**2019 Inside the PGA TOUR #29 (The Open)**

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**Open (Tiger in Australia)**

TIGER SOT: "There's certainly a level of excitement that I'm feeling now that I didn't before. Now, that being on property and seeing the golf course and understanding that I'm gonna the captain here, is very exciting.

NATS: "I'm trying to visualize what the golf course may be like how quick it normally is and that all goes into eventually who gets picked I know it's a lot of planning but you got to start looking at it that way"

TIGER SOT: "I'm looking forward to the challenges, I'm looking forward to my team playing, and trying to get after the internationals."

NATS: "Go Tiger!!" [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\Users\taylorl\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\Desktop\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM#StoryIndex)

**Inside Titles**

**THIS IS INSIDE THE PGA TOUR.**

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**150 Days to PCUP**

**THE COUNTDOWN IS OFFICIALLY UNDERWAY. THIS YEAR'S PRESIDENTS CUP SITS JUST 150 DAYS OUT, AS IT RETURNS TO MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA AND THE ROYAL MELBOURNE GOLF CLUB, SITE OF THE INTERNATIONAL TEAM'S LONE VICTORY IN 1998.**

ANNC: "And the International team has captured the Presidents cup."

**THEIR CAPTAIN WAS ON THAT WINNING '98 TEAM, AND HE'S READY TO GET BACK ON AUSSIE SOIL.**

ELS SOT: "We're gonna be prepared for this Cup. We're gonna take it as a major. I don't want any weaknesses and we're gonna have a good time down there."

**THE CURRENT RANKINGS BOAST THREE AUSSIES, ALL WITH PRESIDENTS CUP EXPERIENCE AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, A FAMILIARITY WITH ROYAL MELBOURNE.**

LEISHMAN SOT: "One of my favorite courses in the world in pretty much my home city. Hopefully we can get the trophy back and get those Melbourne crowds behind us."

ANNC: "And it goes in! Are you kidding me?"

**THE DEFENDING CHAMPS ARE AN IMPRESSSIVE GROUP THEMSELVES. SINCE THE LAST FACE-OFF, THE TOP EIGHT AMERICANS HAVE POSTED 23 PGA TOUR VICTORIES, INCLUDING FOUR OF THE LAST SEVEN MAJOR CHAMPIONSHIPS CONTESTED.**

KOEPKA SOT: "Everyone expects to play well, expects to bring their A game you know we've got guys that are playing really well right now which is nice."

ANNC: "How 'bout that emotion? What a roar here at 14."

**AND THEIR CAPTAIN IS LOOKING FORWARD TO HIS NEW ROLE.**

WOODS SOT: "I've played in the President's Cup eight times as a player and I've had just the most amazing times. I've always wanted to be a captain. It's just a huge honor for me." [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\\Users\\taylorl\\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\\Desktop\\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM" \l "StoryIndex)

**Tiger in Australia**

NATS: "It's great to have Tiger back in town, hope to see him out there playing as well"

NATS: "Thank you so much for having me, you have a great day alright"

NATS: “We're promoting the President's cup I'm the captain and that's something I've always dreamt of being as captain and representing our country and going against the international team.”

NATS: "Let’s go"

NATS: "Alright there go"

NATS: "Good morning Tiger. Good morning. Can I get a photo?"

TIGER SOT: “Sport here in Melbourne is revered. They come out and they support their sport, they've supported this event the last few times we've held it here. They want the internationals to win, but they're so respectful which is a lot of fun for us to play in front of.”

NATS: "it's great to have you back you've got lots of fans here."

NATS: "Welcome we're pleased to have you we're delighted to have you here"

NATS: "Tigerrr"

NATS: "This is Tiger Woods great to meet you, pleasure to have you in here in Australia, very excited that the presidents cup is going to be here."

NATS: “Yeahh”

**WHILE TOURING MELBOURNE, CAPTAIN WOODS STARTED SOME EARLY TOURNAMENT PREPARATION AT THE ROYAL MELBOURNE GOLF CLUB.**

NATS: "You got to take a look at two it's one of the coolest par 5s"

NATS: “Oh hello, hi ladies sorry we’ll get out of your way.”

TIGER SOT: "You have to think around this golf course and play the right shot. Put the ball in the right positionYou get yourself out of position here, you're not making pars, and that's one of the neat things about playing Royal Melbourne."

