**Cold Open**

ANNC: “Our Lexus Cup Champion for 2021, Mr. Willie Mack III.”

JALEN ROSE NAT: “Thanks for coming out.”

WILLIE MACK III NAT: “Golf nowadays, just the age we’re in, just trying to get more diversity into the game. There’s a couple African Americans out there, so hopefully I can get out there and join the rest of ‘em.”

**Tease**

**IMAGES ARE EVERLASTING.**

**EMBODYING THE ESSENCE OF A SINGLE MOMENT IN TIME.**

**WORDS HOWEVER, ARE MORE DIFFICULT TO CAPTURE.**

**FOR WORDS TO BECOME IMMORTILIZED, THEY MUST BE PAIRED WITH ACTION.**

**STANDING UP FOR EQUALITY…ADVOCATING FOR CHANGE…ACTIONS THAT PAVE THE WAY FOR THE FUTURE.**

CHAMP SOT: “The steps are being taken and not just being talked about anymore. It's going in the proper direction.”

**GOLF HAS ITS OWN FRATERNITY OF REFORMERS…EACH RESPONSIBLE FOR SHAPING THE GAME WE KNOW TODAY.**

THORNTON SOT: “Tiger was a very big inspiration a part of African-Americans being in the game.”

KAMAIU SOT: “Before Tiger, I think Arnold really kind of made golf cool, right?”

HERERRA SOT: “Arnie's Trailblazer. He's broke a lot of barriers.”

MARCUS BYRD: “Golf is the most democratic game on earth. it punishes and exalts us all with splendid equal opportunity. That’s about as golf as it gets right there.”

**THE WORDS OF ITS ANOINTED KING STILL RESONATING WITH THOSE CARRYING THE TORCH TODAY**.

ROVONTA YOUNG: “Golf is deceptively simple and endlessly complicated.”

KAMAIU JOHNSON: “The road to success is always under construction.”

MAHINDRA LUTCHMAN: “Always make a total effort even when the odds are against you. I like that one.”

JOEY STILLS: “The most rewarding things you do in life are often the ones that look like they cannot be done.”

MULBE DILLARD: “I actually have four out these of five quotes in posters in my room.”

MARCUS BYRD SOT: “I 100% agree with that AP.”

**Henni Stand-Up (:40)**

**THE INFLUENCE GOLF’S GREATEST TRAILBAZERS HAVE LEFT ON THE PGA TOUR IS EVIDENT IN THE STATE OF THE MODERN GAME. FROM CHARLIE SIFFORD BREAKING THE RACIAL BARRIER IN 1960, TO SEVE BALLESTEROS INSPIRING THE YOUTH OF SPAIN**

ANNC: “That is some victory!”

**THE STEPS THEY TOOK CONTRIBUTED TO A HEALTHIER, MORE INCLUSIVE SPORT. THE APGA TOUR IS A STEPPINGSTONE FOR TODAY’S MINORITY GOLFERS LOOKING TO FORGE THEIR OWN PATHS IN PROFESSIONAL GOLF.**

**THE DEVELOPMENTAL TOUR HAS OPENED MORE DOORS THAN EVER IN ITS THIRTEENTH YEAR, WHICH CULMINATED AT THE MASTERCARD APGA TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP EARLIER THIS MONTH.**

**APGA Tour Championship Intro**

BYRD SOT: "These are the best guys on the APGA. We're looking forward to TPC Sugarloaf. It's a great way to cap off the year and I just think that it's going to be a good test."

STILLS SOT: "We have a point system where based on how we play throughout the year, it gives you some extra bonus money to put in your pocket. That extra money helps you keep going with your dream."

KEN BENTLEY SOT: "In addition to that they get scholarship throughout Korn Ferry qualifying school. So it's a huge week for our guys."

YOUNG SOT: "Getting that extra bonus money, being able to have it before Q school, being able to set up for the next year. Everything is at stake for a lot of guys."

HORSCHEL SOT: "A lot of these guys didn't come from country clubs, didn't come from financial well-off families. And they've had to work hard to make it in the game of golf."

**THOSE LONG ODDS HAVE PROVEN FAR FROM INSURMOUNTABLE, AS EVIDENCED BY THE GAME’S ROYAL COMMONER: ARNOLD PALMER.**

**Trailblazers Feature**

AMY SAUNDERS SOT: “It really starts with where he was born and how he was raised. Living in a little community of Latrobe, and during The Depression and appreciating what he had, even though they had little.”

