2022 PGA TOUR: The CUT #31 (Wyndham Championship)

INTERNATIONAL SCRIPT

COLD OPEN

ALLEN: Sup?

FOWLER: Sup? I have a small head.

ORUWARIYE: Come on Rick

GOFF: Oh!

ORUWARIYE: There it is.

FOWLER: That’s a win!

ORUWARIYE: Good job out there kid.

ALLEN: Why don’t you run a 40? You want to run a 40?

GOFF: On your mark, get set, go.

ORUWARIYE: Uh oh. Uh oh. Rick

ALLEN: Very fast out the blocks, how you feel?

FOWLER: You know I held my own against you (true) but, not quick enough. I’ve got some work to do.

**WELCOME TO PGA TOUR THE CUT**

RICKIE FOWLER & THE DETROIT LIONS

GOFF: Welcome to the Detroit Lions facility at Allen Park here.

ALLEN: All right.

GOFF: So you guys saw, those are our 2 outdoor fields, this is out indoor.

FOWLER: Definitely cool to kind of come see the facility and see what Jared and the boys are showing up for right now with training camp.

ALLEN: Ya’ll thinking about signing Rickie for a few days.

GOFF: Yeah, he was fast there. I think Rick would make a good little slot receiver.

FOWLER: And then I’d take one hit. I’m out.

GOFF: Come on in.

NAT: Want to get whipped in pool… Xbox?

GOFF: All this stuff’s pretty new actually, which is nice. All these chairs, pool table, ping pong.

FOWLER: We could do a little chipping in here. Are guys just kind of wherever?

GOFF: Right now, they have it by position like quarterbacks, this is d-line. I prefer it mixed up. I think we’ll mix it up back again.

FOWLER: To see what they come to on a daily basis, getting ready for the season. A lot different than a golf course or what we do that’s for sure.

GOFF: Here’s the weight room.

FOWLER: I’m not getting hit or anything, so it’s not like I’m recovering from any injuries.

ORUWARIYE: More just maintenance?

FOWLER: Yeah, I mean like the body gets stressed. You’ll deal with low back stuff from the rotation.

Having a place to go practice, put work in whether that’s on the field, in the gym, and then recovery is also huge part of that so being able to see the access that they have to everything that they need.

COFFIN: We are at Rotunda Hills Golf & Country Club here at the Detroit Lions practice facility. It's 119 to the center of the pin and you're usually hitting a sand wedge or 56. When we were building this facility, we had a contractor also built golf course in Texas. I came down two years in advance to grow the field and you were sitting down here and we were like, this is a good spot for a golf hole.

GOFF: All right, rock paper scissors to see who goes first. Ok you go first.

ORUWARIYE: It’s always best of three.

GOFF: Nope, you go first.

ORUWARIYE: It’s always best two out of three!

GOFF: All right, I got first. All right, how many swings do I get?

FOWLER: One.

GOFF: Just one shot?

FOWLER: It says one.

GOFF: All right, practice swing a little bit. Watch out. I don't like that. No, you guys got to move. All right. Go a little. I’ll take it.

ALLEN: I like that. I like it.

GOFF: Nice and smooth.

FOWLER: I don't like it because he’s not my teammate.

ALLEN: He’s gonna do good though.

FOWLER: No, my man’s got it. To the left.

GOFF: All right, so one, nothing.

FOWLER: It was a good shot, just started a little right.

ORUWARIYE: Yeah.

FOWLER: I think it's great. These guys obviously can get pretty beat up. To be able to kind of go let loose or just kind of have a little bit of fun right there and have it on site. It's cool to see that they have that kind of tucked in the back there and I know Jared can play a little bit.

ALLEN: I don’t like this. I’m being hustled out here. (Go!) I’m being hustled out here.

GOFF: I need more club. That was pretty good, just flared it a little bit.

ORUWARIYE: Show me how it’s done.

FOWLER: I'm gonna throw this down.

ORUWARIYE: Yep.

FOWLER: Just line up with your feet to that and then I'll pull it away before you hit. We gotta get you a better lie.

ALLEN: Atta boy.

ORUWARIYE: Listen, listen to Rickie Fowler if you want it done.

FOWLER: A little deep?

GOFF: That’s all right.

FOWLER: That was nice though. You said it was 119?

GOFF: That's what they told me. Left side of the green is ideal. Feeds right, it feeds right. Yeah, that's pretty good. That's gonna work.

FOWLER: Pretty good for a Monday.

