**21CUTPLAY PGA TOUR – THE CUT #10**

COLD OPEN

HORSCHEL SOT: “We’re all excited about THE PLAYERS Championship – it’s our fifth major.”

ANNC: “How about that 6-iron? One bounce and in.”

MCILROY SOT: “This golf course can play so differently day-to-day. It really doesn’t suit anyone’s style of play or one type of player.”

ANNC: “Rory McIlroy is a PLAYERS champion.”

THOMAS SOT: “It’s a ball striker’s course. You can’t fake your way around it. It’s just such a well-designed golf course and it’s a lot of fun to play.”

SCOTT SOT: “The stadium course at Sawgrass is all you could want and more.”

**WELCOME TO PGA TOUR THE CUT**

YEAR SINCE PLAYERS THROUGH RORY’S EYES

MEDIA SOT: “Ladies and gentlemen, it’s my pleasure to welcome defending PLAYERS Champion Rory McIlroy back to the interview room here at TPC Sawgrass”

MCILROY SOT: “Going into the Players Championship last year, defending champion. Feeling pretty good about my game, feeling optimistic…”

MCILROY SOT: “it’s nice to be back and obviously it would be wonderful to replicate what happened last year”

MCILROY SOT: “In golfing terms, I was feeling good about everything, going back to a place where I’ve had some success, good memories…”

ANNC: “…and Rory McIlroy is a PLAYERS Champion”

MCILROY SOT: “News about the pandemic or covid was sort of ramping up a little bit… people started to become a little more aware and a little more conscious of what that might mean… I still thought were going to have a tournament, I’ve got a chance to defend a really big title. I guess at that point it was just business as usual.”

MCILROY SOT: “Welcome to the PLAYERS Championship…done, perfecto {claps}”

{ART CARD #1}: IN THE FIRST ROUND, MCILROY BIRDIED HIS FINAL THREE HOLES TO SHOOT AN EVEN PAR 72, 9-SHOTS BEHIND LEADER HIDEKI MATSUYAMA.

{ART CARD #2}: BUT AS RORY PLAYED, THE PGA TOUR ANNOUNCED THAT FANS WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED ON THE GROUNDS FOR THE REST OF THE WEEK, DUE TO COVID-19 PRECAUSSIONS.

MCILROY SOT: “I don’t think I had much of a thought about it until the Tour announced on Thursday that there would be no fans on Friday.”

MCILROY SOT: “It will be a little strange to play here over the next few days with no fans, but that’s what we have to do to try and do our bit to try and stop the spread…someone said to me yesterday, today’s overreaction could look like tomorrow’s underreaction so we just got to take it day by day and see where this thing goes.”

MONAHAN SOT: “Good morning everyone. We are obviously very disappointed to suspend the PGA TOUR season…I wanted to fight for our players and our fans and for this tour, to show how golf can unify and inspire… Our goal now is to focus on a plan for the near and long term and maintain the strength we have built through our organization over the past 51 years…and I’m confident we will do exactly that.”

MCILROY SOT: “I stood up there yesterday after playing and was like look…doing what they did was a step in the right direction, but they were saying they were going to take it hour by hour and seeing how it would all play out and look here we are.”

MCILROY SOT: “at that point as well, we knew nothing about covid. So I think at that point there was a lot of fear…”

{ART CARD #3}: AS COVID-19 CONTINUED TO SPREAD IN THE U.S., THE PGA TOUR CANCELLED OR RESCHEDULED ALL TOURNAMENTS ON ALL TOURS FOR AN UNPRECEDENTED 13-WEEK STRETCH.

{ART CARD #4}: PLAYERS AT HOME, WATCHING AS A GLOBAL PANDEMIC, ECONOMIC DOWNTURN AND SOCIAL UNREST RAVAGED THE UNITED STATES AND THE REST OF THE WORLD.

MCILROY SOT: “It just seemed like a lot of people just had enough in a way… years down the line we’re going to look back at 2020, I think it’s going to be a year where I think we saw a lot of change in the world, a year were just a lot went on…”

{ART CARD #5}: WITH ALL MAJOR SPORTS LEAGUES SHUTTERED DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE PANDEMIC, GOLF BEGAN THE SLOW, MEASURED PROCESS OF TRYING TO COME BACK.

FIRST WITH THE TAYLORMADE DRIVING RELIEF SUPPORTED BY UNITED HEALTH GROUP AND THEN THE CHARLES SCHWAB CHALLENGE, PLAYED AT FAMED COLONIAL COUNTRY CLUB.

MCILROY SOT: “It was just nice to be a part of something where people didn’t know the score. I didn’t know what was going to happen at the end... we raised a lot of money for covid relief as well, at a time when people really needed it. It was still pretty early on…”

MCILROY SOT: “it was nice to get back out on the golf course and get back to some sort of normalcy.”

