20CUTRYDR

**COLD OPEN**

ANNC: Once again, Bryson DeChambeau, trying to overpower the golf course.

ROSE: Uh first word… beast!

MORIKAWA: Large.

FINAU: Huge! I just thought he was huge. He was jacked.

SCHAUFFELE: Dedicated

ANNC: Wow, here we go!

DUFNER: I call him Animal Guy. He’s eating everything trying to hit it 400 yards and just being a monster out here.

FOWLER: He’s definitely gotten thick. It’s not all muscle, but it’s not all fat or anything, it’s a combo.

RAHM: Swole. I respect everything he’s done a lot, he just looked like he had kinda fallen down the stairs and he was just swollen. I love when he kept saying “oh I have abs” we all do, but you can’t see yours.

MORIKAWA: He’s just beefed up. That’s the best way to put it.

**WELCOME TO PGA TOUR THE CUT**

**BRYSON DECHAMBEAU – U.S. OPEN WINNER**

**BRYSON DECHAMBEAU TOOK HOME THE FIRST MAJOR OF THE NEW SEASON ON SUNDAY, BESTING THE U.S. OPEN FIELD BY 6 STROKES, FINISHING AS THE ONLY PLAYER UNDER PAR FOR THE WEEK.**

DECHAMBEAU SOT: Well it's been a heck of a ride for sure. There's been some ups and downs obviously. A lot of ups, very proud of the ups. Also happy about the downs cause it taught me a few lessons that I needed to learn.

**ONE OF THOSE UPS HAS BEEN DECHAMBEAU’S SIZE, AS THE 27-YEAR-OLD PUT ON AROUND 40 POUNDS THIS PAST YEAR.**

ROSE: Mass times acceleration equals power. So, I get the equation of what he's doing and it's incredible to see and I admire it. To put on 20, 30, 40, whatever it is, it's definitely a commitment.

DECHAMBEAU: The transformation has been amazing and I hope to keep transforming not only me but hopefully the sport.

MORIKAWA: When you think of a typical golfer, you don't think of someone that big. And still have that mobility to be able to swing the club, swing it, hit it far, hit it straight. It's cool to kinda see him push this new level and play this completely different game that really no one else is playing right now.

**DECHAMBEAU AVERAGE DRIVING DISTANCE INCREASED BY 20 YARDS LAST SEASON AS HE LED THE PGA TOUR IN STROKED GAINED OFF THE TEE.**

DECHAMBEAU: When I started this journey I was like I don't wanna lose any accuracy. I can get up to over 25 miles an hour faster than what I used to do last year. That's in one year and. I can still hit it really straight with the best of them.

FINAU: Drive for dough putt for more dough. No matter how well you drive it, you got to make putts to win golf tournaments and I would say driving at far and straight is always an advantage. But you can't capitalize on that unless you make putts.

**AND DECHAMBEAU’S HAS DONE JUST THAT, FINISHING 10TH IN STROKES GAINED PUTTING LAST YEAR.**

DECHAMBEAU: The putting has been an interesting thing. I did some things three years ago to kind of set this in motion, where I knew down the road, this would be the way I'd do it, and it'd be the most consistent for me. I went from being the worst putter on TOUR to top ten which is pretty cool.

**AFTER CAREER-BEST FINISHES WITH BOTH PUTTER AND DRIVER IN HAND LAST SEASON, THE NEWEST MAJOR CHAMPION STRIVES TO ROUND OUT HIS TOOL SET IN 2021.**

DECHAMBEAU: On the ball-striking aspect I hope to figure out little pieces here and there that allow me to get more and more consistent. with that added length killing two birds with one stone I guess you could say.

**FEDEXCUP STANDINGS**

**WITH THE WIN AT WINGED FOOT, BRYSON DECHAMBEAU TAKES THE TOP SPOT IN THE FEDEXCUP STANDINGS, WHILE U.S. OPEN RUNNER-UP MATTHEW WOLFF LANDS AT 3RD.**

**BUMP**

**STILL AHEAD ON THE CUT**

KISNER: I've already made my schedule through the Fall. It's gonna be a crazy run, so looking forward to all that.