**AS THE SON OF A SUPERINTENDANT, PALMER DIDN’T GROW UP AS A MEMBER OF LATROBE COUNTRY CLUB. INSTEAD, HE WORKED ON HIS GAME AT DAWN AND DUSK, THE HOURS IN WHICH MEMBERS WEREN’T USING IT.**

**HUMBLE ROOTS RELATABLE TO FANS ACROSS THE GLOBE.**

SPIETH SOT: “He will always be remembered as somebody who took golf to a global stage. He had Arnie’s Army. Off the course potentially had more impact than anybody for our sport.”

**AND HIS LEGACY AND EFFORTS IN THE COMMINITY ARE CARRIED ON THROUGH THE ARNOLD & WINNIE PALMER FOUNDATION.**

SNEDEKER SOT: “~~He took it as his calling card to try to make the game better and did an unbelievable job in doing that.~~ We wouldn't be doing what we're doing if it wasn't for him and all those guys that paved the way for us to be allowed to do what we do.”

FOWLER SOT: “Mr. Palmer along with a handful of other guys, helped really pave the way for what guys like Tiger have been able to do for the game in the last 20 years or so.”

DAY SOT: “Arnold Palmer made the game of golf cool. Tiger really put it on the map in regards to my generation really wanting to go out and play. Driving ranges at home were just full of young kids playing golf.”

**ONE OF THOSE KIDS WAS THE APGA’S VERY OWN J.P. THORNTON – WHO GOT A SPECIAL LESSON AT A GOLF CLINIC WHEN HE WAS 12.**

THORNTON SOT: “That's probably the most nervous I've been hitting a golf ball. Hitting tigers right behind me arms folded watching me hit it. He came to me and he gave me a lot of encouragement. That was just another thing that just gave me a boost in wanting me to pursue golf professionally.”

VARNER III: “He made it way more entertaining to watch, obviously. So if you're watching, you're like man, I wanna be like Tiger.”

**AND TIGER WOODS’ IMPACT ON THE GAME IS STILL INSPIRING FELLOW PGA TOUR PLAYERS TODAY.**

HORSCHEL SOT: “When you look up to Tiger Woods, when you look up to some other tour players, and you see they've had their own tour event. I felt the position I'm in the game of golf I could give these guys another event to continue their dream of striving to play TOUR golf."

**Kamaiu Johnson & Willie Mack Feature**

**ONE WEEK BEFORE THE APGA TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP, BILLY HORSCHEL AND THE PGA TOUR PROVIDED SELECT PLAYERS A TRUE TOUR LEVEL TEST.**

KAMAIU SOT: "When I first started playing this tour we were playing municipal golf courses, there wasn't much notoriety to the APGA Tour. So just to see where we've came from and where the world of golf is today I think it's a great opportunity for minority golfers."

HORSCHEL MACK NAT: "Get up a yard. Oh that's on. There you go."

MACK SOT: "Just to be able to ask him anything. He's won I think six times on the PGA TOUR so it's good to have somebody like that in your corner."

HORSCHEL SOT: "Someone who is of color or of different background, they don't see themselves in me but they're gonna see themselves in a Willie Mack. They're gonna see themselves in a Kamaiu Johnson."

**KAMAIU JOHNSON WAS SET TO TAKE THE PGA TOUR STAGE FOR THE FIRST TIME EARLIER THIS YEAR, BUT HIS DEBUT WAS PUT ON HOLD.**

KAMAIU SOT: "It was COVID that kept me out at Torrey Pines but, everything happens for a reason. My story got out there and I was able to tell my story to higher platforms."

**HE WOULD EARN 3 MORE SPONSOR EXEMPTIONS OVER THE NEXT 2 MONTHS – INCLUDING THE ARNOLD PALMER INVITATIONAL PRESENTED BY MASTERCARD.**

KAMAIU SOT: "It was a great opportunity. Just to be a part of that was a win for me, honestly. When one door closes, there was 4 or 5 opened."

**DOORS ALSO OPENED FOR WILLIE MACK III, WHO WAS NEXT IN LINE AT TORREY PINES.**

MACK SOT: "I got in because of Kamaiu catching COVID, but I think the most important thing I learned that week is just kinda be calm in a lot of situations."

