COLD OPEN

JOHNSON: Life before golf was a big question mark. I didn't know what my purpose was.

BENTLEY: Kamaiu Johnson has a story that will one day be a movie. Here's a guy who dropped out of school in the 8th grade, was hanging out on the corners doing stuff that he shouldn't be doing.

JOHNSON: My family moved onto Halaman Golf Course in Tallahassee where the GM Jane Auger saw me outside swinging a stick when I was thirteen. She gave me a nine iron and a bucket of balls. So I took that and ran with it and I've been playing ever since.

JOHNSON: I see myself on the PGA TOUR / that's the number one goal. There is no other goal.

**WELCOME TO PGA TOUR THE CUT…**

WHAT TO KNOW

**THE WEST COAST SWING IS IN FULL EFFECT AS PLAYERS HEAD OVER TO THE CALIFORNIA COAST FOR THE FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN… AND HERE’S WHAT TO KNOW FOR THE WEEK AHEAD.**

**INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS WILL LOOK TO CONTINUE THEIR WINNING WAYS AT TORREY PINES AS 5 OF THE LAST 6 CHAMPIONS HAVE COME FROM ABROAD.**

ANNC: Jason Day, the Australian!

ANNC: Justin Rose, takes Torrey Pines!

**MARC LEISHMAN’S SUCCESS IN THE TOURNAMENT THROUGHOUT HIS CAREER BEFORE FINALLY CULMINATED IN A VICTORY LAST SEASON.**

**LATER, A LOOK AT HOW LEISHMAN’S PERFORMANCE ON THE GREENS HELPED FUEL HIM TO HIS 5TH CAREER PGA TOUR TITLE.**

**AND WHILE LEISHMAN SEEKS TO DEFEND AT THE FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN, A SPONSOR EXEMPTION HAS PAVED THE WAY FOR APGA TOUR CHAMPION KAMAIU JOHNSON TO MAKE HIS FIRST START IN A PGA TOUR EVENT.**

**FOR JOHNSON, THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY AT THE TOURNAMENT IS A DREAM COME TRUE AND THE NEXT STEP IN A LIFE IN GOLF THAT BEGAN IN UNIQUE FASHION.**

KAMAIU JOHNSON

JOHNSON: I come out here when I come in town. I come to see Jan like when I’m here I see Jan twice a week. Jan taught me you know, tough love, discipline and right from wrong. She kinda filled that motherly gap that I was kinda lacking from home.

Growing up where I grew up, I was not even allowed on a golf course. I was born and raised in Madison, Florida. My mom saw fit that it was / time for us to get out of Madison. Not a lot of opportunity there, bunch of trouble so she moved us to Tallahassee.

Right here, G305 on the third floor here is where my grandmother moved. Everything happens for a reason. Her moving here pretty much saved my life.”

AUGER: The first time I met him, I was playing golf. And I saw him across two fairways over.

JOHNSON: I was swinging a stick outside my apartment complex and she comes over. And I'm like, is she coming over to tell me to get off the course?

AUGER: I noticed he had a really nice swing and that's what caught my attention. I said hey you wanna go to the range and hit some real balls? And he’s like yeah and his face just lit up.

JOHNSON: The first day I hit balls, I was hooked. I was here every day after that from sunup to sundown.

I spent a lot of time out here on the range. I was hitting two, three, four buckets a day.

AUGER: I enjoyed sending him down to the range to pick up some of the range balls. The arrangement was if he kinda would help out and he could play for $1. He could walk and then you get free range balls.

JOHNSON: She didn't tell anyone she was charging me $1 a day and she put her job at risk.

AUGER: He started with nothing and for what he's done with the resources he's had, he’s done a lot of this himself I think a lot of people would have given up.

JOHNSON: Never give up. That's what I have on my golf club is to enjoy the process and never give up.

Getting the opportunity to play in the Farmers. It's like man from outside of my apartment swinging a stick to playing on the PGA TOUR.

NATS: That’s it? That’s everything. Thank you so much Mr. Johnson. Thank you so much. Thanks for having me.

