**PGA TOUR – THE CUT #1**

COLD OPEN

ANNC: Oh, Carlos Ortiz! Closes it out in style.

ANNC: Could it be? Ohhhhh! My goodness

ANNC: Bang! (Let’s go!)

ANNC: Vikor Hovland breaks through!

ANNC: Wow! Dustin Johnson are you kidding me?!

ANNC: He’s got it! Wow!

ANNC: What a shot!

ANNC: He just won’t give up. Just Keeps going.

WOLFF: Hi Mom!

**WELCOME TO PGA TOUR THE CUT**

PLAYERS TO WATCH

**AS THE PGA TOUR SUPER SEASON ROLLS INTO 2021, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PLAYERS TO WATCH, STARTING WITH THE TOP RANKED PLAYER IN THE WORLD.**

ANNC: Dustin domination!

**THE 2020 FEDEXCUP CHAMPION HAS CONTINUED HIS SUCCESS INTO THE NEW SEASON**

JOHNSON: Starting to play really well. Starting to play a lot more consistent. Yeah, I’m very pleased with where the game is at, I’ve got a lot of confidence in it.

**JUSTIN THOMAS RIDES A WAVE OF 5 TOP 15 FINISHES INTO THE NEW CALENDAR YEAR, LOOKING TO DEFEND IN HAWAII.**

THOMAS: I played well this fall, but I feel like I’ve had a really good opportunity to win and I haven’t won any of them so that’s a little disappointing. I’ve been working hard and I feel good about my game.

**FELLOW WORLD TOP FIVE PLAYERS JON RAHM & BRYSON DECHAMBEAU ARE ALSO PRIMED FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS IN 2021. BOTH PLAYERS HAD SHORT BUT FRUITFULL FALL SEASONS WITH RAHM SCORING A PAIR OF TOP TEN FINISHES…. AND DECHAMBEAU EARNING HIS FIRST MAJOR TITLE AT THE US OPEN**

ANNC: Well look at this. I mean that’s just stupid.

**RORY MCILROY LEADS A PACK OF PLAYERS SET FOR BIG COMEBACKS… AFTER SOME FALL OFF IN LAST SEASON’S RETURN TO GOLF, MCILROY HAS TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF THE SUPER SEASON TO GET OFF TO A HOT START.**

MCILROY: It’s a big year, there’s a lot going on but at the same time you have to take time to rest at home but then prepare, see what you need to work on in your game and then be ready for the next event.

**AND AFTER COMPETING IN A LIMITED NUMBER OF EVENTS LAST SEASON TIGER WOODS IS STILL ON THE QUEST FOR RECORD BREAKING, CAREER WIN NUMBER 83.**

ANNC: Tiger Woods doing Tiger Woods things.

**STANDING IN THE WAY OF TIGER’S 83RD IS A GROUP OF PLAYERS UNDER 25 WHO FOUND SUCCESS IN 2020 AND WILL BE MAJOR FACTORS IN EVERY TOURNAMENT, INCLUDING COLLIN MORIKAWA WHO RACKED UP 7 TOP 10S AND A PAIR OF VICTORIES.**

MORIKAWA: No matter what happened last year, it doesn’t matter for this season. I just gotta get a little bit more excited about this season, not worry about what I did well or what I didn’t do well and get ready for this season.

ANNC: Matthew Wolff is tearing it up.

**AND BACK TO BACK STARTS WITH RUNNER UP FINISHES HAS MATTHEW WOLFF INSIDE THE TOP 10 HEADED INTO THE HAWAII AND WEST COAST SWING.**

WOLFF: It kinda gave me a chance to come out and play some prestigious events and get the year started off strong, which I did.

SENTRY TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS LOOKAHEAD

ANNC: Richie Werenski will have a birdie putt to take the lead.

**IT’S A WALK UP 18 THEY’LL NEVER FORGET.**

ANNC: Puts a little more pressure on Hatton.

**A PUTT READ UNLIKE ANY THEY’VE EVER FACED.**

ANNC: For the win.

HOVLAND: Viktor Hovland breaks through on the PGA TOUR!

**THEIR FIRST TALLY IN THE WIN COLUMN…**

ANNC: He earned it. That is a sign of relief as much as joy.

**…PUNCHES THEIR TICKET TO MAUI FOR THE SENTRY TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS.**

ANNC: And at last and does that ever feel good.