**A DEMEANER HE EMBRACED AS HE CAPTURED HIS FIRST APGA TOUR VICTORY OF THE SEASON AT TPC SAWGRASS.**

HORSCHEL SOT: "He's coming into his own. I've known Willie for about a year now. It's a matter of time until he's on the PGA TOUR."

NAT: "Willie come on up and accept this trophy."

HORSCHEL SOT: "Getting to know Willie Mack, Kamaiu, understanding their story, the challenges that they've had. They just need that support. That friend by their side that keep pushing them towards their dream."

**Opening Billboard**

**PGA TOUR ORIGINALS: TRAILBLAZERS IS PRESENTED BY MASTERCARD. EVERY DAY IS A CHANCE TO START SOMETHING PRICELESS.**

**Mentorship Mini (APGA Tour Championship Broll)**

KAMAIU SOT: "I come from from a place where I grew up with no role models. So just be in that spotlight and show kids that hey, you can play golf as well no matter where you come from. And so that's a big part of the legacy I wanna leave."

HERRERA SOT: "I wanna see all mix of minorities playing the game, I think it starts with getting a couple of more of us out there so that kids our age or kids younger than us see people of color and people of certain backgrounds."

YOUNG SOT: "In 10 years I hope to see that there'll be a few more minorities on the TOUR and then from there, just open up the floodgates."

**THE ROLE MODELS PIONEERING A PATH ON THE APGA TOUR DRAW INSPIRATION FROM THOSE WHO HAVE GUIDED THEIR OWN CAREERS.**

**J.P. Thornton Feature**

JP THORNTON SOT: “Mentors are very, very important. It gives you people to look up to, people to model yourself after. You got to have someone to kind of show you the way.”

**AS ONE OF THE ELDER STATESMEN ON THE APGA TOUR, 36-YEAR-OLD JP THORNTON UNDERSTANDS THE VALUE OF MENTORSHIP…SOMETHING THAT TRACES BACK TO HIS FIRST EXPERIENCES IN GOLF.**

CHARLES HUDSON SOT: “My connection with JP is that he became a member of my junior golf program called the Mid-South Junior Golf Association. It was a group of kids spending positive hours with an adult person.”

CALVIN VINSON SOT: “We play golf but our main reason is teach life skills. Teach them how to talk to people when they're introduced to them, the eye contact. Good firm handshake and all those good things.”

NATS: “Man I sure appreciate you though, for bringing me out here. Ages ago. Man who woulda thought it? Yeah, who woulda thought it.”

CALVIN VINSON SOT: “J.P. was kind of special and golf was wow, off the chart for him.”

NATS: “Whew! That was a good one. Yes sir, that was close to the stick. That was sweet, man. That was sweet.”

NATS: “That's how you used to hit it. You still hit it like that. Yeah, and then I wake up.”

CALVIN VINSON SOT: “He was the smallest kid in the group and he was always doing something that would keep the rest of the kids looking at him for an answer.”

**THORNTON RETAINS THAT SAME TRAIT TODAY…TAKING THE LESSONS LEARNED FROM HIS OWN MENTORS TO MAKE A POSITIVE INFLUENCE.**

**WHETHER THAT MEANS ONE DAY ACHIEVING HIS PGA TOUR DREAM, OR EVEN INSPIRING ANOTHER TO DO SO.**

JP THORNTON SOT: “I knew when I graduated from college that I wasn't gonna have a Rory McIlroy approach to getting on TOUR or Tiger, where I'm a phenom in my twenties. I had to understand my why. Yeah, I can do it for myself or because I want to be great but this is way bigger than me just playing professional golf, it's about diversifying the game and growing the game of golf.”

CHARLES HUDSON: “I'm so proud of him and the things that he has accomplished and how he's gone about to do them.”

CALVIN VINSON SOT: “He was exceptional. I knew he was. He didn’t know it, but we knew that he had something different.”

**APGA Tour Championship Action**

**A CHAMPION AT TPC SUGARLOAF IN 2020, THORNTON RETURNED TO THE SITE OF HIS LONE APGA TOUR VICTORY FOR THE SEASON FINALE, BUT HE CARDED A DISAPPOINTING 2-OVER 74 IN THE OPENING ROUND.**

JP THORNTON SOT: “The greens tricked me this year. I struck the ball really well from tee to green, just didn't make any putts, and three putts killed my momentum.”

