**21CUTVALS – Master Script**

**COLD OPEN**

**ANNC: “**On the tee, your defending Valspar champion Paul Casey”

**CASEY**: “Cuts made is not a stat that I really ever care about. I'd rather have multiple victories and a few missed cuts.”

**ANNC: “**Opportunity for an eagle coming up here. Ooh! Casey right to the top of the leaderboard.”

**CASEY: “**I don't stress about technique, if it's a good shot, great.”

**ANNC**: “This is a tough place to be. Oh what a play by Casey, what a touch!”

**CASEY:** “I'm just approaching it the same way I approach the rest of the game. Which is carefree.”

**ANNC**: “Good looking…OH shot of the day from the champ!”

**CASEY**: “It's pretty simple, but for so long I just couldn't see it and trying to be perfect and trying to be better and the trying wasn't getting anywhere.”

**The Cut Titles**

**WELCOME TO PGA TOUR THE CUT**

**CASEY THREE-PEAT**

**CASEY:** “This is one of the places where the design of the course and the contours on the green the pitch on the green, it determines how you have to play it anyway. So green speeds, you just know it's exceptionally quick as soon as you get above the hole. Set up very, very well.  And that's tough. I guess it's a good thing, I've had a pretty good balance of trying to manage it.”

**ANNC: “**Casey with a 65, to pick up his second PGA TOUR win, the first since 2009.”

**CASEY:** “It's been too long. Very satisfying. It just was a great week, the course. I loved it. I played great stuff. I couldn't be happier. Really a flawless week from start to finish.”

**ANNC:** “Paul Casey is going to be the champion again at the Valspar, back to back!”

**ANNC:** “The guy that turned up on Sunday was like a different player”

**CASEY: “**It feels really good. It feels very different. But not less any less cool. I wanted to win again this year, that was kind of the top of the list, so I've done it. I'll have to look at what the second goal is.”

**RODGERS:** “To win the same golf tournament twice in a row it's a heck of a feat, and to have a chance to do it three times in a row is something pretty special.”

**THOMAS: “**It's just something that doesn't happen very often. And probably won't happen very often.”

**ANNC:** “Tiger times three…”

**JOHNSON**: “It's tough. It's something that's definitely special if you can win a tournament three times in a row. It's a big accomplishment, cuz the fields and the guys out here, they're very good.”

**ANNC**: “Oh my goodness, for 3 in a row. Steve Stricker!”

**STRICKER**: “I kept telling myself all week that it's not a big deal and it really wasn't until today. It's extremely hard to put it away, but I'm happy to come out on top.”

**THOMAS**: “It's different in golf than other sports. The shooting guard could be off on a basketball team. If the rest of the other four guys are playing great then they could still win three straight times. Whereas a golfer, if you're playing bad you're just not gonna win. It's all on you, and that's what makes it even tougher.”

**ANNC: “**Paul Casey trying to win for the 3rd time. A good Paul obviously is tough to beat.”

**CASEY: “**It's proud to be anybody’s champion, but Valspar Championship is a great great golf event. Johnny now wants it, times three. Quick to point that one out, wasn't he?”

 **JUSTIN THOMAS FEATURE**

**ANNC: “**This course has a long history on the PGA TOUR of being a fair test but also a difficult test. This has become a very popular stop with the world’s best players”

**JUSTIN THOMAS: “**My dad had Titleist in the shop. My first set of clubs I think was like those TRex little Titleist clubs. It’s all I’ve known it’s been my whole life, my whole career”

**MIKE THOMAS: “**Do you have any idea how old you were when you used that wedge?”

**JT: “**Uh 8, something like that?”

**MT: “**Oh I would say smaller than that”

**JT: “**6?”

**MT: “**He’s worn the grooves right off of it”

**PAUL THOMAS: “**Smooth as silk, you know people always ask ‘*did you know he was going to be good?’* Well that’s the answer right there”

**JT: “**Just as I grew older and older and started to understand how different clubs and golf balls could impact how you were doing, I started to learn that I loved it because of the performance, not just because dad was doing it”

**MT: “**We got all the golf balls he ever won here”

**ANNC: “**Justin gives all of the golf balls of his wins to his dad and this would be a dandy to add to the office”

**ANNC: “**Oh sensational touch right there”

**ANNC:** “Now trying to pull off the biggest 36 hole comeback to tie Tim Clark in history”

**ANNC: “**Take a look at this par 5 11th, a good tee shot here and JT will hit iron to this green”

**JT: “**Being a par 5 that this hole it, the most important thing is being committed and picking a shot that you want to hit”