ALLEN: I don't think I want to anymore.

FOWLER: You’ve got 20 feet to play with.

ALLEN: Yeah, I feel you dude.

GOFF: Oh, I like it. I like it.

ALLEN: You gave me a security blanket.

ORUWARIYE: Hole it out, Rick.

FOWLER: Sit!

GOFF: That's an unbelievable you go no practice, swing at all and just stick two of them. Let’s go throw the rock, huh?

COFFIN: Everybody from coaches, the players coming out here you see guys that you would never think would be golfers coming out here. There's clubs and balls always outside over here. They see the green. They're coming out they’re chipping, they’re putting. And I’m like, do you golf and they’re like nope, I do now. So it's a good thing for him. It really is.

BUMP

SMALLEY: I’ll never forget it, we were on nine fairway and I just hit my second shot into the green on nine. One of them came up to me and said, “have you ever thought about playing in the Wyndham or trying to play in the Wyndham before?” I was like, “yeah, absolutely.” They were like, “well, we have a spot for you if you’d like it” and I was just, you know, just kind of looking around like, what?

CHAMP: On my wife’s side, so my father-in-law, he's the cook. He can cook anything and everything he makes is absolutely beyond spicy. So for my wife, it's like it's just normal… oh that’s not spicy, but for me, give me like more bottles of water and a glass milk.

NATE LASHLEY FIRST PITCH

LASHLEY: If I bounce it, I bounce it, I guess. Maybe get on Sports Center.

Hey guys, it's Nate Lashley. We're here at Tigers Stadium, Comerica Park. Just getting ready to throw out the first pitch.

VEST: I need a quick tip on my putting.

LASHLEY: A quick tip?

VEST: I'll get to the green in regulation, but I three putt almost every time.

LASHLEY: Oh man. Probably the easiest tip I'd say is try to stay still over your putt. Like keep your head still. A lot of people will like move out of it and flinch. So, just keep your head still and turn, move your shoulders

Walking out?

He said he would have swung at it for sure. That makes it a strike.

TONY FINAU WINS THE ROCKET MORTGAGE CLASSIC

FINAU: They say a winner is just a loser that’s just kept on trying, and that's me to a t.

ANNC: If Finau makes this for birdie, he’ll be 50 under par in his last 9 rounds. Wow. Ha, just the 49 then.

FINAU: I write down goals before every season. I was able to peek at them overnight. One of my goals would be to be a multiple win on TOUR this season.

ANNC: The floodgates are open for Tony Finau. New tournament scoring record at 26 under par.

PA ANNC: Congratulations to 2022 Rocket Mortgage Classic Champion, Tony Finau!

ANNC: He’s the first player to win back-to-back tournaments on TOUR since Cantlay last year in the playoff.

FINAU: I won the golf tournament last week. For some reason I left and after bogeying the 18th hole, I had kinda a sour taste in my mouth and I think it just gave me extra motivation to put myself there again this week and just prove to myself the type of champion that I am.

It is very satisfying to win golf tournaments, but to do something like I've done and win back-to-back, you know, I think that's pretty special.

SENTRY TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS JULY QUALIFIERS

**FINAU'S VICTORY IN THE MOTOR CITY WAS HIS FOURTH WIN ON THE PGA TOUR AND HIS SECOND IN AS MANY WEEKS FOLLOWING HIS WIN AT THE 3M OPEN.**

**THE WINS MEAN FINAU WILL TEEING IT UP IN MAUI FOR THE 2023 SENTRY TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS. HE'LL BE JOINED BY A PAIR OF WINNERS WHO ALSO QUALIFIED FOR THE TRIP TO HAWAII IN THE MONTH OF JULY.**

ANNC: Got it! Trey Mullinax drains the birdie at 18 to get to 25 under!

MULLINAX: A lot of hard work and that's what you dream about on 18, having a putt to win. I didn't know if my wife and kids were gonna be here or not and to have them there, I can't thank them enough.

ANNC: Chez Reavie for the 3rd time in his career has converted a 54-hole victory to a win!

REAVIE: Made a stupid mistake and bent all my irons a little flat Moline so bent them back last week when I was home. You know, I've been working hard, I've been hitting the ball well and I knew I could do it. I just kept grinding and here we are.

ANNC: Tony Finau! The champion at the 3M!

FINAU: I love my family, I love my mom, I miss her, it's so special just to have my family here with me and to celebrate this win with them.