NATS: "We want to see Royal Melbourne play the way it usually does and that's firm and good speed, smooth ball roll that's what we're after so I like to see the ball bounce forward as it lands so that's how we try to prepare the greens"

NATS: "unreal how fast they can get and it's hard to get the ball close."

**ONLY FIVE WEEKS REMAIN FOR PLAYERS TO MAKE IT INTO THE TOP EIGHT AND FOUR ADDITIONAL PLAYERS WILL BE SELECTED AS CAPTAIN'S PICKS BY TIGER ALONGSIDE HIS ASSISTANTS FRED COUPLES, ZACH JOHNSON AND STEVE STRICKER.**[Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\Users\taylorl\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\Desktop\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM#StoryIndex)

PRESSER: “I've been a part of the Presidents Cup for 20 years, There's really nothing better as a player to evolve into the role of being a captain.”

TIGER SOT: “To be the leader and the figurehead is a bigger responsibility. And trying to put together the best team and best guys in best groupings and one of the things I'm really looking forward to, is being in that pairings room and trying to pair the rights guys against our opposition.”

TIGER SOT: There's a level of excitement that I'm looking forward to. I'm looking forward to coming down here and leading my guys and being a part of the President's Cup. They've supported here the last two times that we played in it. It's always crazy, it's always fun and we're gonna enjoy it.

**Bump #1 (Rory and GMac, Open PtW)**

**STILL AHEAD…**

MCDOWELL SOT: "very lucky to grow up on the doorstep of a golf course like Royal Portrush. Really excited for the best players in the world to come over there and sample the north coast of Ireland."

**IT'S A HOMECOMING FOR TWO CHAMPIONS FROM NORTHERN IRELAND AT THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP.**

**BUT FIRST…**

ANNC: "Francesco Molinari holes it!"

**A STRONG CONTINGENT OF CHALLENGERS AIMING TO RAISE THE CLARET JUG**. [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\Users\taylorl\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\Desktop\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM#StoryIndex)

**CDW Vignette**

**INSIDE PRESENTS, ORCHESTRATING THE PGA TOUR**

WOODLAND SOT: CDW is unbelievable by the way they use technology. When they bring ShotLink into our lives, ShotLink has every statistic known to man when it comes to golf. the technology and the information that they have provided us has really transformed the game.

WOODLAND SOT: the player app just allows us to have it anywhere we go. I mean, I can click a button on my phone and I can click the app, and I can see every stat that I need to know.

WOODLAND SOT: A lot of of it is to see what my stroke's gains are. If I'm positive strokes gain in a statistic, that's pretty good for me. Right now, I'm positive in all the big categories, besides the putting, so that's something I obviously need to work a little bit more on.

WOODLAND SOT: I love to click on that Player app after a tournament, just to see if, where my strokes gained have gone. As long as I'm continuing to improve, staying positive Staying towards the top 25 in the big categories, that's a big deal for me. [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\\Users\\taylorl\\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\\Desktop\\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM" \l "StoryIndex)

**Week at Deere Feature**

NATS: "Ben how are ya? Good to meet you. Joel Dahmen. Pleasure"

NATS: "Geno. I'm gonna fire this guy for a couple holes is that okay? I don't know, if he's not doing the job. He's not doing the job so I think we need to sub you in here."

**JOEL DAHMEN CLOSED OUT WEDNESDAY'S PRO-AM AT THE JOHN DEERE CLASSIC WITH FELLOW CANCER SURVIVOR BEN BORNSTEIN ON THE BAG**

NATS: "Nice shot."

NATS: "You're a 3-time cancer survivor? 3-time if you can believe it. 3 times."

NATS: "At 14 in 1985. 14? Playing baseball get hit by a pitch, just a right groin area and it literally hit a tumor for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. You gotta be kidding me. So without that you probably aren't here today."

NATS: "Didn't hit a tree, didn't go in the water. Some positives out of it. Yeah."

NATS: "Looks like I am easily replaceable."

NATS: "Wanna go clean this one up?"

NATS: "There you go. Thanks for helping out it was great meeting you. We should stay in touch on Cancer causes, I'm tied into a lot of them."

**ALSO GETTING THE CHANCE TO WALK WITH THE PROS WERE 3 RECIPIENTS OF JOHN DEERE'S FIVE THOUSAND DOLLAR POWER FOR GOOD SCHOLARSHIP**

KATELYN HARRIS SOT: "I've watched Kevin Tway on the PGA TOUR for a while so to play with these guys it's incredible."