**5 FIRST TIME WINNERS WILL MAKE THEIR DEBUTS AT TPC KAPALUA, ALL WITH DIFFERENT PATHS TO VICTORY.**

ANNC: The road warrior of the PGA TOUR at the age of 21 Sungjae Im has broken through.

ANNC: Better than a decade on tour. More than 200 PGA TOUR starts. Well done Jason Kokrak.

ANNC: Among the sure signs you have arrived as a TOUR professional, when you earn a tee time early January in the middle of the pacific.

ENGLISH: Two weeks in Hawaii. That's the way everybody wants to kick off their year on the PGA TOUR.

PALMER: To do it back-to-back weeks one being at Maui Kapalua. It's always been special place and it's always a place you look forward to going to.

**JOINING THE 42 MAN FIELD ARE 16 PLAYERS WHO DIDN’T WIN IN 2020, BUT QUALIFIED INSTEAD THROUGH LAST YEAR’S TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP.**

NA: Making it to East Lake is a is one of the big goals of the every season I play and on top of that this year you get to go to Maui. Obviously if you start the season in Maui and an end the season in East Lake, you've done just fine.

HUGHES: With the shortened season and less tournaments then / even without a win to go to Maui. That's the stuff of dreams because Maui is just one of the best tournaments of the year.

GRIFFIN: It's cool to see even players that have played there a lot and been out here for 10 years to see the excitement on their face when they get the bid to Sentry.  Talking to Billy Horschel he was stoked.

HORSCHEL: I knew when we changed the qualification process for Sentry that was one of the big goals. Maui is a beautiful place. I'm excited to be back there.

KAPALUA ELEVATION

**ALONG WITH THE STUNNING BEAUTY OF THE KAPALUA PLANTATION COURSE COMES THE ELEVATION CHANGES. THIS ADDS ANOTHER UNIQUE ASPECT TO PLAYING IN THE SENTRY TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS.**

**LOCATED ON THE NORTHWEST SIDE ON THE ISLAND OF MAUI. THE HIGHEST POINT IS ON THE 17TH TEE AT 500 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL.**

**IN COMPARISON THE LOWEST POINT SITS AT 75 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL ON THE 2ND GREEN, A DIFFERENCE OF 425 FEET.**

**THE DRASTIC CHANGE IN ELEVATION CREATES THE OPPORTUNITY FOR HEROIC SHOTS ON THE DRIVEABLE MODERATE LENGTH PAR 4’S AND REACHABLE LONG PAR 5’S.**

TOUR PLAYLIST

**42 GOLFERS WILL TEE OFF IN HAWAII ON THURSDAY AS THE SENTRY TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS GETS UNDER WAY. DUSTIN JOHNSON AND DEFENDING CHAMPION JUSTIN THOMAS ARE BOTH SEEKING THEIR 3RD WINS IN PARADISE.**

LATIN SUCCESS

ANNC: 26-year-old in his first Tournament of Champions, Sebastian Munoz.

MUNOZ: You know I am so happy to go back to Hawaii I really like Maui.

**JOINING SEBASTIAN MUNOZ ON THE EMERALD ISLE IS FIRST TIMER CARLOS ORTIZ, AND JOAQUIN NIEMANN, RETURNING TO BETTER HIS 5TH PLACE FINISH LAST YEAR.**

ANNC: What a first trip to Maui for Joaquin Niemann.

MUNOZ: It is a great spot it is just peaceful it is amazing weather and it is a great golf course and I like it and I want revenge on number 18 and number 17 that kicked my [BEEP] last year.

**THESE 3 TRAVELLING TO HAWAII IS PROOF OF THE SURGING MOMENTUM FOR ALL THE TOUR’S LATIN PLAYERS, ESPECIALLY AS THEY FEED OFF EACH OTHER’S SUCCESS.**

ANCER: It's very special being part, of this group of Latin players, that's kinda booming.

ANNC: What a win.

MUNOZ: We're really competitive between us, we just kinda wanna improve ourselves and show off in front of the other guy.

ORTIZ: We're all friends and we see each other having success and I think that really motivates each other.

NIEMANN: We want every Latino to get a win, of course.

ANNC: Oh Carlos Ortiz - he is a winner for the very first time.

ORTIZ: And we all kind of feed from each other and I think that definitely is reflecting.