**PLAYING COMPETITOR KAMAIU JOHNSON STRUGGLED AS WELL WITH A 4-OVER 76, BUT ROUNDING OUT THE GROUP WAS MICHAEL HERRERA, WHO FIRED A 4-UNDER 68 TO SIT JUST 3 OFF THE LEAD.**

HERRERA POST ROUND: “I was putting in play pretty well. I was pretty aggressive on the tee box so get myself, you know, pretty good yardages in, wedges and short iron. If we can do another round in mid low 60s I think we have a chance tomorrow.”

**WILLIE MACK III CONTINUED HIS STELLAR PLAY, SHOOTING A 7-UNDER 65 TO PUT HIM OUT IN FRONT BY ONE STROKE. JUST 18 HOLES REMAINED TO CLAIM THE APGA CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE AND THE SEASON LONG LEXUS CUP.**

**Quote In-Bump #2**

MARCUS BYRD: “You have to play boldly to win. Gotta be aggressive. Shout out AP man, he’s an awesome guy.”

**Stepping Away from Golf Mini**

KAMAIU SOT: "I've thought about quitting and I'm glad I kept believing in myself and had people around me believing in me as well when things just wasn't good for me.”

YOUNG SOT: "When you're out there on the road by yourself, 8-hour drives after missing the cut or making no money. The drive gets a little bit longer without having anybody there. So, having that support is huge."

STILLS SOT: "It gets tough sometimes. Especially when you're driving down four or five hours for a tournament and you just played really bad. That can get to you, it can get to you a lot."

**GUIDANCE CAN BE KEY WHEN IT COMES TO NAVIGATING THE HIGHS AND LOWS OF A CAREER IN GOLF. FOR 24-YEAR-OLD JOEY STILLS, HE DOESN'T HAVE TO LOOK TOO FAR.**

**Joey Stills Feature**

ANNC: “Mr. Joseph Stills from Pensacola, Florida. Joseph you have the tee good luck today.”

JOEY STILLS SOT: “My dad's been a big part of my life in terms of golf. He literally has been through the actual mini tours and PGA TOUR.”

ADRIAN STILLS SOT: “I was fortunate enough to get that experience when I got on the PGA TOUR, being around Calvin Pete a little bit. I only played 26 events then lost my card the following year and started teaching.”

JOEY STILLS SOT: “It's good to kinda get some advice from the guy who's actually been there. I look up to him and I wanna be able to be like him as I grow up in the future.”

ADRIAN STILLS SOT: “All I can do is share the experiences I have and hope that they’re helpful.”

JOEY STILLS SOT: “I was an amateur when I first started playing in these tour events. I was about 16 or 17. I didn't really have the money. I was working 50 plus hours plus caddy job and also just trying to play as much as I could.”

ADRIAN STILLS SOT: “I’m very proud of the fact that he took the initiative on his own to do it. I hope that going forward he might be able to support himself enough where he can play full time and not work as much.”

JOEY STILLS SOT: “You get to the point too where you also see you're really close to fulfill your dream as you've always wanted since you were a kid. Two years ago I went and saw the API.”

ANNC: “Francesco Molinari holes it!”

JOEY STILLS SOT: “I got a chance to play that week right after. To see hey if the top pro player and if I play well here I can play anywhere.”

ADRIAN STILLS SOT: “I just want him to be happy with the choice that it makes, I want him to give it his all. I feel confident that if it doesn’t work out he’s going to be successful in life.”

JOEY STILLS SOT: “Deep down I've always had that drive. I'm working my butt off cuz I’m gonna trailblaze my way to where I need to go and hopefully that's the PGA TOUR.”

**Mastercard Sponsored Feature**

LINDA KIRKPATRICK: “Mr. Palmer was a legendary golfer, mentor, coach, and business pioneer who led in all aspects of his life with the principle of equality. He embraced golfers of all backgrounds and believed greater diversity would have a long-lasting, positive impact on the game. Mastercard shares this belief.  To drive inclusion, we are investing 500 million dollars in black communities over the next five years. Through this “in solidarity” commitment, we will continue to leverage our technology and capital to help close the racial wealth and opportunity gap. We are proud to join the apga tour on its mission to recruit, develop, and mentor minority golfers so they can compete and win at the highest levels. As the field becomes more diverse, we must ensure underrepresented communities have access to the tools they need to succeed. We are inspired by Mr. Palmer’s vision of a truly inclusive environment. Through exposure, training and financial support, Mastercard is excited to empower the next generation of golfers to *start something priceless*.”