KHARYNGTON BEGGS SOT: "The first tee, one of their biggest models is good golfers, better people and I think that is such a testament to what they do. If I hadn't been in the first tee I would not be the confident person I am to play in a pro-am with pros."

**AND THEY TOOK AIM IN TUESDAY'S FIRST TEE CLINIC ALONGSIDE VIKTOR HOVLAND AND RICKY BARNES**

KATELYN HARRIS SOT: "They handed me a club and I was like just close my eyes and kind of hit."

NATS: “Yeahh haha”

KATELYN HARRIS SOT: "Having two shots and breaking two pieces of glass and hearing the kids scream for me I put a smile on their face and that's all that matters." [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\\Users\\taylorl\\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\\Desktop\\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM" \l "StoryIndex)

**John Deere Classic Winner**

**BUT THEY WEREN’T THE ONLY ONES WITH SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT COME SUNDAY.**

ANNC: “Dylan Frittelli gets his first victory on the PGA TOUR.”

**ENTERING THE WEEKEND 5-STROKES BACK, DYLAN FRITTELLI FOLLOWED UP A SATURDAY 65 WITH A FINAL ROUND 64 TO SECURE A 2-STROKE VICTORY.**

FRITTELLI SOT: “I just managed to knuckle down and have a really clear mind-set and execute on pretty much every shot on the weekend.”

**FRITTELLI BECOMES THE 3RD STRAIGHT FIRST TIME WINNER ON TOUR, THE 12TH THIS SEASON, EARNING THE FINAL SPOT IN THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP.**

FRITTELLI SOT: “Obviously it's a bonus playing in The Open. The biggest factor for me is the FedExCup. I was looking at 153 just starting this week.”

ANNC: “He will move all the way up to the top-50.”

FRITTELLI SOT: “Now that I've jumped well inside the top hundred now, I can look at the final three Playoff events and make a run for THE TOUR Championship.”

**FedExCup Standings-gfx**

**FRITTELLI’S VICTORY GIVES HIM A SHOT AT EAST LAKE, MOVING UP TO 48TH, AND CAPTURING HIS FIRST TITLE AT THE SAME TOURNAMENT AS COLLEGE TEAMMATE JORDAN SPIETH.** [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\Users\taylorl\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\Desktop\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM#StoryIndex)

**Wyndham Rewards Top 10-gfx**

**MEANWHILE, MATT KUCHAR REMAINS ATOP THE WYNDHAM REWARDS TOP 10 FOR THE 16TH CONSECUTIVE WEEK, WITH THE FINAL 3 WEEKS BEGINNING IN THE U-K.** [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\Users\taylorl\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\Desktop\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM#StoryIndex)

**Cink 2009 Flashback**

**IN 2009, AT THE 138TH OPEN RUN BY THE R&A, STEWART CINK FIRED A FINAL ROUND 69 TO FORCE A PLAYOFF WITH 59-YEAR OLD TOM WATSON.**

**HE OUTLASTED WATSON IN THE PLAYOFF TO CAPTURE HIS FIRST MAJOR CHAMPIONSHIP AND INSIDE WAS ON HAND AS THE CLARET JUG MADE ITS WAY TO THE CINK HOME IN ATLANTA.**

CINK SOT: "She's lived right there for about a day now; we'll see if she's gonna stay here or move around or stay right here."

NATS: "Every time I pick up, I see a new name I didn't realize was on here"

**AND FOLLOWED ALONG AS IT MADE ITS WAY AROUND TOWN.**

CINK SOT: "It blew away the dream I thought it was gonna be, I didn't know how much emotion was gonna be there and I had trouble holding back the tears on 18th green with my family there, the level of satisfaction was something I didn't expect to be this strong" [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\\Users\\taylorl\\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\\Desktop\\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM" \l "StoryIndex)

**Art Card (PtW)**

**ITS BEEN 68 YEARS SINCE ROYAL PORTRUSH HAS HOSTED THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP AND INSIDE'S PLAYERS TO WATCH ALL HAVE MAJOR CHAMPIONSHIP ASPIRATIONS.**

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**Open Championship Players to Watch**

**BROOKS KOEPKA ARRIVES AT THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP WITH TWO RUNNER-UP FINISHES AND A WIN IN THREE MAJORS IN 20-19.**

KOEPKA SOT: "I love majors, I think they're probably the most fun you can have. They really test you. I really enjoy that, and I enjoy where every shot just means so much."