MCILROY SOT: “… golf was basically the first live sport back and to a part of that was also pretty special. It gave people and escape from what had been going on..”

ANNC: “Over 5 and a half million dollars raised today. Unbelievable.”

ANNC: “Once again, golf doing its part for the greater good.”

MCILROY SOT: “Golf was basically the first live sport back and to be part of that was also pretty special and it gave people a bit of an escape from what had been going on.”

CELEBRITY SOTS: “And now back on the tee … Back on the tee … back on the tee … from Northern Ireland, Rory McIlroy.”

MCILROY SOT: “a lot of players on tour were just grateful that they could play because there were so many people who couldn’t get back to work so I think just guys on tour being so grateful to be able to go out there play golf and do what they do for a living. “

ANNC: “Daniel Berger is your champion here as we come back after 13 weeks away from the game.”

ANNC: “Could it be? Oh!”

ANNC: “Here .. it .. WATCH OUT! .. comes! He’s got it!”

MCILROY SOT: “to finish the FedExCup season and to crown a champion and to put all those resources to making sure the tournament site was safe and we all got tested and made sure we did everything the right way… I think everyone involved should be proud for what they’ve been able to do.”

MCILROY SOT: “…I think the tour can just continue to just inspire, inspire people, inspire the next generation but also do good in the communities that they go to… “

{ART CARD #7}:DESPITE THE PANDEMIC, CANCELED EVENTS AND OVERALL ECONOMIC CLIMATE, THE PGA TOUR GENERATED MORE THAN $160 MILLION IN CHARITABLE GIVING IN 2020. BRINGING ITS ALL-TIME TOTAL TO $3.21 BILLION.

MCILROY SOT: “Hi Lisa. It’s Rory McIlroy here. I just want to say a huge thank you for everything that you do.”

MCILROY SOT: “whether it be the healthcare workers that have made a huge difference in fighting this virus or setting a good example of wearing a mask or social distancing…if people see us out here doing that, they’re more likely to do the same thing themselves.”

MCILROY SOT: “It is going to be the one-year mark at The Players, if there is going to be a theme for the tournament it should just be how grateful that the players are that we get to play in The Players Championship again. And how grateful we are for everyone involved in helping us get back to this point… “

BUMP

**STILL AHEAD ON THE CUT…**

BROOKS KOEPKA: “Making a putt when you need to or almost doing the impossible, that's Tiger-esque.”

SPIETH SOT: “You know you’ve made it when your umbrella has your signature on it.”

BETTER THAN MOST 20 YEARS

ANNC: “What a scene it is, galleries surrounding … this is a crescendo when Tiger Woods shows up.”

*IN 2001, TIGER WOODS WAS IN SEARCH OF HIS FIRST PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP. HE ENTERED THE THIRD ROUND 6-SHOTS BACK OF JERRY KELLY.*

ADAM SCOTT SOT: “It was right in the middle of Tiger Mania in the early 2000s. And it was just another fairy tale of his at the time.”

*HIS TEE SHOT ON NO. 17 BARELY STAYED DRY, AND A FORGETTABLE FINISH TO HIS DAY SEEMED IN STORE.*

BROOKS KOEPKA SOT: “You’d take good odds on that. You'd be safe if you put it not to go in.”

GARY WOODLAND SOT: “You throw Saturday in there and how many people there are sitting around that stadium hole.”

RICKIE FOWLER SOT: “Adding it being a double breaker, and then the amount of break, percentages kind of keep going down and down.”

PATRICK CANTLAY SOT: “Maybe a 1 in 100 putt. Especially in that moment.”

ANNC: “When Tiger gets really engaged in something difficult, he usually does extra good…”

MAX HOMA SOT: “It's Tiger, he's gonna make that putt. When nobody expects him to, that means everyone should expect him to.”

JUSTIN ROSE SOT: “The thing about that putt is the way he reads greens.”

ANNC: “That’s…better than most…”

JUSTIN ROSE SOT: “He would have known where he had to get the ball to then feed it down to the hole and then gravity takes over.”

ANNC: “How about in? That is Better than Most…..Better than Most!!”

ANNC: “We’ll go back to 14…”

ANNC: “I presume Jerry Kelly heard a roar there we did hear a roar out there, but I’m sure he has no idea what it meant.”

JERRY KELLY SOT: “I was watching it happen. I'm like, look he's on the back of the green maybe he'll three-putt then the roar just watch his whole reaction.”

BERNHARD LANGER SOT: “I was in the clubhouse. I was finished and I watched it on TV and you could hear it from the outside being inside in the clubhouse. It was that loud.”