ANNC: Viva, Johnny Vegas, Camilo Villegas. We have a new superstar in golf. Right out of the gate Emiliano Grillo

**WHILE THOSE NAMES ARE STILL PROMINENT – THE TREND IS NOW AT A PREMIUM WITH A NEW GENERATION OF LATIN AMERICANS ON TOUR.**

**STARTING WITH AN EXPLOSION IN THE FIRST TWO EVENTS OF THE 2019-2020 SEASON.**

ANNC: Another star has arrived on the PGA TOUR.

MUNOZ: Joaquin winning he was like yeah, just get yourself a win.

ANNC: Sebastian Munoz breaking through at the highest level.

MUNOZ: I didn't know was going to happen that quick, but it did and it was amazing.

ANCER: Maybe five, six years ago, or maybe a little bit more, you only hear about Cabrera, and Camilo. But, now there's quite a bit of us out there.

**THEIR SUCCESS  CULMINATED WITH THREE LATIN AMERICAN PLAYERS AT THE TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP – THE MOST EVER AT THE SEASON FINALE.**

ANCER: Joaquin has played great all year. Munoz has played really solid all year. I felt like I had a really solid year.

ANNC: Did he? Yes he did! Wow! Unbelievable!

GRILLO: Every time I see these guys lifting a trophy you get jealous. It is always motivation to see somebody else winning.

ORTIZ: I really enjoyed watching them winning but that fires you up especially when they're close to you, that fires you up and you wanna win too.

**AND CARLOS ORTIZ JOINING IN ON THE SUCCESS IN HOUSTON THIS SEASON – BECOMING THE THIRD MEXICAN TO WIN ON TOUR…**

ANNC: Closes it out in style!

…**ONLY SOLIDIFIES THE MOVEMENT IS NO WHERE NEAR ITS PEAK.**

ORTIZ: I knew I was capable of doing that because I know myself, but obviously validating that and then showing it, it definitely gets me more confidence.

I think PGA TOUR Latino America has helped a lot. I think a lot of players, older professionals didn't have access to kind of get to the main tours. Now, there's access.

**AND WHILE IT WAS HIS LATIN AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS THAT MOTIVATED ORTIZ – IRONICALLY, IT WAS HE WHO DID THE SAME FOR HIS UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS TEAMMATE – AFTER A THREE WIN SEASON ON THE KORN FERRY TOUR IN 2014.**

MUNOZ: When I was in college I never thought I was going to be able to, be a pro. Those were not my dreams, but Carlos getting on the Korn Ferry like that he inspired me to try it.

**AND MUNOZ’ PATHWAY WAS CLARIFIED IN 2016 WHEN HE BECAME THE FIRST COLOMBIAN TO WIN ON THE KORN FERRY TOUR – WHICH HAPPENED TO BE IN FRONT OF A HOMETOWN CROWD*.***

ORTIZ: One person makes it then everybody starts believing. If he made it, I can make it and everybody starts believing.

**AND NOW THE LATIN AMERICAN QUARTET LOOK TO MAKE EVEN MORE HISTORY IN THIS CURRENT “SUPER SEASON” –**

**AS EACH ARE IN GOOD STANDING TO POTENTIALLY BECOME THE FIRST FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES TO CLAIM THE ULTIMATE PRIZE.**

**WHICH WOULD DURTHER SOLIDIFY THE OVERALL EVOLUTION – TO A FULL REVOLUION.**

ANCER: Winning the FedExCup would be obviously life changing but also amazing for Mexico. Something like that would definitely put golf at a different level in Latin America for sure.

NIEMANN: It is the biggest prize you can get in golf.  That is one of my goals, try to grow out the game in Chile.

MUNOZ: It would be really special and we're doing our part and hopefully that inspires the young people from our countries.

ORTIZ: You have to invest some money, some time and nobody guarantees you're gonna make it. I think now, it's worth the risk. It's just that momentum that I'm talking about, it's just feeding from each other and when you see it happen, it's easier to believe.

SAVING SHOTS

**THE CUT PRESENTS… SAVING SHOTS**

**AT LAST YEAR’S SENTRY TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS, THE GAME’S BEST GOT THEMSELVES OUT OF TROUBLE IN A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT WAYS.**

**JON RAHM’S SCRAMBLING LED TO A 10TH PLACE FINISH AFTER SCORING PAR OR BETTER 72% OF THE TIME WHEN MISSING THE GREEN IN REGULATION.**

ANNC: Could have been a 5 real easily, instead it’s a 3.