FEDEXCUP STANDINGS

**IN THE FEDEXCUP STANDINGS, TONY FINAU MOVES UP 10 SPOTS TO 7TH, HIS HIGHEST RANKING OF THE SEASON, WHILE THE TOP 4 SPOTS REMAIN THE SAME FOR THE 3RD WEEK IN A ROW.**

COMCAST BUSINESS TOUR TOP 10

**ONE TOURNAMENT REMAINS BEFORE A SEASON LONG CHAMPION OF THE COMCAST BUSINESS TOUR TOP 10 IS CROWNED. WITH FOUR WINS ON THE SEASON, SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER HAS THE TOP SPOT LOCKED UP...**

ANNC: That's gonna do it, there's a new number one, his name is Scottie Scheffler.

**BUT THE REST OF THE TOP 10 HAS YET TO BE SOLIDIFIED.**

**SINCE 2009, 97% OF PLAYERS INSIDE THE COMCAST BUSINESS TOUR TOP 10 WITH ONE WEEK TO GO HAVE FINISHED INSIDE THE TOP 10, BUT 3 PLAYERS IN THE WYNDHAM CHAMPIONSHIP FIELD CAN SLIDE IN WITH A GREAT WEEK IN NORTH CAROLINA.**

**TONY FINAU MOVES INSIDE THE TOP 10 FOR THE 48TH WEEK OF HIS CAREER. AND JOINING FINAU THIS WEEK IS CAMERON YOUNG, MOVING UP 4 SPOTS TO 9TH AFTER A T2 AT THE ROCKET MORTGAGE CLASSIC.**

ALEX SMALLEY FEATURE

SMALLEY: 36. Want to get it?

MARIA SMALLEY: Yes.

SMALLEY: Still not used to it.

I was born in Rochester, but moved to North Carolina when I was two. So I really do feel like I'm mostly from North Carolina. Because I've grown up here all my life.

MARIA SMALLEY: When he was nine or ten. He told me he's like, Hey, Mom, I'm going to play on the PGA TOUR someday. And I remember feeling this ... I was like, That's great, Alex. That's a great dream to have. It's going to take a lot of hard work. We'll be there to help support you however we can.

SMALLEY: After the Walker Cup, I turned professional and then Korn Ferry Q School. I made it through first stage of Q School and had one bad round at second stage and that's all it really takes to put you behind the eight ball a little bit and wasn't able to advance the final stage and we really started hitting the sponsor exemptions hard and Monday qualifiers hard to try to earn enough points to get into the Korn Ferry Tour Finals to have a chance to play for my PGA TOUR card.

[GRAPHIC]

AN OPPORTUNITY PRESENTED ITSELF AT A FAMILIAR COURSE TO THE NORTH CAROLINA NATIVE, FROM QYNDHAM CHAMPIONSHIP DIRECTORY MARK BRAZIL.

SMALLEY: He texted or called me and said, "hey, you know I've got some sponsors from the Wyndham Tournament that are going to be in town. You know, do you want to play a round of golf with us?" I said, "yeah, absolutely. I'll come play."

I'll never forget it, we were on nine fairway and I just hit my second shot into the green on nine. One of them came up to me and said, "have you ever thought about playing in the Wyndham or trying to play in the Wyndham before?" I was like, "yeah, absolutely." They were like, "well, we have a spot for you if you'd like it" and I was just, you know, just kind of looking around like, what?

ANNC: Alex Smalley, not a member of the TOUR, member here at Sedgefield. What a play this was! He knew exactly where to play that one and funnel it right down to the hole. That would lead to one of his four birdies to close the day.

[GRAPHICS]

SMALLEY TOOK ADVTANGE OF THE FOUR PGA TOUR STARTS HE MADE IN 2021.

HE MADE ALL FOUR CUTS WITH THREE TOP-30S, WHICH GAVE HIM ENOUGH NON-MEMBER FEDEXCUP POINTS TO EARN A SPOT IN THE 2021 KORN FERRY TOUR FINALS.

SMALLEY: To go from Monday qualifying and playing in the Forme Tour events, having PGA TOUR Canada status to having a PGA TOUR card in a number of weeks was, you know, unbelievable.

MARIA SMALLEY: When we were on the green during the ceremony and they were passing out the cards. It was like a deja vu kind of thing. I could see him in the doorway and standing there with his card. It was just it was just incredible. Incredible.

SMALLEY: My mom travels with me to every event. Just having a familiar face that knows you well helped a lot.