ADAM SCOTT SOT: “I was up in the Sky Sports booth. I wasn't in the tournament, but I got invited up to do some guest commentary we were just standing outside the booth watching and it was insane. I was a complete fan at that point. Complete fan.”

HARRY HIGGS SOT: “I was watching. I think maybe third grade, I was like imitating him while he was doing that.”

JASON DAY SOT: “Coming up out of Australia. I do remember when I first saw that. Everything he did just was so good and I wanted to play more golf because of that.”

*TIGER CLOSED THE GAP TO 2 SHOTS BY THE END OF ROUND 3.HE CARRIED THE MOMENTUM INTO SUNDAY, FIRING A 67 TO WIN THE CHAMPIONSHIP.*

ADAM SCOTT SOT: “Those moments, they can inspire. After being at the Sawgrass that weekend, I really wanted to make sure I was in the field from then on.”

ANNC: “Adam Scott survives!”

ADAM SCOTT SOT: “So those little things can really be motivational.”

JASON DAY SOT: “That just goes to show how much of an impact he had. Especially my generation growing up.”

BROOKS KOEPKA SOT: “That pretty much sums him up. Making a putt when you need to or almost doing the impossible, that's Tiger-esque.”

MATTHIAS SCHMID MINI

ANNC: “Mattias Schmid – the amateur in the field // he’s played in a couple of Palmer Cups and he was voted by his teammates as embodying the best example of what Arnold Palmer was all about as a player. so Mattias Schmid gets the exemption into the field.”

WITT SOT: “Take me back to whenever you found out you were gonna be playing at the Arnold Palmer Invitational. What was that moment like for you?”

SCHMID SOT: “I mean, it was right at the trophy presentation of the Arnold Palmer Cup and they announced my name that I won the legacy award and, I mean, it was just unreal. I thought, ‘Oh my gosh. This is such a big opportunity. It’s so nice.’ Unreal moment for me, to be honest.”

WITT SOT: “What’s your process as you’re on the putting green getting ready for the event?”

SCHMID SOT: “I try to get my start lines good – try to make sure I start the ball on line. As Thursday comes closer, I try to get my speed dialed in. I mean, the greens were pretty slow actually on Monday, but they sped up a lot the last few days. So today I’m gonna dial in my speed and see if I’m ready for tomorrow.”

WITT SOT: “Are there any other drills that you do on the putting green?”

SCHMID SOT: “I usually have one of those gates set up where I set up my putter square and then try to make sure I roll it through the little target, so that helps with starting line. Then I do a speed drill where I have distances from 15 up to 39 feet and try to get it all within a circle.”

SCHMID SOT: “Last year, I putted really well – maybe the best putting in a season I’ve had in my career – so I hope I can keep up that trend for this year and maybe start right here.”

SPIETH IN ARNIE’S OFFICE

SPIETH: “You know you’ve made it when your umbrella has your signature on it.”

SPIETH SOT: “He used to fly himself around right?”

SAUNDERS SOT: “Yep, yep he flew himself around for most of his career. I mean he did a lot. Have you seen, I mean like he had a world record for flying a Leer jet around?”

SPIETH SOT: “No!”

SAUNDERS SOT: “Yea I mean he was, he was, I think he liked aviation as much as he liked golf.”

SPIETH SOT: “Well he’s a pioneer in so many aspects and that’s one of them. That kind of time management as well as being the first guy to really be his own brand.”

SPIETH SOT: “My dinner was his last year that he was there. It was actually amazing he was there. The entire dinner consisted of people going around – each Masters champion went around telling a story about Arnold Palmer while he was there. He was tearing up and it was so special. I mean, it was … And of course it got to some of his peers – some of the older guys there – their stories were … The younger guys it was all, ‘I looked up to you; you were a mentor; you got me into golf.’ And then the older guys were, like, the stories that you wanted to hear, you know?”

NATS: “Exactly.”

AMY SOT: “If you would, Jordan, we’d love you to sit and sign the book.”

SPIETH SOT: “Okay! Sure!”

SAUNDERS SOT: “Sign the book, say you officially visited.”

SPIETH SOT: “Just sign it over here?”

SPIETH SOT: “I don’t feel worthy. I think it’s amazing just to get a little glimpse into what was important to him. It’s a perfect office, like it’s perfect you know. Thanks for showing me around y’all. (Of course.) Appreciate it.”

API STAT TO KNOW

ANNC: “No one’s ever tried this in competition in the history of this event.”

ANNC: “This ball appears to be hammered.”

**BRYSON’S BOLD PLAY AT ARNIE’S PLACE SOLIDIFIED HIS EIGHTH PGA TOUR WIN, AS HE BECAME THE FIRST WINNER OF THE ARNOLD PALMER INVITATIONAL PRESENTED BY MASTERCARD TO AVERAGE OVER 300 YARDS OFF THE TEE.**

DECHAMBEAU SOT: “I feel like when I hit that one really hard, that was just my raw emotion saying, ‘Go. Come on. Clear the water.’ It’s fun to certainly do so and do it in a manner that’s a little different than what’s been done before.”