**ANNC: “**Beautiful tee shot, he’ll be in go mode from there”

**JT: “**Normally this is a 4 iron, I usually hit it high 220s to mid 230s, I can get it to 235 in the air if I need to”

**ANNC: “**232 going with 4 iron”

**JT: “**And I’m just going to try to flight this thing down and kinda keep it decently low and land it somewhere near the front of the green and hopefully it’ll run back there toward the hole…there we go, just like that every shot is so different in terms of distance, how firm the greens are, how soft the greens are, the wind direction, the pin location, the lie that you have, it’s the hardest sport it seems like in the world, it doesn’t happen very often where everything is clicking, and when it is it’s a great feeling, you just step up there and the ball does what you want”

**ANNC: “**Boy it’s looks like a pretty nice line from here…and he looking at it like he likes it, drops it in there softly and Justin Thomas will have an eagle putt from there. That’s exactly as you draw it up”

**JT: “**If you’re able to get it to come out exactly how you want and stay underneath the wind and also get a little bit of rollout, to hit what to six feet, something like that is a huge bonus so you’re definitely maybe have a bit more of a pep in your step when you’re walking up to the green”

**ANNC: “**And Justin Thomas to take the lead outright…and Justin Thomas has it, eagle at 11”

**ANNC: “**Got it. What a gutty roll for Justin Thomas”

**ANNC:** “And Justin Thomas is your latest PLAYERS champion”

**SANDS:** “Family is an enormous part of your journey in this game, you lost your grandfather who you were very close with a couple months ago, how much of a part of him was with you today?”

**JT: “**Yeah I wish I could talk to him. I know he was watching”

**ANNC: “**That is a golfing family”

**BUMP**

**CHEF SOT: “**Brought our water to a boil, added the seasonings in it. Now it’s gonna be ready

for the crawfish to go in it ok?”

**FINAU: “**Wow, that’s a proper crawfish boil”

**CHAMP: “**All the seasonings and everything, it’s just full of flavor. I could eat this

whole thing if I sat here”

**PAYTON BUMP**

**PAYTON:** “It was a stroke hole for me, and the ruling was you could play it down in the tent, so it’s a hard surface, I’m not too good off of tight lies, and I felt pretty good about both practice swings.  I was worried about it hitting that little rail and coming back and knocking my teeth out, look I thumped it good, and the key was having a chance to make the putt…it was a big hole in the money game too, so that made it better.”

**CHAMP FINAU CRAWFISH**

**ANNC: “**After a two year wait, the Zurich Classic of New Orleans is back”

**FINAU: “**Team send it, I mean we send it just like we send this crawfish down, we send the golf ball down”

**CHAMP: “**I gotta stop myself because I’ll stay here all afternoon”

**ANNC: “**These two just enormously long.  I like this pair, I like their chances”

**FINAU: “**We’re friends I think is the first part, we played together at the QBE I think simultaneously we both agreed we wanted to do it again so here we are this week for the Zurich”

**ANNC: “**This has got a chance, what a great putt”

**CHAMP: “**Tony is an amazing player, it’s kinda of a relaxed week because you know you have somebody there in case you have some mishaps so play freely and obviously this format you gotta make as many birdies as you can”

**FINAU: “**In the best ball there’s no reason for me to hold back on certain holes when Cameron has it out there in the middle of the fairway. It’s a team event which makes this one stand out, we’re Team Send It so we’ll be sending some good drives this week no doubt”

**FINAU: “**Let’s cook some crawfish”

**FINAU: “**Nice to meet you, Tony”

**CHAMP: “**Nice to meet you yes sir”

**CHEF: “**You guys excited? You ready?”

**CHAMP: “**Let’s do it”

**CHEF: “**Don’t be afraid, go ahead and dump that bad boy in there?”

**Champ: “**All of it?”

**CHEF: “**Yes sir. Don’t be shy now”

**FINAU: “**This is cool, being up close and watching it”

**CHEF: “**So you’re smelling all those flavors coming through right here?”

**FINAU: “**So good, Louisiana’s food has got a certain taste like the Cajun here has got a certain taste to it, some of the best food in the world no doubt”

**CHEF: “**We brought our water to a boil, added the seasonings in it and now it’s gonna be ready for the crawfish to go in ok?”