AUGER: He’s just… From being where he was and just doing and fighting the way he's fought… He understands that it takes a village.

JOHNSON: I'm a good testament of what can happen when a lot of love comes together. A lot of people have helped me, period whether it's white, black, woman, man, whatever.

AUGER: He gives people outside of golf a hope. Someone hears his story and says, wow, look what he did. Maybe I can do the same thing not necessarily in golf but just being a success in life. It’s not accepting the situation you’re in as just being a failure situation.

JOHNSON: That's you know my message to the world is just look at me and look at what can happen if we all just kind of work together and just be one.

MARC LEISHMAN AT 2020 FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN

ANNC: Marc Leishman is the champion!

**MARC LEISHMAN’S VICTORY AT THE 2020 FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN WAS THE 5TH OF HIS CAREER, AND THE THIRD STRAIGHT SEASON HE RAISED A TROPHY.**

LEISHMAN: I have been lucky enough to have four wins in the last what, three years, and have celebrated them all properly. If you have success you obviously put a lot of hard work in to get there, you should celebrate.

**THE CELEBRATION IN LA JOLLA WAS THE RESULT OF A SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE ON THE GREENS.**

LEISHMAN: I found something with my putting early in the week. Actually said to Matty, my caddie, I said I feel like the putter feels in my hands like it did in Malaysia.

ANNC: What a performance Marc Leishman!

LEISHMAN: Hadn't had that feeling for a while, and he's like geez well I hope it's the same result. So the putter felt really good, obviously made a lot of putts throughout the whole week.

**LEISHMAN LED THE FIELD FOR THE WEEK IN STROKES GAINED:  PUTTING, BUT IT WAS IN THE FINAL ROUND WHERE IT DROVE HIS SUCCESS THE MOST.**

**HE KICKED OFF SUNDAY ROLLING IN A 41 FOOT PUTT AT THE FIRST.**

**AFTER 5 BIRDIES ON THE FRONT 9, LEISHMAN KNOCKED IN A PUTT FROM JUST OVER 14 FEET AT 11.**

ANNC: And it’s another one in the hole!

**AND FOLLOWED IT UP WITH A NEARLY 20 FOOT PAR PUTT AT THE 12TH.**

ANNC: How about that for a 4! That’s huge.

**IN TOTAL, LEISHMAN RACKED UP OVER 150 FEET OF PUTTS MADE ON SUNDAY, FINALLY CONQUERING TORREY PINES AFTER MULTIPLE CLOSE CALLS.**

LEISHMAN: I've been close there quite a few times. I finished second there twice. So that's one that I really wanted and finally got it.

INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS AT FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN

**LEISHMAN SEEKS TO BECOME THE 4TH BACK-TO-BACK WINNER IN FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN HISTORY AT AN EVENT THAT IS BECOMING A STAPLE IN MANY INTERNATIONAL PLAYER’S SCHEDULES. OVER THE PAST SIX SEASONS, A THIRD OF THE FIELD HAS BEEN COMPRISED OF PLAYERS FROM OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES**

**SINCE 2014, THE FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN RANKS AMONG THE TOURNAMENTS WITH THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS AND IS 2ND FOR LONGEST ACTIVE STREAKS OF INTERNATIONAL WINNERS WITH 4 IN A ROW.**

**INCLUDED IN THAT STRETCH OF CHAMPIONS IS JASON DAY IN SEARCH OF HIS 3RD TITLE AT TORREY PINES.**

ANNC: We have a champion!

TOUR PLAYLIST

**COVERAGE OF THE FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN GETS UNDER WAY ON THURSDAY AS INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS AIM TO CONTINUE THEIR SUCCESS.**

PRESIDENTS CUP ANNOUNCEMENT

ANNC: And Matt Kuchar has won another Presidents Cup for the United States! And that means Tiger Woods is a winner as a captain.

