soup too?

I just love coming here

There are so many good memories.

The most famous place here is the Dajia Jenn Lann Temple, the goddess (Mazu) here is very well respected.

When I was a kid, I use to come here all the time, pray for the family and pray to play better golf.

**CT SOT:** English: I’m from Miaoli County, Taiwan. It’s a very small town; it’s about two hours away from the major cities in Taiwan. I have four sisters and one brother. Four sisters came first and then my brother and then me. So I have a big family. So it’s always very loud. My siblings all talking very loud, and just very happy, very happy environment. This is where my home is, and it has a really nice golf course around it.

MOM SOT: “At the time, I was working here as a caddie. His father brought him here to play. They were surprised to see so many people playing golf.”

**HE FIRST STARTED PLAYING AT AN ABANDONED DRIVING RANGE WHERE HE AND HIS BROTHER AND HIS LATE FATHER, AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MATH TEACHER, WOULD CREATE THEIR OWN HOLES.**

**HIS FATHER WITH BIG DREAMS FOR HIS TWO BOYS.**

2:26 CT PAN: I remember it was 1996 when tiger woods turned professional. So the sport was booming at the time, and my father thought that was a good sign. And he wanted my brother and me to become the golfer and hopefully professional golfers.

2:44 BROTHER: When we were kids, it was just here where we first started to play golf. At the time, the condition wasn’t nearly this good, it was really just a piece of empty field and dad just found a few flags and would have us imagine the holes.

Mom SOT: 2:59 : Look how small CT was! So young, this is when he was probably in 1st or 2nd grade of primary school, this is three of us playing golf together.

This was the dream for all three of them, they were so determined and would get up at 5am everyday to practice.

3:29 CT PAN: Well, my father, he wasn’t really a good golfer, honestly. He learned golf about six months before I did, so he taught me a couple really basic stuffs. Like grips, stance, and how to swing. But after a while, he’s not capable to teach us more stuff, so we would go to the library to read magazines and try to get some tips. You know, we’d find superstars in the books or in the magazine. And that’s how we learned golf, actually.

3:57 “Here it is, Golf Digest. This is the “library” we used to come to. My brother and I used to read the tips, take notes, and head to the course the next day and try them out. Because I’ve been doing this from childhood through adulthood, I’m very okay with changing or tweaking something about my game, even during a competition. It’s a skill I developed here.

4:27 The Pan family’s financial situation wasn’t great in the beginning and they really couldn't even afford clubs or golf balls. So, Pan’s dad would go to the course and collect golf balls for his sons to use.

4:35 My father, he was a very strict person. Very harsh parent, honestly. Every morning before breakfast he would drop my brother and me off at the gate. It’s about a kilometer straight up hill running. He would tell my brother and me that, like, “you have to finish this run in order to earn a breakfast.”

4:58 “Every morning my dad would drop me off here and he would go to buy breakfast, I’d have to run the whole way before I could eat breakfast. But I feel like it was his way of making me both physically and mentally stronger.”

**LIKE HIS BREAKFAST, EVERY STEP OF CT’S GOLF CAREER WAS EARNED. THE PROMISING JUNIOR PLAYER ONCE CUT FROM THE NATIONAL TRAINING TEAM FOR BEING TOO SHORT.**

5:18 It must have been around 2002 or 2003, about that time, I remember CT’s father called me and said that the Pan brothers had returned from the Taiwan GA training team. He then told me that the team executive had told him CT was too short to be a good golfer. And that they thought it limited his potential. But the sentence that I remember most clearly was Pan’s dad said to me, “it’s ok, we will go home and train by ourselves.”

CT SOT: 5:57: We would go to beach, my father would put down the flag, you know, draw a green, like, on the beach, and then we would start practicing—chipping, putting, and some bunker shot obviously. To me that was a really cool memory. Because, like, no one did that when I was there. Other than that, we would practice on the roof. Hitting hundred yard shots into the rice field and then I always remember it was very vivid, cool seeing.

6:28 This picture really makes me reminisce. Because It’s the three of us, father and sons, driving around in this van to tournaments all over Taiwan. Nights, we would sleep in the van – constantly being eaten by mosquitos and a lot of times chased off by the cops. Just a lot of memories. This van was our moving “hotel.”