ANNC: “Bryson DeChambeau, indeed, has the king’s title at Bay Hill.”

DECHAMBEAU SOT: “He’s had an influence on me for the longest time and will continue to do so for the rest of my life. He’s somebody that I look up to and will continue looking up to.”

ANNC: “Cell phones up. Here we go.”

ANNC: “What a drive.”

ANNC: “That’s what he’s prepared for. He’s trained to do that; to exploit his power.”

ANNC: “No one’s having more fun than DeChambeau.”

DECHAMBEAU SOT: “Hopefully I’ll keep moving up and keep going forward in the right direction – swinging harder and harder – and controlling it more and more.”

FEDEXCUP STANDINGS

**DECHAMBEAU’S SECOND WIN OF THE SEASON MADE HIM THE FIRST MULTIPLE CHAMPION, AND CARRIED HIM BACK TO THE TOP OF THE FEDEXCUP STANDINGS.**

SERVPRO

**THE CUT PRESENTS, SNEDEKER’S SAVES**

ANNC: “The lie appears to be really good.”

**WITH A KNACK FOR PERFORMING WELL UNDER PRESSURE, BRANDT SNEDEKER HAS MADE SOME HUGE SAVES THROUGHOUT HIS CAREER WHEN THEY COUNTED THE MOST.**

ANNC: “That’s in. Look at this. Oh! That’s with an exclamation point!”

ANNC: “The biggest day, the biggest win of his career.”

**A FEW SEASONS AFTER CAPTURING THE ULTIMATE PRIZE, SNEDEKER SOLIDIFIED A SPOT IN PGA TOUR HISTORY.**

ANNC: “For a 59.”

ANNC: “Brandt Snedeker is in the history books!”

ANNC: “Finish in style Brandt Snedeker.”

JASON DAY 5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

DAY SOT: “I just knew that I got off to such a great start on Thursday, Friday, and was really, really, I was deep under par.”

ANNC: “He joins 4 others in sharing the course record//it’s a bit of a message to the field.”

DAY SOT: “I don't think there's ever a time //where you can actually feel like you're okay, I can kind of relax. You’re always trying to focus, and push forward, and push forward, and push forward.”

ANNC: “The numbers from Jason Day, pretty startling.”

DAY SOT: “I remember how crazy quick the greens got on Saturday, and guys were 4 putting from like 8, 10 feet.”

ANNC: “Wow// The course has changed//a 4 putt from Jason Day.”

DAY SOT: “Just to be able to keep pushing forward and not letting guys come close.”

ANNC: “Oh my!”

DAY SOT: “Be able to chip in on 15 and finish the way I did, and then go, glad that's done.”

DAY SOT: “When you're winning wire to wire, when you're sleeping on the lead, it gradually builds, and builds, and builds.”

ANNC: “He’s got it! Incredible!//It always doesn’t come that easy.”

DAY SOT: “Sunday’s round was tough, but I ended up like kind of getting around that day, and ended up winning which was nice.”

ANNC: “Wire to wire winner, Jason Day! 2016 PLAYERS Champion!”

DAY SOT: “being announced as a Player champion//, is always special. // I know that my name is down in history now.”

FEATURED GROUP MINI

ANNC: “He really has proved every time he’s teed it up that he’s the best player in the world.”

ANNC: “Tremendous amount of confidence going for DeChambeau right now.”

ANNC: “Collin Morikawa is a world golf champion indeed.”

TOUR PLAYLIST

**48 OF THE TOP 50 PLAYERS IN THE WORLD WILL MAKE UP THE STRONGEST FIELD AT THE PLAYERS, TAKING ON THE TRUEST TEST OF GOLF THAT TPC SAWGRASS PRESENTS.**

**PLAYERS STRENGTH OF FIELD**

Day SOT: “first of all it's a tough venue. Secondly, it's against the best field in golf.

SCHEFFLER SOT: “I’m super excited, the tournament itself is a lot of fun, one of the best fields in golf and so when you can go out there and compete against 156 of the best players in the world it’s exciting”

ANNC: “Right at it // What a shot by Fowler. Rickie Fowler owns the island green and The 2015 Players Championship.”

THOMAS SOT: “You really can't fake your way around it. You have to place it off the tee. You have to place it into the green. And you can't make stupid mistakes.”

ANNC: “and he goes right over the stick. What a shot!”

MCILROY SOT: “it's probably the strongest field, and one of the toughest closing stretches. So you know you've had to play great golf but also handle your emotions, and having everything else that that course throws at you.”