**2019 SAW THE UNITED STATES PRESIDENTS CUP TEAM CLAIM A COME FROM BEHIND WIN UNDER THE WATCHFUL EYE OF PLAYER-CAPTAIN TIGER WOODS. AND NOW TIGER IS PASSING THE US CAPTAIN ROLE TO DAVIS LOVE III.**

LOVE: When Tiger called me and said the Presidents Cup captaincy is yours, I didn’t know what authority he was speaking under. We’ve had so much discussion over the past six plus years of captaincies, consistency, continuity. We talked Tiger into being the captain in 19, I was hoping he’d be all-time quarterback and take it for a while like jack and Freddie did. It’s an honor and humbling to have Tiger say hey I had my turn, I enjoyed it, I want to play, you’re the right guy for this job.

**LOVE WAS A MEMBER OF 6 PRESIDENTS CUP TEAMS RANKING 4TH AMONG AMERICAN PLAYERS IN POINTS WITH 18. AFTER SERVING AS ASSISTANT CAPTAIN 3 TIMES FROM 2013-2017, LOVE IS PREPARED FOR THE CHALLENGE OF LEADING A TEAM INTO AN EVENT DELAYED UNTIL 2022 DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.**

LOVE: We know what we have to do to get ready. The players know how to get ready. It’ll be nice to have some extra time, and some time to watch guys play.

**AND WHEN THE 2022 PRESIDENTS CUP TEES OFF AT QUAIL HOLLOW CLUB IN CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, LOVE AND HIS TEAM WILL FACE AN INTERNATIONAL SIDE LEAD BY TREVOR IMMELMAN.**

LOVE: He’ll carry on the tradition Ernie Els started of bringing their team together. I look forward to not only competing against Trevor but spending a lot of time with him over the next few years getting ready for the Presidents Cup.

JOHN AUGENSTEIN

AUGENSTEIN: I make a lot of decisions based on my gut and kind of what I’m feeling. You know from a physical standpoint it’s never been a question of whether I’m ready or not. It’s just, just getting everything in order and feeling when the right time has come to move on.

**A 4-TIME ALL AMERICAN AND 2020 SEC PLAYER OF THE YEAR AT VANDERBILT, JOHN AUGENSTEIN HAS DONE THE WORK TO PREPARE HIMSELF FOR A SHOT AT THE PGA TOUR.**

AUGENSTEIN: Part of the reason I love the game so much is the preparation and in getting ready for each week and for each tournament. And then seeing that kind of hard work payoff is very rewarding and very fun.

No matter what it is, I’ve always been very competitive. I don’t care what we’re playing even to this day I want to win.

The good news is that I had a good amateur career where I’m able to get some sponsor invites on the PGA tour. First one’s here at the American Express.

**IN HIS PROFESSIONAL DEBUT LAST WEEK IN THE DESERT, AUGENSTEIN CARDED EVEN PAR ROUNDS THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, AND NOW LOOKS AHEAD TO THE NEXT OPPORTUNITY.**

AUGENSTEIN: I don't get caught up in how many FedEx Cup points do I need to get a PGA TOUR Card. I'm just gonna play and try to play as well as I can. You've never arrived in the game, you never are done. You're never finished. I always feel like I can excel at all areas and continue to do so.

AMEX CHARITY CHALLENGE

**BEFORE TOURNAMENT PLAY, TONY FINAU AND FORMER U.S. MEN’S SOCCER STAR LANDON DONAVAN TO TOOK ON PAUL CASEY AND COUNTRY MUSIC ARTIST JAKE OWEN IN THE AMERICAN EXPRESS CHARITY CHALLENGE, HOSTED BY PHIL MICKELSON.**

MICKELSON: I’m gonna watch and talk smack which is what I do better than play right now so let’s have at it.

Mmm. Get some! Oh my word.

Does that ever get tiring like playing from the fairway all the time way out there or are you just yeah I like it? (Just sometimes I..) Like you never get to work it around trees. (I do.)

This is an opportunity that is insurmountable for Tony and Landon to get past you.

CASEY: I love it you’re just building us up for failure it’s perfect.

OWEN: Oh heads up! I hit that police officer right in the groin. My bad!

I’m just getting texts from all my buddies. They’re sending me shot tracers of my shot. My shot in the water. Is this what you guys have to deal with every time you’re on the golf course? One of your buddies you went to high school with?

MICKELSON: We don’t really go on Twitter in between shots.