**Closing Billboard**

**PGA TOUR ORIGINALS: TRAILBLAZERS IS PRESENTED BY MASTERCARD. EVERY DAY IS A CHANCE TO START SOMETHING PRICELESS.**

**APGA TOUR Championship Wrap**

ADRIAN STILLS NAT: “Alright gentlemen, we are ready to start the last round of the APGA Tour Championship. Good luck today.”

**ENTERING THE FINAL ROUND 2-OVER PAR, BOTH JOEY STILLS AND J.P. THORNTON LOOKED TO END THEIR SEASON ON A HIGH NOTE.**

JP THORTON SOT: “This year, what I took from it was my ball striking was more efficient. Don't have as many bad rounds, my bad rounds are getting better.”

**CARDING A 2-UNDER 70, THORTON WOULD END THE WEEK IN A TIE FOR FOURTEENTH… STILLS WOULD FINISH OUTSIDE THE TOP 20, BUT LEFT TPC SUGARLOAF FOCUSED ON THE POSITIVES.**

JOEY STILLS SOT: “I didn't play that well, but to be able to come out here and work on my game and get ready for next year is all that matters to me.”

**MICHAEL HERRERA STRUGGLED TO CARRY ON THE MOMENTUM HE FOUND ON DAY ONE, POSTING A 3-OVER 75 TO FINISH TIED FOR NINTH.**

MICHAEL HERRERA SOT: “Still working really hard, still trying to find certain things, certain niches where I can get in there and have an advantage on the field and trying to pave a way for younger generations seeing a Latino out there.”

**WILLIE MACK PULLED AWAY FROM THE PACK WITH BIRDIES ON 3 OF HIS FIRST 4 HOLES.**

MACK SOT: “It’s been a good last two days. Everything was working putter, driver, iron.”

**MACK CAPTURED HIS 67TH PROFESSIONAL TITLE IN DOMINANT FASHION, CARDING A FINAL ROUND 64 TO WIN BY SIX STROKES AND END A YEAR TO REMEMBER BY EARNING HIS 3RD LEXUS CUP.**

MACK SOT: “Its been a great year. The last couple months have been awesome. Being able to end the season off with two W's in a row and going into Q-school is a good opportunity to finish out the year in a good way.”

**Willie Mack III Feature + Rollout**

BENTLEY SOT: “All Willie needed was a chance. In the past, guys have gotten one start on the PGA Tour and that's it. Willie's gotten four starts. Made the last two cuts. His future is extremely bright.”

**WITH KORN FERRY TOUR QUALIFYING SCHOOL ON THE HORIZON, THE DETROIT NATIVE TOOK A TRIP BACK HOME TO TEE IT UP IN THE PRESENCE OF MICHIGAN’S VERY OWN COLLEGE BASKETBALL TRAILBLAZER.**

JALEN ROSE: “What is it like for you growing up in Flint and falling in love with the game?”

WILLIE MACK III SOT: “It’s not the easiest place to grow up. A lot of violence.”

WILLIE MACK III SOT: “Him being one of the biggest names in Michigan, playing in the NBA being able to learn things from him, just being able to have that relationship is always special.”

JALEN ROSE: “I heard something about that sleeve, tell me about that.”

WILLIE MACK III: “I grew up playing basketball. Allen Iverson was my favorite player growing up. I kind of just brought it to the game of golf.”

JALEN ROSE: “Who’s your golf version of you gonna cross them over like AI did MJ?”

WILLIE MACK III: “You gotta go with the best player in the world. That’s where I wanna get to so, you gotta go through them before you say you’re number one.”

JALEN ROSE: “Y’all heard it. He got next. Appreciate the love bro.”

**MACK’S SUCCESS IS JUST A SMALL EXAMPLE OF THE STRIDES THAT THE APGA TOUR CONTINUES TO MAKE, AS THE NEXT GENERATION CONTINUES TO BLAZE A TRAIL OF ITS OWN TO FURTHER DIVERSIFY THE SPORT.**

WILLIE MACK III SOT: “Having the PGA TOUR behind it. It really gets the exposure for the tour and the players.”

STILLS SOT: “I wanna be looked at as a trailblazer by a lot of people.”

HERERRA SOT: “To see that I can break barriers for other kids and give them inspiration it's a big deal.”