**GARY WOODLAND ALSO FINISHED INSIDE THE TOP-10 DUE IN PART TO AN 8TH RANKED SCRAMBLING PERFORMANCE OF 70%.**

ANNC: That’s a good shot. He has really transformed his short game.

**AND PATRICK REED EARNED A RUNNER-UP, AFTER GETTING UP AND DOWN 82% OF THE TIME FROM OFF THE PUTTING SURFACE. 4TH BEST OF THE TOURNAMENT.**

ANNC REED: He is amazing around the greens.

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER

**SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER IS MAKING HIS FIRST TRIP TO MAUI TO REAP THE REWARDS OF A HARD FOUGHT 2019-2020 SEASON.**

ANNC: There it is, Scottie Scheffler the newest member of the 59 club. That is awesome. He must feel like he is walking on air.”

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

**IN A STELLAR ROOKIE YEAR, THE 24-YEAR-OLD PROVED HE HAS A PLACE WITH THE BEST GOLFERS IN THE WORLD**.

SPIETH: He's always been an incredible talent in the city of Dallas and in the state of Texas. It just seems like every week he's got a chance to win.

SCHEFFLER: Everything's been going fast, playing a lot of events. I haven't really had much time to sit around and think about it, but, yeah, it's great to be here.

**EN ROUTE TO WINNING ROOKIE OF THE YEAR, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS ALUM RACKED UP 13 TOP 25 FINISHES, 6 OF THOSE IN THE TOP 5.**

ANNC: Third place for Scottie Scheffler.

THOMAS: Just what Scotty has done week in and week out, to where, although he hasn't won. He's put himself in position.

SCHEFFLER: It's pretty crazy, I didn't have very many expectations going into the season. But I just wanted to come out here and play and do my best.

ANNC: Scheffler in his first TOUR Championship.

SCHEFFLER: I’m definitely very fortunate to be here in my first year. It's a great accomplishment that not too many guys have done.

ANNC: There it is, what a week, what a season for Scottie Scheffler.

**WHILE ACHIEVING HIS GOALS ON TOUR, SCHEFFLER HAS ALREADY HELPED 2 FIRST YEAR STUDENTS AT HIS ALMA MATER CHASE THEIR CAREER DREAMS.**

WILLNER: Every morning I try to do some sort of exercise. I'm a member of the ROTC program and it's been a really great experience so far.

KANG: It felt like home when I walked on to campus, I just love studying by the tower. It makes me feel like I belong.

**DALLAS NATIVES MATTHEW WILLNER AND COURTNEY KANG HAVE SETTLED INTO THE NEW ROUTINE OF CAMPUS LIFE.**

WILLNER: We're headed out in front of Gregory Gym which is the main gym here. There's benches out there, I like to do classes there with everything being virtual I just like to get outside and do my classes there so I can get some fresh air.

KANG: Being off campus I get to do my studies, I get to be off campus also so I get the city life too. But I can always come on campus, relax just explore a little bit. It's a beautiful campus. A lot of places to relax, hangout.

**AMONG THE NEAR ONE MILLION INHABITANTS OF TEXAS' CAPITAL CITY, THE TWO SHARE A UNIQUE CONNECTION THROUGH A LONGHORN GOLFING STAR, AND THE NORTHERN TEXAS PGA.**

KANG: Around 14, I started playing competitively. Really enjoyed those, I think they were my favorite memories.

WILLNER: I played on the NTPGA tour for probably around 7 years I'd say it was just a great way to have competition and kinda see yourself progress.

**SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER ALSO CUT HIS TEETH ON THE N-T-P-G-A, AND AFTER A HOT START TO HIS ROOKIE YEAR IN THE FALL OF 2019...**

ANNC: Beautiful birdie for Scheffler!

**HE CLAIMED THE OVERALL RSM BIRDIES FORE LOVE PRIZE FOR MOST BIRDIES OR BETTER, WHICH HE DIRECTED BACK TOWARDS HIS HOME.**

SCHEFFLER: NTPGA is a cause close to my heart. I grew up playing junior golf in North Texas. So that was one of the first things I wanted to give back to. It was half scholarships and half just for the actual foundation to run tournaments. It's definitely great to be on a platform and use that to give back to our communities in Dallas.

