HIDEKI MATSUYAMA – ANIMATED FEATURE

IN THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE JAPANESE ISLAND NAMED SHIKOKU.

AMIDST THE MOUNTAINS AND ANCIENT TEMPLES.

COMES THE STORY OF A YOUNG BOY WHO WOULD GROW UP TO BE A GOLFING LEGEND. **(:13)**

BORN IN MATSUYAMA, EHIME, JAPAN – A TINY TOWN BEARING HIS FAMILY NAME. HIDEKI MATSUYAMA WAS FIRST INTRODUCED TO THE GAME AT AGE 4 BY HIS FATHER MIKIO AT THE LOCAL DRIVING RANGE.

HIDEKI, WATCHING INTENTLY, **AN OVERSIZED CLUB IN HAND** THAT WAS TOO BIG FOR A 4-YEAR-OLD BOY.

STEADILY OVER THE BALL…**POSTURE PERFECT. EVERY TIME.**

YOUNG HIDEKI WAS HOOKED ON THE GAME. **(:31)**

HIDEKI’S TRIPS TO THE RANGE WERE INFREQUENT, BUT HIS FATHER SAW A STRONG PASSION EARLY ON FROM THE BOY.

SO, HE WOULD TRAIN HIMSELF IN ORDER TO TRAIN HIS BOY.

HIDEKI WAITING PATIENTLY FOR HIS FATHER TO FINISH HIS OWN ROUND, **WORKING ALONE ON HIS SHORT GAME.**

HE WOULD BREAK 100 FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 2ND GRADE. **(:25)**

**AS THE BOY GREW INTO A MAN**, HIS GAME BEGAN TO FLOURISH.

YOUNG HIDEKI BECAME SO GOOD IN FACT, HE CAME TO THE US WHILE STILL AN AMATEUR, TO PLAY AT THE SONY OPEN AND THE MASTERS. HIS FIRST BRUSH WITH **GOLFING ROYALTY.**

HE REALIZED QUICKLY THERE WAS STILL MORE WORK TO BE DONE. **(:24)**

HE ATTENDED COLLEGE AT TOHOKU FUKUSHI UNIVERSITY IN SENDAI, WINNING THE ASIAN AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP IN BOTH 2010 AND 2011.

BECOMING ONE OF THE MOST DECORATED AMATEUR PLAYERS EVER FROM JAPAN.

WINNING THE GOLD MEDAL AT THE 2011 WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES AND ON THE JAPAN GOLF TOUR.

BECOMING THE WORLD NUMBER ONE RANKED AMATEUR IN 2012. **(:30)**

WHEN HE TURNED PROFESSIONAL IN 2013, HE WAS THE TALK OF THE GOLFING WORLD.

HIS UNIQUE SWING AT ONCE LAUDED, QUESTIONED AND EVEN RIDICULED BY GOLFING PUNDANTS AND SWING DOCTORS ALIKE.

FOR THERE WAS **A STRANGE PAUSE AT THE TOP**. A PROLONGUED MOMENT THAT SEEMED TO LAST FOREVER.

BUT ONCE UNFURLED, PRODUCING MAGIC. **(:24)**

HE WOULD JOIN THE PGA TOUR FULL TIME IN 2014, EARNING HIS FIRST PGA TOUR VICTORY AT THE 2014 MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT **PRESENTED BY NATIONWIDE**.

CULMINATING WITH A HANDSHAKE FROM THE LEGENDARY HOST, “THE GOLDEN BEAR” JACK NICKLAUS.

IN SUBSEQUENT SEASONS, HE WOULD AMASS 4 MORE PGA TOUR WINS, BECOMING THE WINNINGEST JAPANESE PLAYER IN PGA TOUR HISTORY.

ALL BY THE AGE OF 24. **(:3O)**

HIS BEST SEASON ON THE PGA TOUR CAME IN 2017.

HIDEKI WINNING THE WASTE MANAGEMENT PHOENIX OPEN, AND **THE WORLD GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS - FEDEX ST.JUDE INVITATIONAL.**

HE REACHED 2ND IN THE OFFICIAL WORLD GOLF RANKING, **THE HIGHEST EVER FOR A MALE JAPANESE GOLFER. (:19)**

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THE BOY HAD BECOME A STAR.

PLAYING GOLF WITH PRESIDENTS AND PRIME MINISTERS, APPEARING ON COVERS OF MAGAZINES; YET REMAINING TRUE TO HIMSELF…

QUIET AND HUMBLE; FOCUSED AND DETERMINED.

AND WHILE GOLF HAS TAKEN HIM ALL OVER THE WORLD.

IN HIS HEART AND MIND, HE’ S STILL THAT LITTLE BOY FROM EHIMA WITH THE OVERSIZED CLUB AND THE FUNNY PAUSE IN HIS SWING. **(:36)**