Good shot Paul.

CASEY: If I’ve gotten closest to the pin this may be the first time in 20 years Phil I’ve got inside you on a bunker shot.

**CASEY AND OWEN CAME OUT ON TOP RAISING $660,000 FOR HEALTH & WELLNESS, WHILE FINAU AND DONOVAN RAISED $340,000 FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY**

CASEY: Landon Nice buddy.

MICKELSON: Lil’ stock cut, Hogan used to play a fade like that. Good Shot

CASEY: Phil This talking thing’s pretty easy for you is thisa future career? Is this an audition here?

MICKELSON: Well it’s the first time nobody has said shut up so I just keep going.

SI WOO KIM WINS AMEX

**AFTER THE EARLY WEEK FUN, FINAU WOULD END UP IN THE FINAL GROUP SUNDAY ALONGSIDE THE EVENTUAL CHAMPION…**

ANNC: Si Woo Kim is now a three time winner on the PGA TOUR!

**SI WOO KIM ROSE ABOVE A PACKED LEADERBOARD TO TAKE THE AMERICAN EXPRESS TITLE. KIM’S 8 BIRDIES IN THE FINAL ROUND WERE THE MOST IN HIS CAREER.**

ANNC: Right in the heart! What a putt!

**THE NUMBER THAT MOST REPRESENTS HIS ALL-AROUND STELLAR PLAY IS THREE. KIM PLAYED ALL THREE ROUNDS ON PGA WEST’S STADIUM COURSE WITHOUT MAKING A BOGEY, THE ONLY PLAYER TO DO SO LAST WEEK, WRAPPING UP HIS FIRST WIN IN THREE AND A HALF YEARS.**

KIM: Last 3 years I have a chance twice, every year can make it up. It’s meant a lot to me and then I got more confidence after this tournament, so I’m very happy.

FEDEXCUP STANDINGS

**WITH THE VICTORY, KIM MOVED INTO THE FEXEXCUP TOP 10 WHERE HIS BEST FINISH CAME IN 2016 WHEN HE ENDED THE SEASON IN 17TH PLACE.**

SNEDEKER’S SAVES

**THE CUT PRESENTS SNEDEKER’S SAVES**

**2-TIME FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN CHAMPION BRANDT SNEDEKER HAS A HISTORY OF RECOVERING FROM LARGE DEFECITS AT TORREY PINES, INCLUDING 2012 WHERE HE BEGAN THE FINAL ROUND 7-STROKES BACK.**

ANNC: He’s had these great Sunday rallies and maybe there’s another one in store today.

**HE CLIMBED TO WITHIN 3 OF THE LEAD BEFORE CARDING HIS 1ST BOGEY OF THE DAY AT 17, BUT HE WAS ABLE TO FORCE A PLAYOFF WITH A RALLYING BIRDIE AT THE LAST.**

ANNC: Gorgeous shot by Snedeker!

**ON THE SECOND PLAYOFF HOLE, HE FACED A TOUGH LIE FROM A WAYWARD TEE SHOT BUT WAS ABLE TO GET UP AND DOWN FOR VICTORY.**

ANNC: That is one heck of a win by Brandt Snedeker.

**4 YEARS LATER SNEDEKER OVERCAME A 6-STROKE DEFECIT ON A WINDY SUNDAY, SHOOTING 1-OVER ON THE FRONT BEFORE BIRDYING 4 OF HIS NEXT 5 EN ROUTE TO ANOTHER VICTORY.**

ANNC: Hot man on the course and that’s saying something on a day like today.

JOHNSON & MACK @ TPC SAWGRASS I

**IN OCTOBER, APGA TOUR MEMBERS KAMAIU JOHNSON AND WILLIE MACK III SPENT THREE DAYS AT TPC SAWGRASS AND THE PGA TOUR’S PERFORMANCE CENTER GETTING THE VIP TREATMENT INCLUDING TRAINING SESSIONS WITH FITNESS SPECIALIST ALEX BENNETT AND PERSONALIZED GOLF LESSONS WITH DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION TODD ANDERSON.**

JOHNSON: So I’m just going to try to go right at it. (And then if you pull it a little) So if I pull it a little bit it’s fine. (Yeah). If I push it a little bit it’s fine as ell.