**FINAU: “**When he’s got that wooden paddle out you know he’s doing some work”

**FINAU: “**Wow that’s a proper crawfish boil”

**CHAMP: “**All the seasonings and everything, it’s just full of flavor. I could eat this whole thing if I sat here”

**CHEF: “**It’s all about good food, good people good times man, that’s what it’s all about down here”

**FINAU: “**Food, family, fun right?”

**CHEF: “**Yes sir”

**FINAU: “**It doesn’t get any better, this is perfect team bonding for us, I think crawfish helps with birdies so we better keep at it”

**ANNC: “**Two of the bigger hitters on TOUR, Champ and Finau, three wins between them”

**ANNC: “**And how about it”

**FINAU: “**We’re both comfortable around each other. I missed some putts, Cameron missed some drives today, there’s no hard feelings, I mean it’s golf”

**ANNC: “**We can start to think who are some of the teams who might stay together in future editions and I think this Finau Champ group had a lot of positive energy those first few days”

**FINAU: “**We know we’re both out here to win, if it happens that’s great, if it doesn’t happen we keep on moving along”

**VENTURA**

**ANNC: “**Here’s another fine player coming out, Kristoffer Ventura”

**VENTURA: “**When I was 12 we moved to Norway and the golf aspect and the care detail and I was able to join the national team immediately, which then helped my game tremendously”

**VENTURA: “**My mom and dad, they didn't play golf at the time so I just picked up one of those big kitchen spoons. And I think it was a pretty quick transition to like plastic clubs and then eventually normal clubs”

**ANNC:** “Member of that Oklahoma State NCAA championship team. Hovland and Wolff but the lone senior on that squad, Kristoffer Ventura”

**VENTURA: “**The coach Alan Bratton was over in Europe watching a tournament and he saw me and we started talking and eventually I made that commitment and you know, it's probably one of the best decisions I've made so far.”

**ANNC: “**A win it is for Viktor Hovland “

**VENTURA: “**There's not a lot of players in Norway so to have him out here, it's pretty cool and what he's done obviously. And even some other OSU guys like Matt Wolf and Peter is here, Rickie, Morgan, all those guys”

**ANNC: “**These two go way back, Norwegian amateur golf, then onto Oklanhoma State together and now teammates here at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans”

**VENTURA: “**Me and Viktor are really good at finding like new movies and TV shows. So he sometimes he gives me some recommendations and I know he's not gonna steer me wrong”

**VENTURA: “**I watch a lot of movies, music, movies, anything outdoors, like fishing, hiking, just, you know. I watch some sports, but not, not a ton”

**VENTURA: “**I'm a huge Formula One fan I do all the fantasy stuff. I like following it. It's every weekend pretty much so, I like cars so that obviously helps. Anything like it's fast and sporty. Yeah.”

**INTERVIEWER:**“Have you gotten a nice car yet?”

**VENTURA: “**No, I want to. They're not the best investments but I got to play a little better. Playing well usually takes care of everything”

**ANNC: “**And now Ventura, what a nice shot”

**VARNER PRO-AM**

**STEPHENS:** “Oh my gosh, so much fun, I mean Harold and Branden Grace, they were so nice, helped us through everything, gave us everything, we had so much fun.

**VARNER**: “It was good, it was a lot of fun. I’m sure they had a great time.”

**NATS:** “That’s cool. No I’m serious that’s cool. I believe you!”

 **STEPHENS:** “They had us compete a little bit, there was a little match play going on. It was super, super fun, literally the best thing ever.”

**NATS:** “We’re definitely gonna need to see that, we gonna see all of that!”

**STEPHENS:** “I struggle with my confidence in my game and stuff and he literally was just telling me, if you’re not gonna hit a couple good shots, I mean you have to be the person that says I’m gonna hit a good shot and get some confidence in.”

**STEPHENS:** “He was like, you’re gonna make this putt, and I was like, you know, I believe in you Harold and I sunk it in for birdie, so it was amazing on number 17, perfect.”

**NATS:** *“*Let’s go! I saw that smile though, I saw that smile!”

**VARNER:** “The biggest thing is just enjoy it, have fun with it. I want kids to get on the golf course so that they can compete, and that’s what we did today, I love competing.”

**MICHELOB ULTRA MOMENTS**

**ANNC:** Straight back into the teeth of it! It’s about to be the first ever hole in one on the PGA TOUR for Graeme McDowell.

**WALLACE:** Yess!!

**ANNC:** Had a good round for Tony Finau and Cameron Champ birdies at each of the first 2 holes

**ANNC:** Great call, What a three! That was big, that was huge!

**WINNERS RECAP**

**SMITH:** “The conditions definitely favored the Aussies”

**ANNC:** “And this a moment for the Aussies Cameron Smith knows he can take a crack at this, up the hill flattens out, and that’s a bucket.”