**ONLY 10 YEARS AFTER HOLDING A GOLF CLUB FOR THE FIRST TIME, AT THE AGE OF 15, CT WON A SILVER MEDAL IN THE ASIAN GAMES, THE SMALL-TOWN TAIWANESE BOY, THEN HEADED TO THE US.**

CT 6:56 I’m from a small town in Taiwan – far away from the U.S. but I think that’s what’s very special about this sport. It doesn’t matter where you come from, it only matters how you play – how you perform.

7:08 Dad always told us, ever since we started playing golf, that our number-one goal should be to play in the US, to play on the PGA TOUR.

**CT CAME TO THE U-S; FIRST AT THE FAMED IMG ACADEMY IN BRADENTON, FLORIDA AND THEN THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON. WHERE HE BECAME AN AMATEUR STAR, WINNING 8-TIMES FOR THE HUSKIE, BECOMING THE WORLD NUMBER-ONE AMATEUR IN 2013.**

**HE WOULD TURN PROFESSIONAL IN 2015, WORKING HIS WAY THROUGH THE MACKENZIE TOUR CANADA AND THEN THE WEB.COM TOUR, WHERE HE OFFICIALLY RECEIVED HIS PGA TOUR CARD IN 2016.**

{Announce PGA TOUR card}

**BUT THE LOSS OF HIS FATHER TO CANCER MEANT THAT HIS DAD NEVER GOT TO SEE THE FAMILY DREAM REALIZED.**

CT brother: 7:40 It’s very emotional for me to see CT fulfill the dream of dad, to fulfill our dream. Although dad is not here with us anymore, I am sure he can see it from heaven, and that he is very happy.

7:51 The whole experience from moving from Taiwan to U.S. – It requires a lot of strength mentally and physically. I’m glad that I earned my Web Tour status through the Mackenzie Tour and I played the Q School, improved my status, and had a great year on Web Tour to earn my PGA TOUR status.

8:15 My wife always tells me that I can fit in any kind of environment. Cause I can survive. That’s how I grew up and how I become better.

CT WIFE: 8:24 I believe CT is a very individual player. He takes care of everything by himself and his whole life since he was very young he faced a bunch of obstacles, but no matter what happened, when he wakes up in the morning it’s a whole new day for him. I think that’s the main reason why he can survive all the way from Taiwan to U.S.

{win from Harbour Town}

**HIS STEADY ACCENT TO PGA TOUR WINNER SHOULD BE NO SURPRISE.**

**FOR HOW COULD HE NOT…FOR EVERYWHERE HE HAS BEEN AND EVERYTHING HIS HAS OVERCOME, HAS DRIVEN HIM TO THIS POINT.**

**AND NOW, WITH HIS FIRST PGA TOUR WIN SECURED…**

**BACK HOME, THAT NEW FOUND STATUS OFFERS HIM THE CHANCE TO GROW THE GAME THAT HAS GIVEN HIM SO MUCH.**

CT 9:24 I’m doing this junior clinic because a lot of people helped me on the way here and they always told me that, “if you want to pay me back, you just try to help more kids, help more junior golfers”

And that’s what motivates me to do this and I really think my college experience—the way I play to the PGA TOUR player. You know, go to U.S. for high school, college, and play Mackenzie Tour, and Web Tour. I think it’s a great way to get to where I am on the PGA TOUR and I think kids here, they need more information about it. You know, I want to tell these kids that it’s actually not that far, like, you can be there as well.

CT WIFE: 10:06 I think that this is the time for us to give back to the communities no matter U.S. or Taiwan. And we would like to offer the opportunities to other junior players to play the AJGA so that they can meet the college coach and maybe follow the same route to go to college and maybe one day will be more players on the PGA TOUR.

10:29 Coming back to sweet home is always great for me. I think these kids, they show a lot of passion toward golf and I think that always reminds me, just, you know, you just need to be yourself, you need to be true to yourself. And Also passionate about the sport. This is my fourth year as a professional golfer. It’s kinda become like a job to me. But I think having the passion again, and it’s what these kids taught me. It’s very important to keep it going and to keep achieving high goals.

MOM SOT: 11: 02 I am so thankful and proud that I have a son like this, Oh I’m going to cry. I’m really very grateful.