**WITH A SUPERSIZED SEASON AHEAD, GETTING HOT IN THE FALL IS A BIG KEY TO SEASON SUCCESS.**

**AND LATER HARRY HIGGS GETS ADVICE FROM HIMSELF**

Hopefully when reading it we are basking in the glory of being FedExCup Champion.

Not quite basking in that glory, but we gave it a good run.

**SAVING SHOTS**

**THE CUT PRESENTS… SAVING SHOTS**

**AT LAST YEAR’S CORALES PUNTACANA RESORT AND CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP THERE WAS NO SHORTAGE OF GREAT SHOTS FROM THE SAND**

**AARON BADDELEY LED THE WAY CONVERTING 6 SAVES**

ANNC: That made a difficult shot much easier. So Good

**CHRIS STROUD CONVERTED ON 3 OF HIS 4 ATTEMPTS**

ANNC: What a great shot this was!

**AND PAUL DUNNE PICKED UP A BIRDIE FROM LONG RANGE.**

ANNC: Are you kidding me?!

AKSHAY BHATIA

BHATIA: Am I ready to go?*Yes.*

Akshay Bhatia. A-K-S-H-A-Y…

B-H-A-T-I-A. *Beautiful name*. Thank you. You can thank my mother. *Thanks Mom.*

PRODUCER: *Lets go through what’s transpired since we last asked you these questions.*”

BHATIA: I'm gonna turn pro at some point, either at the end of this year or the beginning of next year. I'm ready to go and play against the big boys.

I'm 17, I'm a professional golfer.

It's been a lot of learning and a lot of excitement being able to play against some of the best players in the world at 18 years old.

ANNC: On the tee from Wake Forest, North Carolina. Akshay Bhatia.

BHATIA: I guess it would be hit the center of the club face, cuz as long as you do that, I mean, the ball is gonna go somewhat where you want it to.

Just make sure my setup's correct, and just hit it hard, because if you're gonna hit your driver, you might as well hit ten yards further in the rough if you’re gonna hit it in the rough.

I'm not gonna disagree with that. You gotta hit it far I mean, Phil says hit bombs.

I posted this swing video, and I think my caption said, Phil Mickelson would say hit bombs, and I tagged him in it, and he actually commented back, which is pretty cool.

Current swing thought, just making sure my first half of my backswing is staying consistent. because it can get a little inconsistent with how my forearms rotate.”

Get my hip turned bigger on my back swing, and then get my forearms rotate a little more in my back swing as well.

Pretty similar, yeah, it's close, not the hip turn I'm not too worried about that anymore but forearm sound about right.

I can't wait to be out playing against some of the best players in the world. I mean, Jason Day, Jon Rahm, Paul Casey, all those guys.

Knowing that I'm able to compete, 18-year-old against pros who've been playing for long time. / It's definitely awesome get a check for once, and pay my car payments off for the rest of the year.

My next step's to be the number one ranked amateur in the world.

Hopefully next year I'll be sitting here with the full PGA Tour card and I won't be able to drink wine still but [LAUGH] I'll still be able to enjoy everything going on.

ANNC: Akshay Bahatia missed the cut last year in his Safeway open debut. Not this time. Gets him into the top 10 which would get him entry to the Punta Cana tournament.

**CORALES PUNTACANA RESORT AND CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP PREVIEW**

ANNC: About 850 miles south of Miami from the Dominican Republic the Corales Puntacana Resort and Club Championship.

**THIS WEEK THE ISLAND OF HISPANOLA IS HOSTING THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL PGA TOUR TOURNAMENT OF THE 2020-21 SEASON. REACHING AN ELEVATED STATUS THERE ARE NOW 500 VALUABLE FEDEXCUP POINTS AWARDED TO THE WINNER.**

GARNETT: It’s an amazing spot and it’s a location and event that was life changing and definitely career changing for me.

**ONLY THE THIRD EVENT OF THE SEASON, THE STACKED FIELD, INCLUDING 62 PGA TOUR WINNERS, ARE AIMING TO JUMPSTART THEIR YEAR WITH A WIN.**

ANNC: Ah fist pump, he knows exactly what position he is in.

**MACKENZIE HUGHES IS LOOKING FOR REDEMPTION IN THE CARRIBEAN AFTER A RUNNER UP FINISH IN 2019. WHILE GRAEME MCDOWELL WILL BE DEFENDING HIS TITLE IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.**

ANNC: His fourth win on the PGA TOUR.