**SMITH:** “It was windy for three out of the four days.”

**ANNC: “**He road that breeze.”

**SMITH:** “Exactly how we like it. Reminds us so much of home.”

**ANNC:** “Oh how about it, Cam Smith pours that in for birdie.”

**LEISHMAN: “**It's amazing just to feel that energy again and have the rewards and then to be able to do it with a mate and win is really special and something as a golfer you don't really ever get to do”

**ANNC: “**And team Mullet takes it in New Orleans!!”

**SMITH: “**We just went out there and had fun.”

**ANNC: “**I actually think it looked better on Marc then it does on Cam...totally”

**LEISHMAN:** “Obviously they love Cam. They love Cam's hair.”

**SMITH: “**I would have to apologize to my girlfriend, it's not going away.”

**LEISHMAN: “**He's got a cult following now. The fans out there they’re all over it. It's awesome.”

**SMITH: “**Yeah, it's really cool. It gives the fans something to get behind. Lots of people love it and it's good fun as well. It makes people laugh. I love it.”

**FEDEXCUP STANDINGS**

**TEAM MULLET’S TRIUMPH WAS THE 3RD PGA TOUR VICTORY FOR CAMERON SMITH, WHO ALSO MOVED UP TO 3RD IN THE FEDEXCUP STANDINGS, WHILE LEISHMAN CAPTURED HIS 6TH TITLE.**

**COMCAST BUSINESS TOUR TOP 10**

**IN THE COMCAST BUSINESS TOUR TOP 10, BRYSON DECHAMBEAU MAINTAINS HIS SPOT ON TOP FOR THE 16TH WEEK THIS SEASON.**

**SERVPRO**

**THE CUT PRESENTS, SAVING SHOTS**

**ANNC:** “Near impossible to stop this close to the hole. That was insane how good that was.

**ANNC:** “This is Oosthuizen’s birdie try, moving left to right on him, good speed good stroke how bout it Louis!

**ANNC: “**Coming down the slope, doesn’t break as much as they think. These guys just need an audience! “

**JOHN AUGENSTEIN - OAKLEY**

**BRIGHT FUTURE, A SPOTLIGHT ON JOHN AUGENSTEIN**

**AUGENSTEIN: “**I love the city and I love everything about the area, the facilities for golf, the people that I’ve met. I would like to be here for a really long time and I hope that I am.”

**AUGENSTEIN: “**So we’re at Taco Mama, it’s easy it’s quick the food is pretty good came here a lot in college and had lunch.”

**AUGENSTEIN: “**We’re in an area called the Gulch in kind of downtown Nashville. It’s kind of a little pocket of apartments and restaurants and very kind of popular, booming area. It’s awesome. Just a really cool place to come have dinner, drinks, whatever you wanna do. It’s a very pretty part of Nashville, you’re not in the thick of things in downtown but you’re still able to kind of get that feel so it’s a cool area”

**AUGENSTEIN: “**In five years, from a professional standpoint in five years I’d like to be a major champion. Contending week in and week out on the PGA tour”

**FANDUEL**

**ANNC:** Welcome to the Valspar Championship, it is a stiff, stern par 71 test

**ANNC (VH):** Viktor Hovland, tee shot on the way...that is a corker

**ANNC (CC):** He is known for his iron play. It’s just amazing to watch him swing the golf club

**ANNC (RH):** Big time winner in college at the University of Georgia. Oh what a shot this is

**ANNC (RP):** Ryan Palmer for an eagle...got it

**ANNC (KS):** Great shot by Kevin Streelman

**ANNC (CH):** Just chipping it within a foot, well done there by Charles

**TOUR PLAYLIST**

**VICTORY IN TAMPA HAS BEEN A SIGN OF PLAYOFF SUCCESS. ALL BUT ONE OF THE CHAMPIONS SINCE 2007 HAS QUALIFIED FOR THE TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP THAT SEASON.**

**VALSPAR LOOKAHEAD**

**ANNC: "**Not far from the warm waters of the golf of Mexico is the Innisbrook Resort home to the Valspar Championship”

**CASEY: “**To me it's one of the best courses on Tour. I still don’t like 16 but, I love it in general. I really do”

**HTET:** “16 through 18 the snake pit on the Copperhead is a threat to any lead.”

**ANNC:** “Uh oh! This ball cutting a little too much at the trees...wow!”

**GARCIA:** “You have a very solid par 4 with a dogleg right with water all over the right side. Then 17 is a very strong par 3. And then 18 is a very solid hole to finish the tournament. If you shoot even par for the tournament in those three holes you’re never unhappy”