**KOEPKA RANKS 6TH IN GREENS-IN-REGULATION, 9TH IN BIRDIE AVERAGE, AND 6TH IN SCORING, PROVEN ATTRIBUTES FOR CHAMPIONSHIP SUCCESS.**

**FRANCESCO MOLINARI BECAME THE FIRST ITALIAN TO CAPTURE A MAJOR AT THE 20-18 OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP.**

ANNC: "What a finish by Francesco Molinari! Birdie at the last!”

MOLINARI SOT: "Just great joy, a sense of achievement and proudness. And I knew how hard I worked to get there."

**HE'S CONTINUED HIS WINNING WAYS IN 20-19 WITH A VICTORY AT THE ARNOLD PALMER INVITATIONAL PRESENTED BY MASTERCARD IN MARCH.**

ANNC: "Francesco Molinari holes it!"

**THAT STARTED A STRETCH OF 3 TOP FIVE FINISHES IN A FOUR WEEK SPAN, INCLUDING A TIE FOR 5TH AT THE MASTERS.**

**A RUNNER-UP AT LAST YEARS OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP, JUSTIN ROSE HAS RECORDED 6 TOP TENS IN 20-19, INCLUDING A WIN AT THE FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN, AS HE AIMS TO DEFEND HIS FEDEXCUP TITLE.**

ANNC: "Justin Rose takes Torrey Pines…once again validating his place in the game!"

ROSE SOT: "it's the coveted prize you know the end of the year but you know there's a lot of hard work ahead of you to try and get back in that position which is what you want to do for East Lake."

**WITH 9 TOP TEN FINISHES IN 15 STARTS, INCLUDING A WIN AT THE ZURICH CLASSIC OF NEW ORLEANS, JON RAHM IS 11TH IN THE FEDEXCUP STANDINGS.**

ANNC: "Oh, nearly hopped in."

**THE 24-YEAR OLD SPANIARD ENTERS THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP IN FORM. HE'S POSTED TOP THREE FINISHES IN HIS LAST THREE WORLD-WIDE STARTS.**

**ALSO LOOKING TO ETCH HIS NAME ONTO THE CLARET JUG IS RICKIE FOWLER. IN HIS CAREER, THE 30-YEAR OLD HAS POSTED A PAIR OF TOP FIVE FINISHES AT THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP.**

**IN 20-19, FOWLER CAPTURED HIS 5TH CAREER PGA TOUR VICTORY AT THE WASTE MANAGEMENT PHOENIX OPEN.**

ANNC: "Rickie Fowler is finally a winner in the desert"

**FOWLER SITS 10TH IN THE FEDXCUP STANDINGS**. [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\\Users\\taylorl\\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\\Desktop\\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM" \l "StoryIndex)

**This week on TOUR-gfx**

**MOLINARI’S WIN AT THE OPEN LAST SEASON WAS JUST THE 2ND PLAYER IN THE LAST SEVEN YEARS TO HOIST THE CLARET JUG AS THEIR FIRST MAJOR TITLE.** [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\Users\taylorl\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\Desktop\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM#StoryIndex)

**Bump #2 (Barbasol)**

**COMING UP…**

**CRUCIAL FEDEXCUP POINTS ARE UP FOR GRABS STATESIDE THIS WEEK.**

WERENSKI SOT: "Top 70 on the FedExCup. I think is very attainable. I'd like to be higher, I'd like to get to the Tour Championship." [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\\Users\\taylorl\\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\\Desktop\\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM" \l "StoryIndex)

**ServPro Vignette**

**INSIDE PRESENTS, BOUNCING BACK**

**DYLAN FRITTELLI CARDED JUST ONE BOGEY ON THE WEEK EN ROUTE TO VICTORY, THANKS IN PART TO A STELLAR SCRAMBLING PERFORMANCE**

ANNC: "That was nicely judged."

**FRITTELLI MANAGED TO MAKE PAR OR BETTER WHEN MISSING THE GREEN IN REGULATION ON 15 OF 16 CHANCES, PROVING HIS ABILITY TO BOUNCE BACK TIME AND TIME AGAIN**

ANNC: "Heck of a shot right there."

**HIS FIELD LEADING 93-PERCENT IN SCRAMBLING IS THE BEST BY A WINNER ON TOUR THIS SEASON, AND THE HIGHEST BY A CHAMPION SINCE 20-17** [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\\Users\\taylorl\\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\\Desktop\\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM" \l "StoryIndex)

**INSIDE Rejoin**

REJOIN [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\\Users\\taylorl\\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\\Desktop\\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM" \l "StoryIndex)

**FEC Playoffs Bubble Watch**

ANNC: "Oh my goodness he's played well, 3 weeks left in the regular season. he's trending in the right direction that's a good thing the last couple of weeks."