She caddied for me for most of the Monday qualifiers that I played in, just about all of them, I felt like we had a pretty good track record.

MARIA SMALLEY: You want it cleaned?

MARIA NATS: Want me to clean it?

SMALLEY: Sure! You want to hold the pin too?

MARIA SMALLEY: Yeah! Just like old times.

Very nice.

SMALLEY: Easy 4!

MARIA SMALLEY: Easy 4.

SMALLEY: I wouldn't mind my name being on that wall with Sam Snead and Davis Love III and those type of people, so that'd be pretty cool.

MARIA SMALLEY: Every parent hopes that for their child. They just want to see them be their best selves and to be successful in whatever they love and whatever they choose to do.

TOUR PLAYLIST

**ALEX SMALLEY MAKES HIS SECOND APPEARANCE AT THE WYNDHAM CHAMPIONSHIP, LOOKING TO IMPROVE ON HIS T29 A SEASON AGO, AS THE TOURNAMENT GETS UNDERWAY, ON THURSDAY.**

FAVORITES & SLEEPERS

**HERE ARE SOME FAVORITES AND SLEEPERS TO TARGET FOR THE WYNDHAM CHAMPIONSHIP.**

**SIMPLY PUT, SHANE LOWRY HOLDS THE BEST LONG-TERM FORM AMONG THIS WEEK'S FIELD, AND HE ALSO HITS THE REQUIREMENTS OF A WINNER AT SEDGEFIELD, WHICH IS HITTING FAIRWAYS AND SINKING PUTTS. LOWRY IS ACCURATE ENOUGH OFF THE TEE (RANKING 56TH ON TOUR THIS SEASON) AND IS 11TH IN STROKES GAINED: APPROACH. LOWRY ALSO IS TOP-20 AMONG THE FIELD IN STROKES GAINED: PUTTING.**

**SUNGJAE IM IS THE ONLY GOLFER THIS WEEK TO RANK TOP-35 AMONG THIS FIELD IN DRIVING ACCURACY, STROKES GAINED: APPROACH, AND STROKES GAINED: PUTTING ON THE SEASON, AND THAT GAME HAS TRANSLATED VERY WELL TO SEDGEFIELD IN THE PAST. IM HAS FINISHED 6TH, 9TH, AND 24TH HERE THE PAST THREE YEARS.**

**RUSSELL HENLEY HAS TWO CONSECUTIVE TOP-10 RESULTS AT SEDGEFIELD ENTERING THIS YEAR'S WYNDHAM CHAMPIONSHIP AND IS ALWAYS A TARGET WHEN WE WANT ACCURACY AND IRONS. THE PUTTER RANKS JUST 122ND ON TOUR THIS SEASON, BUT HENLEY DOES PUTT BEST ON BERMUDAGRASS GREENS, WHICH IS WHAT WE GET THIS WEEK. ALL THREE OF HIS CAREER VICTORIES HAVE COME ON BERMUDA SURFACES.**

**SOME OTHER OPTIONS TO CONSIDER AT LONGER ODDS AND FOR TOP-10 OR TOP-20 FINISHES INCLUDE SCOTT STALLINGS, CHRISTIAAN BEZUIDENHOUT, AND KEITH MITCHELL.**

**BEST OF LUCK THIS WEEK FOR THE WYNDHAM CHAMPIONSHIP.**

2022-23 PGA TOUR SEASON

**THE 2022-23 PGA TOUR SCHEDULE HAS BEEN RELEASED AND REPRESENTS THE FINAL WRAP AROUND SEASON BEFORE THE TOUR RETURNS TO A CALENDAR-YEAR SCHEDULE IN 2024.**

**WHILE MOST OF THE TOURNAMENTS AND LOCATIONS REMAIN UNCHANGED, THE NEW SEASON BRINGS NEW LEVELS OF EXCITEMENT AND COMPETITION AS EIGHT EVENTS GET ENHANCED PURSES INCLUDING THE FIRST TWO LEGS OF THE PLAYOFFS.**

**ALSO NEW FOR 2022-23, THE RACE FOR THE FEDEXCUP HAS BEEN REIMAGINED AS THE PLAYOFF EVENT FIELDS WILL BE REVISED STARTING WITH 70 PLAYERS FOR FEDEX ST. JUDE CHAMPIONSHIP AND 50 FOR BMW CHAMPIONSHIP... THEN 30 PLAYERS WILL STILL DESCEND ON ATLANTA TO CULMINATE THE SEASON AT TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP.**

SAVING SHOTS

**THE CUT PRESENTS… SAVING SHOTS**

ANNC: And here’s that bunker play. Hit it up fast, hope for it to stop. Nice par save there.

