

ANNC: And Lucas Herbert has broken through on the PGA TOUR! The 25-year-old from Australia is a winner!

WITH HIS WIN IN BERMUDA EARLIER THIS SEASON, IT MAY SEEM LIKE LUCAS HERBERT'S ARRIVAL ON THE PGA TOUR HAPPENED OVERNIGHT...

LUCAS HERBERT: It's sort of like your new world. My phone was blowing up and everything. You just knew sort of life was about to change, that was our last little moment to just enjoy how cool was what we just did.

YET HIS JOURNEY TO HIS FIRST PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP HAS BEEN PAVED BY SHEER DETERMINATION...WHICH STARTED AS A GOLF-OBSSESSED YOUNGSTER IN BENDIGO, AUSTRALIA.

LUCAS HERBERT: When I was a kid playing pretty much any sport, dad would drive me everywhere. And then mom was pretty much sitting there going 'I'm willing to keep funding this as long as you keep working at it because I just believe that you'll get there.'

HERBERT MOM: We always thought he would give up when he hit adolescence. He had to make a decision with some of the sports that he played and it was probably then when he decided that he would play golf that we thought, look, you never know where he might go.

IT WAS THIS SUPPORT AND DYNAMIC WHICH SET THE GROUNDWORK TO PERSEVERE THROUGH ADVERSE YEARS...

AFTER TURNING PRO AT AGE 19 IN 2015, HERBERT EXPERIENCED YEARS OF STRUGGLES AS HE TOOK HIS GAME WORLDWIDE...MOST NOTABLY IN 2019 WHEN HE QUESTIONED HIS FUTURE IN THE GAME.

LUCAS HERBERT: Probably like anyone who's had a bit of a crisis in their life, I had a lot of pressure on myself to play well and I stepped up to the next level relatively easily each time I'd been challenged and I just think I hadn't quite stepped up to that next level as easily as I thought I would have.

HERBERT MOM: My piece of advice hasn't changed; that his success is as much to do on the course as it is off the course.

LUCAS HERBERT: I just didn't have a good balance going on with my life. When you can nail that perfectly, that's when you get the best out of yourself on the golf course and that's when you're the happiest as well.

THE REJUVINATED HERBERT TOOK ON HIS NEW MINDSET AND SAW IMMEDIATE SUCCESS...

ANNC: An Australian wins on Australia Day here in Dubai!

THROUGH WINS IN CONSECUTIVE SEASONS ON THE DP WORLD TOUR.

ANNC: Lucas Herbert – he's our champion.

AND WITH THE MENTAL SIDE INTACT, IT WAS EASIER FOR THE AUSSIE TO BE IN COMPLETE CONTROL OF HIS GAME...

LUCAS HERBERT: When I'm playing well, I drive it great. And then I'm a pretty world-class putter. My approach game is probably not the best, so I can find myself in some little, tricky, short-sided spots that I can get out of with some good consistency.

THESE STRENGTHS COULD PROVE PIVOTAL IN THE DAUNTING TEST – BOTH PHYSICAL AND MENTAL – THE STADIUM COURSE PROVIDES.

ALL WHILE KEEPING THE CONFIDENCE FROM HIS FIRST PGA TOUR WIN – BUT ALSO REALIZING THE PURSUIT OF PERFECTION IS NEVER OVER.

LUCAS HERBERT: The enjoyment side of life takes over a little bit as well and as long as you can recognize when you've gone too far, one way or the other and get yourself back on track pretty quickly, but now's a good time for me to hit the reset button and get back into the swing of things.