ANDERSON: We’re going to check all the boxes and we’re going to try to give them a very specific plan. These are the things you need to work on, this is how you need to practice and just help them to where they can compete at a higher level.

**JOHNSON WILL HAVE THE CHANCE TO SHOWCASE LESSONS LEARNED AT THE FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN, WHILE MACK WILL COMPETE IN AN APGA TOUR TOURNAMENT ALSO HELD AT TORREY PINES WITH EYES ON A FUTURE OPPORTUNITY ON THE PGA TOUR.**

WILLIE MACK III

MACK: Coming from Flint, Michigan, who knows what other path I could have went down if I wasn't at the golf course. Me and my dad got into it at the same time. I was around six or seven. He didn't play his whole life. So we just picked it up at the same time and kind of just fell in love with it.

Just me and my dad going out and having a good time, Father Son bonding. I think it made me who I am today and who I will be in future.

This is my ninth year as a professional. So I've seen a lot, it's a grind. Gotta stay disciplined. There's gonna be some hard times and you just got to fight through it.

The older you get you realize that you need people in life to get to places you want to get to, and just meeting people along the way. Really helped my journey along with the golf game and my career.

My dad and family, they know how hard I work. And kinda just want to make sure they at least see me succeed to the PGA TOUR. Playing against the competition on the APGA Tour. It really builds up your confidence for the next level.

STILLS: Willie, he's a force to reckon with tremendous talent, has won several times on our tour. He just needs that one opportunity.

BENTLEY: Willie Mack is one putt away from making it on the PGA TOUR. He's got a great game. It's just getting more of those opportunities and he'll be there.

**OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF NEXT MONTH, AS TIGER WOODS ANNOUNCED MACK AS THIS YEAR’S RECIPIENT OF THE CHARLIE SIFFORD MEMORIAL EXEMPTION INTO THE GENESIS INVITATIONAL.**

MACK: My goal is to get to the PGA TOUR. It's been a good journey, and the future holds some positive things.

JOHNSON & MACK @ TPC SAWGRASS II

BENNETT: We’ll go golf posture. Arms across the chest. You’re just going to turn your shoulders and keep your hips as still as possible.Willie, try to get that chest, like let that chest open up and rotate. Yeah! Let that chest help you get it back there. Good! We’re going to get that outside leg and you’re just going to rotate over. And as you come back, come back slowly. See you’re pushing into it and then you’re going to just tap.

The biggest thing was just making them aware of any limitations they had whether it was mobility or just activations. Both of them are good athletes and as a trainer your biggest thing is to make sure they can be good athletes on the golf course and those limitations aren’t holding them back.

JOHNSON: Thanks man. (yeah) Appreciate you. (Yeah)

ANDERSON: Alright KJ, go ahead and hit a few of those wedges to get loose.

39, 38, 38, 38 basically, so pretty consistent. That means your bringing the club back into the ball with about the same amount of loft which is really important for your wedges. See how the right side gets over there and you see how that face stays nice and neutral. Beautiful. That’s a different flight there.

They’re very talented. They’re good players now but a lot of time there are just little things they have to learn that will help them get to that next level and that’s always my goal how can I put together a plan that’s going to help them get the next level.

Instead of you kinda feeling you’re back here hitting, you should feel like you are moving it more through it. There ya go Willie!

MACK: I’m always trying to get better. Always trying to find something to make me better. Working with Todd I can for sure see my game going to another level.

ANDERSON: Square your feet up you’re aiming a little left. Give me a little more right. Right there. That a way. Beautiful

JOHNSON: The goal is to make it on the PGA TOUR and I know if I can continue to get better and continue to compete week in and week out, that I’ll reach that goal.

ANDERSON: It’s great to see people that have to fight to get to where they’re trying to go. These guys earned everything that they’ve achieved. To take players like they are and spend some time with them and help them put together a plan that will hopefully get them to the PGA TOUR and winning on the PGA TOUR is exciting.