ANNC: Russell Henley, keep this good start going. He does! How do you like that.

ANNC: Back here at the second hole. Tony Finau just off the green… yeah, wow! Is there anything he can’t do right now?!

THE 19TH HOLE WITH CAMERON CHAMP

PAQUETTE: Okay, so on like, tournament day, what are you not having?

CHAMP: Hahaha, this!

PAQUETTE: Hey guys, I'm Renee Paquette here at the Rocket Mortgage classic in Detroit, Michigan. I'm about to go hang out with Cameron Champ talking about everybody's favorite subject, some food. This is the 19th hole, presented by Michelob Ultra

Is there anything that's off the menu for you? Like hard pass?

CHAMP: My palate's actually gotten, I was very picky, but now I've pretty much tried everything. Seafood... still a little iffy for me.

PAQUETTE: Okay. We may or may not have the seafood pizza.

CHAMP: Yeah, we'll have to see about it. Yeah, we'll have to see.

PAQUETTE: Look at all this. Ok we've got pizza, smoked turkey leg jambalaya.

CHAMP:I was what that was, looking like a jambalaya type meal.

PAQUETTE: I thought it was pork at first it's smoked turkey. Chicken fingers on, like a cinnamon waffle, kind of situation. What do you want, a piece of pizza?

CHAMP: I mean definitely.

PAQUETTE: This is the seafood one by the way. So seafood's a little iffy for you?

CHAMP: Yeah that one... I might try it. It just looks too good not to try it. That's the problem. Like, the deep dish pizza like this.

PAQUETTE: That's what I was gonna say with the like corners, like Detroit style deep dish.

What do you keep in your bag? Do you keep some snacks with you throughout the day?

CHAMP: I'm just a big bar guy. So I've tried to shake thing but I can't do warm shakes.

PAQUETTE: Oh!

CHAMP: Awful.

PAQUETTE: On a hot day, absolutely can not do it.

CHAMP: We've got guys out here on TOUR that do it and they leave them in the bag all day.

PAQUETTE: No!

CHAMP: I have no idea how they do it.

PAQUETTE: That's horrifying.

CHAMP: So I usually just have a bar or two. Usually at least have one by like hole 9 to 10. If not two to just kinda keep me going.

PAQUETTE: That's smart.

CHAMP: Yep.

PAQUETTE: Okay, you said that your palate's has gotten a lot better.

CHAMP: I've slowly gotten to like spicy foods. Being in Texas now.

PAQUETTE: Yeah, yeah, yeah, you have to.

CHAMP: On my wife's side, so my father-in-law, he's the cook. He can cook anything and everything he makes is absolutely beyond spicy. So for my wife, it's like it's just normal... oh that's not spicy, but for me, give me like more bottles of water and a glass milk.

PAQUETTE: Where's the milk?!

CHAMP: I'm going to try the chili cheese dog.

PAQUETTE: We've got a Mac and Cheese down there too.

CHAMP: Oh gosh, yah I'm a big sucker for mac and cheese.

PAQUETTE: Alright, chili cheese dog. I'm a sucker for hot dog. I love a hot dog.

CHAMP: I'm not a mustard guy. I saw the mustard on it, I was very hesitant. But I'm glad I tried it, it was good.

PAQUETTE: Yeah, yeah. It's not bad.

All right Cameron, what joy does golf bring to you?

CHAMP: Um, you know, just having a different kind of schedule every year you kind of get to pick and choose where you want to play. You know, now being out here a couple years you kind of learn, you know, the do's and don'ts and what you'd like to do and what makes you comfortable.

PAQUETTE: Yeah.

CHAMP: So now it really is just, it's fun. Like I said, my wife and I we're going on almost two years.

PAQUETTE: Ya!!

CHAMP: Kind of home is way more stable. We kind of have all the stuff we want to do at home done, so now it's just a big stress relief and she can travel a little bit more here with me. So again, it's way more enjoyable to be out here and play and trying to win some trophies.

PAQUETTE: Yeah, right?!

Well, Cameron, I thoroughly appreciate you hanging out with me. Eating all this food with me. But we'll let you get back to what you came here to do. Go out there and win some tournaments and get some trophies.

CHAMP: Thank y'all.