**COMING OFF THE JOHN DEERE CLASSIC, RUSSELL HENLEY MADE A DRAMATIC MOVE IN THE FEDEXCUP STANDINGS… NOW RANKED 83RD WITH HIS RUNNER UP FINISH.**

ANNC: "Here he is. A 61! We knew there were low numbers out there. Russell Henley confirming that."

HENLEY SOT: you have to keep making birdies and keep fighting. I think that's a big key out here is just to persevere. Hard work will pay off eventually. I wasn't expecting to finish with a 61 today, but I've been working hard on my game, the harder I work at it, the better I feel."

**ONLY 3 WEEKS REMAIN UNTIL THE FEDEXCUP PLAYOFFS BEGIN, AND THE TIME TO MAKE A MOVE IS NOW, LIKE ANDREW LANDRY DID, JUMPING 50 SPOTS TO 121ST, JUST INSIDE THE BUBBLE TO QUALIFY FOR THE NORTHERN TRUST.**

ANNC: "Landry. Oh, he's got it! What a great way to finish."

**WITH TWO EVENTS THIS WEEK, EVEN MORE POINTS WILL BE UP FOR THE TAKING STATESIDE…** [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\Users\taylorl\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\Desktop\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM#StoryIndex)

**Barbasol Preview**

ANNC: "The Barbasol Championship, Keene Trace Golf Club in Nicholasville, Kentucky."

**FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW, PLAYERS WILL TEE IT UP IN THE BLUEGRASS STATE IN HOPES OF MAKING A LATE-SEASON PLAYOFF PUSH.**

ANNC: "An opportunity for players this week to move up towards the top 125 and make the golf's postseason."

LEBIODA SOT: "I've earned my right to be here, I've earned my right to play on the PGA tour, but obviously I wanna be a part of the FedEx Cup Playoffs."

**AND THEIR SIGHTS ARE SET HIGHER THAN SIMPLY MAKING THE POSTSEASON.**

WERENSKI SOT: "Top 70 on the FedexCup. I think is very attainable. I know I can do that very easily. I'd like to be higher, I'd like to get to the Tour Championship." [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\\Users\\taylorl\\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\\Desktop\\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM" \l "StoryIndex)

**This Week on TOUR**

**OPPORTUNITIES ARE PLENTIFUL THIS WEEK, AS OF THE 132 PLAYERS IN THE FIELD, ONLY 19 ARE CURRENTLY WITHIN THE TOP 125 IN THE FEDEXCUP STANDINGS.** [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\Users\taylorl\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\Desktop\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM#StoryIndex)

**Myrbetriq Vignette**

**INSIDE PRESENTS, MUST SEE MOMENTS.**

**THIS WEEK'S MOMENT COMES FROM THE 2ND ROUND OF THE JOHN DEERE CLASSIC WHERE LUCAS GLOVER WENT FOR THE PAR-5 10TH IN TWO…**

ANNC: "Bounces short of the green, hops onto the green, and Glover gets it in for an albatross!"

**GLOVER'S RARE ALBATROSS WAS PART OF A BOGEY-FREE 7-UNDER 64 THAT WOULD LEAD TO A TOP-10 FINISH** [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\\Users\\taylorl\\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\\Desktop\\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM" \l "StoryIndex)

**AON Vignette**

**THE RISK REWARD CHALLENGE IS REACHING ITS CLOSING STRETCH, WITH ONLY 3 WEEKS REMAINING UNTIL THE CHAMPION WILL BE CROWNED.**

ANNC: "Wow! Bryson is fired up!"

**ALL SEASON LONG, PLAYERS HAVE BEEN TAKING ON THE TOUR'S MOST STRATEGICALLY CHALLENGING HOLES, AND THIS WEEK'S BARBASOL CHAMPIONSHIP FEATURES THE 14TH HOLE, A PAR-5 WHERE AN ACCURATE SECOND SHOT CAN LEAD TO AN EAGLE, AND A BIG MOVE UP THE STANDINGS.**

ANNC: "Beautiful golf shot."