**JUST AS SCHEFFLER WENT FROM DALLAS TO AUSTIN, HE'S NOW HELPING MATTHEW AND COURTNEY ON THEIR OWN UNIQUE JOURNEYS.**

KANG: I am studying environmental engineering. I hope to use what I learn here in the classes about engineering and apply that to the real world with the environment, figuring out how to solve those problems.

WILLNER: I'm studying business here. I really have no clue what path I'm going to go through yet but I'm going to take classes like accounting and finance and see which one I like the best.

WILLNER: After I won the scholarship, I researched everything about Scottie Scheffler pretty much and he went to the business school. I'm in the business school. It's really crazy that it came from a professional golfer who won a competition and donated the money.

KANG: I thought it was like...not coincidence but it was definitely a great feeling. It felt like destiny. He came here, I came here and he's definitely helping me with coming here too.

**AS GIVING BACK REMAINS A PRIORITY FOR SHEFFLER. HE IS TAKING HIS 5TH PLACE FINISH ON THE FEDEXCUP POINTS LIST IN HIS ROOKIE YEAR AND IS AIMING FOR HIS FIRST WIN IN THE 2020-21 SEASON.**

ANNC: Still looking for that first win. It’s just a matter of time before it’s his time.

SPIETH: I have no doubt that he'll be a force here on the PGA TOUR and certainly be somebody who wins and wins often and soon.

SCHEFFLER: Golf is a really hard game. So there's always, always lulls, but I feel like I'm starting to roll again.

HAWAII TOURISM

**AS SCHEFFLER ROLLS THAT MOMENTUM INTO PARADISE TO BEGIN 2021 – HE’LL GET TO EXPERIENCE THE BEAUTY OF HAWAII, PLAYERS HAVE BEEN ENJOYING FOR YEARS.**

DECHAMBEAU: Aloha and mahala.

KIZZIRE: It was a rush, my blood was pumpin, I was holding onto the handles, white knuckles.

GUIDE: E Ala e

RAHM: It’s something you only see in movies. It really is something beautiful.

HORSCHEL: It’s something my wife and I are gonna do more at home, probably on calmer waters.

DECHAMBEAU: I definitely want to come back and do it again.

HOLIDAY BREAK RECAP

ANNC: This for birdie, and the win. A win it is for Viktor Hovland and what a way to do it!

**VIKTOR HOVLAND’S WIN IN MEXICO SIGNALED THE FINAL OFFICIAL PGA TOUR EVENT OF 2020.**

HOVLAND: To play here for the first time as an amateur on the PGA TOUR and to then win it later, I think that’s pretty cool.

**THE WIN MOVED THE NORWEGIAN INTO 3RD IN THE FEDEXCUP STANDINGS AND IN ELITE COMPANY BECOMING JUST THE 5TH EUROPEAN PLAYER TO EARN MULTIPLE TOUR TITLES BEFORE THE AGE OF 24.**

**AND WHILE FEDEXCUP POINTS TOOK A BREAK FOR THE HOLIDAYS, MANY PLAYERS STAYED BUSY STARTING FIRST WITH THE TEAM PLAY QBE SHOOTOUT.**

ANNC – We’ve known it for a while, but now it’s official, Harris English… Matt Kuchar are now 3 time champions of this event.

**TO CLOSE OUT 2020, AN ANNUAL FAMILY AFFAIR TOOK PLACE IN ORLANDO AT THE PNC CHALLENGE WHERE ALL EYES WERE ON TIGER WOODS AND HIS 11-YEAR OLD SON CHARLIE.**

ANNC: We’ve seen a few of those fist pumps on Sunday in the red and black.

WOODS: It’s so much fun for me to see him enjoying this and enjoying the game and feeling the shots and hitting it as solidly as he’s doing now.

THOMAS: Who wouldn’t want to be like your dad if you dad was Tiger Woods? He definitely has all the mannerisms, twirl the club and walk putts in and fist pump. It’s cool, he’s 11 years old, he’s allowed to do stuff like that.

**WHILE THE BIG CAT AND HIS CUB IMPRESSED ON THE COURSE, TEAM THOMAS PROVED VICTORIOUS BY WAY OF 15 BIRDIES IN THE FINAL ROUND.**

ANNC: And that is a 57, one off all-time record for a single day.

THOMAS: It’s a very fitting and unbelievable way to end a bizarre year.