MCDOWELL: Getting back to winning again at Corales was huge for me on a lot of levels. Of course, giving me a massive boost up the FedEx Cup rankings.

**TOUR PLAYLIST**

**FOUR FEATURED GROUPS WILL BE COVERED EXTENSIVELY THE FIRST TWO ROUNDS INCLUDING GRAME MCDOWELL, HENRIK STNESON, PAT PEREZ, AND MORE.**

**MUST SEE MOMENT**

**AT THE 2019 CORALES PUNTACANA RESORT AND CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP, GRAEME MCDOWELL FOLLOWED A ONE OVER 73 IN THE FIRST ROUND WITH BACK TO BACK 64S EN ROUTE TO HIS 4TH PGA TOUR VICTORY IN THIS WEEK'S PGA TOUR MUST SEE MOMENT.**

ANNC: Graeme McDowell back in the winner’s circle on the PGA TOUR

**THE WIN WAS THE IRISHMAN'S FIRST ON TOUR SINCE 2015.**

MCDOWELL: This is a very special win for me. I’ve been working hard the past few years and my game has been coming. Muchas gracias and I’ll see you next year.

**FALL IMPORTANCE**

ANNC: It’s important for anyone to get off to a good start in a new PGA TOUR season.

HORSCHEL: There's a lot of tournaments next year and a lot of great events. We got six majors in the season, which is something that's never happened for as far as I know of. We're just rolling in to the new season

**THE 50 TOURNAMENTS IN THE 2020-21 PGA TOUR SEASON MARK THE MOST SINCE 1975, WHICH INCLUDES 12 IN THE FALL… ALSO A RECORD SINCE THE WRAPAROUND SCHEDULE BEGAN IN 2013.**

KISNER: I've already made my schedule through the Fall. We got a lot of run of tournaments leading up to that are big events. It's gonna be a crazy run, so looking forward to all that.

**UNIQUE TO THIS FALL IS THE LARGE SHARE OF FEDEXCUP POINTS AVAILABLE.  26-PERCENT OF THE TOTAL WINNER POINTS IN THE REGULAR SEASON COME IN THE FALL.**

DJ: I always wanna be playing well going in a big events. There's so many big tournaments that I gotta stay sharp and stay focused on what I'm doing and then after Augusta, I'll take some time off.

MORIKAWA: You just get ready for the long stretch of majors, big events. So how can we get prepared? How can we reassess what we need to get better at? What our goals need to be?

**GETTING AN EARLY START HAS PROVEN TO BE IMPORTANT AT SEASON’S END.  MORE THAN 56-PERCENT OF PLAYERS EARNING POINTS IN THE FALL MADE THE FEDEXCUP PLAYOFFS SINCE 2013-14.  WITH JUSTIN THOMAS EARNING THE MOST POINTS.**

ANNC: The CJ Cup at Nine Bridges is twice as nice for Justin Thomas!

**VICTORY IN THE FALL ALSO SETS PLAYERS UP TO MAKE IT TO THE TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP.  SINCE THE 2013-14 SEASON, 65-PERCENT OF WINNERS MADE IT TO EAST LAKE THE SAME YEAR THEY WON.**

ANNC: Sebastian Munoz breaking through at the highest level on the PGA TOUR!

MUNOZ: It was a plan that I had with my coach to have a great fall. It was fantastic and that put me in a really good spot. It is the same plan you know have a strong fall try to play a lot of golf good golf and try to get me in a good position for 2021.

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR & ROOKIE OF THE YEAR**

**THE PGA TOUR ANNOUNCED THAT DUSTIN JOHNSON WAS VOTED THE 2020 PLAYER OF THE YEAR WHILE SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER EARNED 2020 ROOKIE OF THE YEAR HONORS.**

**AFTER HELPING THE U.S. WIN THE PRESIDENTS CUP IN AUSTRALIA, A PAIR OF TOP 10 FINISHES GOT JOHNSON’S SEASON GOING.**

ANNC: What a putt! This has been a while Maui adventure for Dustin Johnson.