**THERE IS A 3-WAY TIE AT THE TOP OF THE LEADERBOARD BETWEEN JASON DAY, DUSTIN JOHNSON, AND BROOKS KOEPKA, WITH JASON KOKRAK AND JUSTIN THOMAS NOT FAR BEHIND IN THE QUEST FOR THE RISK REWARD CHALLENGE TITLE.** [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\Users\taylorl\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\Desktop\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM#StoryIndex)

**Social Minute**

**LET'S TAKE A LOOK AROUND THE WORLD OF GOLF THROUGH THIS WEEK'S SOCIAL MINUTE…**

**LAST WEEK, 10-YEAR-OLD ISAAC FOLLOWED IN HIS GRANDFATHER'S FOOTSTEPS**

NATS: "I need to see your credentials, I don’t have them. Where’s yours? Right here"

**AS A VOLUNTEER AT THE JOHN DEERE CLASSIC.**

NATS: “Paper, rock scissor shoot. Whoo”

**ANDREW LANDRY AND TREY MULINAX HAD A PUTTING CONTEST WITH THE LARGEST PUTTER YOU'VE EVER SEEN THAT WAS HALF JOHN DEERE EXCAVATOR AND HALF PING ANSER.**

**AND AHEAD OF THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP, JUSTIN ROSE SHARED SOME OF HIS PREPARATION LAST WEEK WITH THE 20-11 OPEN CHAMPION DARREN CLARKE**. [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\\Users\\taylorl\\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\\Desktop\\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM" \l "StoryIndex)

**Rory and GMac Mini**

MCDOWELL SOT: "Very lucky to grow up on the doorstep of a golf course like Royal Portrush it's kinda a lot of huge sand dunes, but it's an amazing golf course. Really excited for the best players in the world to come over there and sample the north coast of Ireland."

**GRAEME MCDOWELL RETURNS TO HIS HOMETOWN FOR THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP THIS WEEK, ONE OF THREE NORTHERN IRISHMEN GETTING THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY FOR THE CLARET JUG WHERE THEY HONED THEIR GAMES.**

MCILROY SOT: "My dad took me to play for my 10th birthday. So twenty years ago and a couple day's time is the first time I played it. It was maybe a course that I played three or four times a year."

MCDOWELL SOT: "it'll be a fantastic atmosphere that weekend. Just for the island of Ireland, it's just huge for golf and they're so proud of their golf back there."

**RORY MCILROY AND MCDOWELL HAVE REPRESENTED NORTHERN IRELAND WELL ON TOUR THE LAST DECADE, COLLECTING A COMBINED 20 TITLES…**

ANNC: "Graeme McDowell back in the winner's circle on the PGA TOUR."

**WITH MCDOWELL BREAKING A NEARLY FOUR YEAR WINLESS DROUGHT EARLIER THIS SEASON.**

MCDOWELL SOT: "Getting back to winning again at Corales was huge for me on a lot of levels. It just takes that weight off your shoulders really and allows you to just to kind of freewheel and play golf and try to complete."

**BACK IN THE WINNERS CIRCLE, MCDOWELL MADE THE MOST OF HIS OPPORTUNITY AT THE RBC CANADIAN OPEN TO EARN HIS WAY TO ROYAL PORTRUSH.**

ANNC: "To go home to his home course! Just awesome!"

MCILROY SOT: "Just would've been such a shame if the Open comes to Portrush and the hometown boy couldn't play. Proud, excited for him. I know it's something he's wanted for a while."

**AT THAT SAME TIME, MCILROY WAS WRAPPING UP HIS SECOND TITLE OF THE SEASON…**

ANNC: "Absolutely magnificent, McIlroy!"

**ADDING TO HIS PLAYERS VICTORY FROM MARCH, MCILROY HAS BEEN ON AN HISTORIC PACE. HIS 11 TOP 10'S LEADS THE TOUR, ALREADY ONE SHY OF HIS 12 FROM 20-14, WHEN HE CAPTURED HIS FIRST OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP.**

MCILROY SOT: "I've been playing well basically all year. Been giving myself loads of chances to win. that gives me a lot of confidence going forward for sure."

**THE ULSTERMEN'S HOMECOMING BRINGS A CHANCE FOR BOTH TO ETCH THEIR NAMES FURTHER INTO NORTHERN IRELAND'S HISTORY, AND BOLSTER THEIR POSITIONS ON THE DOORSTEP OF THE FEDEXCUP PLAYOFFS.** [Return to index of stories...](file:///C:\\Users\\taylorl\\OneDrive%20-%20PGA%20TOUR%20INC\\Desktop\\x2019%20Inside%20the%20PGA%20TOUR%20%2329%20(The%20Open).HTM" \l "StoryIndex)

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