**AFTER A T7 FINISH AT THE SENTRY TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS AND A T10 AT THE GENESIS INVITATIONAL, THE CORONAVIRUS PUT A HALT ON THE SEASON AND JOHNSON’S MOMUNTUM.**

**THEN, JUST 4 WEEKS INTO THE RETURN TO GOLF, JOHNSON FOUND THE WINNER’S CIRCLE.**

ANNC: Dustin Johnson, is the champion!

JOHNSON: It felt great to get that win, I was due. It was a long time between wins and hopefully it won’t be that long for the next one.

**THAT NEXT VICTORY WASN’T FAR AWAY AS WEEKS LATER, JOHNSON FOLLOWED A RUNNER-UP FINISH AT THE PGA CHAMPIONSHIP WITH A RUNAWAY VICTORY AT THE NORTHERN TRUST TO START THE FEDEXCUP PLAYOFFS.**

ANNC: Dustin domination. Takes the title at THE NORTHERN TRUST by 11 shots.

JOHNSON: It is a big margin. I definitely very proud of that. I knew the guys were gonna shoot low. I was trying to get to 30 under.

**THE 30 UNDER FINISH WAS ONE OFF THE PGA TOUR RECORD AND JOHNSON CONTINUED HIS HOT PLAY THE FOLLOWING WEEK AT THE BMW CHAMPIONSHIP FINISHING 2ND BEFORE GOING WIRE TO WIRE AT THE TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP TO CLAIM HIS FIRST FEDEXCUP TITLE.**

ANNC (TOUR Champ): And Dustin Johnson has it. He’s got his FedExCup title.

JOHNSON TOUR SOT: I wanted to hold that trophy at the end of the day. It was something that I wanted to accomplish during my career, and obviously I got one of them. Now I'm going to try to get me another.

**JOHNSON FINISHED THE SEASON WITH 7 TOP 10S, 3 VICTORIES AND A PAIR OF RUNNER-UP FINISHES… TO SECURE HIS 2ND PGA TOUR PLAYER OF THE YEAR HONOR.**

ANNC: There it is. Scottie Scheffler, the newest member of the 59 club!

**ROOKIE OF THE YEAR, SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER’S 59 AT THE NORTHERN TRUST WAS JUST ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF HIS DEBUT SEASON ON TOUR.**

SCHEFFLER: It was crazy. Just something you never really think about doing on TOUR. Did a great job that day just kept rolling, kept making birdies, momentum kinda never stopped and yeah that was a fun day.

**ALONG WITH VIKTOR HOVLAND, THE 24-YEAR OLD SCHEFFLER WAS ONE OF JUST TWO ROOKIES TO ADVANCE TO THE TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP AND HE FINISHED THE SEASON RANKED 5TH IN THE FEDEXCUP STANDINGS**

SCHEFFLER: I didn’t have very many expectations going into the season. Just wanted to come out here and play and do my best.

**IN 23 STARTS, SCHEFFLER MISSED ONLY 5 CUTS AND FINISHED INSIDE THE TOP 10, 7 TIMES INCLUDING A PAIR OF T-4 FINISHES AT THE PGA CHAMPIONSHIP AND THE NORTHERN TRUST.**

SCHEFFLER: It hasn’t really sunk in. Everything’s been going pretty quick especially after the quarantine, so everything’s been going fast. Been playing a lot of events so I haven’t really had much time to sit around and think about it.

**HARRY HIGGS LETTER**

Find a way to play with Tiger and figure out what to say. I did not play with Tiger. I have no idea what to say to the man. Um. My Tiger moment this year was at Torrey Pines and we’re both walking down the steps, and he’s got the metal spikes on and we’re literally you know step after step literally walking right next to each other and I’m like you’ve gotta say something. Just anything. And I turned to him and I go Tiger are you worried about slipping in those? And he just looked at me and said, no you get pretty used to it. So that was my interaction with Tiger this year. I just felt like I had to say something. I said probably the dumbest thing you could have ever said.

Let’s see how funny I think I am.

**ONE YEAR AGO AS HE SET OUT ON HIS ROOKIE SEASON, HARRY HIGGS WROTE A LETTER TO HIS FUTURE SELF.**

A letter to myself, here we go!

Hey Harry. Congratulations on making the 2019-20 PGA TOUR season.

Already giving myself a pat on the back. There we go.

This letter will serve as a reminder of the new goals we set ourself for our first TOUR season. Hopefully when reading it we are basking in the glory of being FedExCup Champion.

Not quite basking in that glory, but we gave it a good run.

Here’s what we hope for in 2019-20. First one, here we go. Be OK as signing autographs, remember that I belong. I would say I did ok at the autograph signing. I haven’t written in cursive since maybe 3rd grade. So I quickly quit that and just did the H-H kinda scribble real quick. So to anybody that I signed an autograph to of two H’s with a dot on the second side of the H, that is more than likely me if you’ve since forgotten who you had sign the stuff.

Be the top former SMU golfer on TOUR. So that pretty much just means beating Bryson. I got off to a great start. I think I beat Bryson in a few of the first kinda fall events, Bryson went away, became huge and started dominating the golf courses and he kinda blew me in the dust. It was just kinda over.

Improve par 5 and par 3s. Scoring average. Ehhhh. Naw, I don’t think that was great.

This, here’s a good one. Be smart with scheduling. Don’t play 7 weeks in a row. When you tell yourself that 4 is your max in a row, don’t go to 7 in a row, just don’t do it.

A goal of improving my physical fitness. Ehhh. Ehhh. How did you say I did Jordan? Yeahhh… alright. I had a few too many cheeseburgers throughout the year.

I can do better both on and off on some of these things I can certainly do a lot better. The physical fitness probably stays, you know, do a little better in that area. So we take it as best as we can one week at a time. Try to schedule, not like a crazy person. Maybe find a hobby that, keeps me from playing so much golf. But yeah, goal is just to beat Bryson as much as I can this year and then I’ll be just fine.

**FOLLOW BACK**

HIGGS: I started it four, five years ago, my Instagram page and that was right when I went down to play PGA TOUR of Latin America. So there’s a few shots of random stuff in Latin America. I like the one shot it was traffic in Bogota, Colombia, which is unbelievable and it’s just everybody sandwiched and there’s motorcycles in between cars and everything. I've gotten a little better making it a little bit more golf specific

HIGGS: My course currently is hitting golf ball off my lovely mat into my ottoman

HIGGS: I've had some success, which is nice, and my family has been there as well. Photos with my mom, dad, and brother.

HIGGS: This is my favorite one, when I won the Latin America money list and my mom is look up at me. That’s her favorite. First sons always the favorite.

**IRON SOUNDS**

PRODUCER: Sometimes when you strike your iron, it just sounds a little bit better than others. Can you describe / when you know you hit it right?

REED: It’s a sound that, man, it’s hard to explain…

SCHAUFFELE: I can’t really reproduce the sound without sounding like a complete clown.

HORSCHEL: Mine’s a soft marshmallow feel and sound.

HUGHES: The sound obviously is that nice, crisp thud just a really heavy kind of hit.

NA: It’s like shoooom, I don’t know I can’t do it.

THOMAS: I can’t make the sound, just look up videos, I don’t want to embarrass myself.

SCHAUFFELE: Guys who can swing sort of a long iron, a 5 or 4-iron 105 miles an hour, it’s gonna make a different sound than when I swing it at 100 or 99.

LEISHMAN: Like a pitcher, you know you can hear it hit the glove of the catcher, you can tell if they have got speed or not and golf is the same.

THOMAS: Just look up videos of Henrik Stenson. It’s a lot of his irons that it’s kinda what the perfect sound you’re looking for.

HORSCHEL: It just seems like he’s murdered every iron shot, so solid.

HORSCHEL: And another guy obviously is Tiger…

HORSCHEL: When he hits iron shots and he’s flush, I mean it just doesn’t sound loud.

THOMAS: He’ll be hitting on the range, it’s kind of the one that you stop and turn around like, what was that?

THOMAS: I think you get that sound best on like the long irons like a four, five or six iron.

NA: At our level, as soon as you hit impact with an iron, we know if this is gonna be pin high, right at the pin and you hear guys after impact ‘be good’ or ‘be right’.

HUGHES: Sometimes that one comes off a bit different and you’ll think man, like what will I do there?

REED: That feeling alone is the feeling that get people hooked on golf. You see these people that go out they’re just starting, they start hitting. They can’t really hit the ball that well and then all of a sudden they hit that one shot and they’re like wow that was awesome.