**PGA TOUR ORIGINALS: CREDENTIALED – ARNOLD PALMER INVITATIONAL**

**MASTER SCRIPT**

VOICE OVER TALENT: ADRIAN TILMAN

VOICE OVER SESSION: 03/10/2023 10:00AM ET

**A1: TEASE AND TITLES**

TIM TUCKER: Let’s give this kid a round of applause! Kurt asked me to caddy for him and I had no idea how good he was. After Riv we missed the cut unfortunately and I said you are elite and you deserve this, all of the hard work, I’m so proud of you man, happy to be on your bag. Cheers guys!

JC DEACON: You are the definition of mentally tough and I am so proud of you right now.

TIM TUCKER: To your first win, let’s go!

**A2: WELCOME TO BAY HILL**

ANNC: It’s always so great to be back at Bay Hill where the spirit of Arnold Palmer is as strong as ever

ANNC: The field bracing again for a most challenging week again at Bay Hill, the way the king loved it

MIKE STILLER: W e’re working on set up for the week, determining hole locations…with forecast, trying to find best spots for Friday and Saturday where we’ll have significant wind, definitely gusting over 30mph

ANNC: Look Arnie wants this place to play tough, he doesn’t want it to play easy

MAX HOMA: There's danger lurking everywhere. The unique thing that this golf course has is how firm and fast the greens get as the week goes on. They're already pretty spicy out there.

ANNC: Outside of the four majors bay hill played the toughest

ANNC: 43 of the top 50 in the world here

ANNC: This is the best, deepest field they’ve ever had

MAX HOMA: You look at people who have had great success here, Tiger, Rory….

ANNC: Tiger woods has got win number eight at Bay Hill

ANNC: What a finish for McIlroy!

RORY MCILROY: I just need to keep my head down and keep playing well.

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: I know exactly what it feels like when you're standing there // when you have a lead. I know how I'm feeling on those shots.

ANNC: It’s Scottie Scheffler with another quick win!

ANNC: OH WOW! I think that’s a 2 putt!!

DOUG FERGUSON: When you're firing on all cylinders, can anyone beat you, in your mind?

JON RAHM: No.

ANNC: you get the feeling that the king is smiling from up above

**A3: EARLY ROUND COVERAGE**

TONY FINAU: Morning, morning

JOEL DAHMEN: Hello friends, How we doing?

JON RAHM Oh no, not with this hair-do

ANNC: The top players in the world have gathered here at bay hill club and lodge, under even more spotlight than before

SCHEFFLER: Good luck, thank you

**SPIRITS WERE HIGH AS THE BEST PLAYERS IN THE WORLD TOOK ADVANTAGE OF GOOD SCORING CONDITIONS IN THE OPENING ROUND**

ANNC: 4 under 68 for Scheffler for the defending champ

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: I appreciate the fact that this golf course is very challenging and I feel like it’s a place I can just kind of hang in there.

ANNC: Rahm for birdie, he’s so confident in every part of his game right now

JON RAHM: Go through the round and you'll see plenty of mistakes. Let's say, of minimizing mistakes and converted a couple situations into really good scores.

ANNC: He is in the drivers seat again at 7 under

**A4: OPENING BILLBOARDS**

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**B1: EARLY ROUND COVERAGE CONTINUED**

**WHILE JON RAHM TOOK THE EARLY LEAD IN THE FIRST ROUND, THE LAST TEE TIME OF THE DAY WAS A HOMECOMING.**

NATS: Are you going to shoot a 59?

ERIC COLE: I’m going to try.

NATS: From Del Ray Beach, Florida, please welcome Eric Cole.

ANNC: Good stroke there, so looks like he still has it for the second week in a row.

LAURA BAUGH: My name is Laura Baugh. I’m Eric Cole’s mom.

STEPHANIE WILLIAMS: I’m Stephanie Williams and I’m Eric’s fiancé as of a month or so ago.

LAURA BAUGH: Phew, that had a lot of check on that green, it must be really hard. Good shot.

ANNC: Another solid one there, gets back to even par.

ERIC COLE MOM: Eric Cole e has Addison’s disease and type 1 diabetes and a compromised thyroid. When you see someone who has been playing for 10 years and you say, ‘Well, why has it taken him so long?’ Well he’s been dealing with some issues.

ANNC: Eric’s short game is some of the best I’ve ever seen.

LAURA BAUGH: I give him positive thoughts, but he’s done this all on his own

STEPHANIE WILLIAMS: I’m just excited today to be out here watching him. I’m just so proud of him especially because he grew up playing here.

**COLE ARRIVED TO FAMILIAR GROUNDS RIDING THE HIGH OF A RUNNER UP FINISH AT THE HONDA CLASSIC JUST A FEW DAYS PRIOR.**

ANNC: What a putt! 34-year-old rookie Eric Cole climbs on top of the leaderboard.

ANNC: the second most nervous person today watching is Sam Saunders. Sam nice enough to join us from his home in Colorado.

SAM SAUNDERS: I met Eric in the ninth grade and we hit it off and we’ve just been best friends since then. it’s just so awesome to see Eric. This has been a long time coming for him.

ANNC: We’re going to see him Sam at Bay Hill, he’s got a special exemption into the tournament that your grandfather loved so much

NATS: We want to welcome Eric Cole into the media room.

ERIC COLE: Doing a press conference is something I've never really done before. So it's one of those things where if you play really good golf, this is kind of the stuff that comes with it. I like playing really good golf, so I like this stuff too. I was lucky enough to start practicing and playing out of here when I was probably 14-ish. It was a great place to grow up. I met Sam and played a ton of rounds with him around here. I caddied for him in this tournament maybe twice.

ANNC: Down the Hill for birdie! Oh yeah.

ERIC COLE: It's just a special place to me.

SAM SAUNDERS: So I think they just modernized. It looks. Yeah, a little bit nicer.

ERIC COLE: Yeah, it seems exactly like it. A lot of the same stuff on the walls.

SAM SAUNDERS: The same chairs that you and I used to sit in right here, get yelled at for not winning every time that we played in by my granddad here Do you remember the first time we met?

ERIC COLE: I do, yeah. And we went and played, right? Yeah.

SAM SAUNDERS: And what did you think of me at that point? Because I know what I thought of you.

ERIC COLE: I didn't really know you, but everyone was like, Oh, you're really good. Yeah. And he's this great player. And I was like, well, all right, I'd like to see how good he is.

SAM SAUNDERS: I didn't think there was any chance there was anybody that could beat me in golf at that point.

ERIC COLE: I think there definitely a mutual respect

SAM SAUNDERS: Yeah, I was like he’s legitimately good. What was worse was you were the size of my leg at that point. And you still were an absolute stud.

**WHILE SAM AND ERIC HAVE ADMIRATION FOR EACH OTHER’S GAME, THEY LEARNED THE MOST VALUABLE LESSONS FROM THE KING HIMSELF.**

SAM SAUNDERS: He would just absolutely roast us if we would go play and whatever mini tour event it was. We finished third or fourth and that was just not okay, which is great. That's how it should be. Like you should win. T he cool thing about Eric and I is we never sat here in these chairs and thought, wow, we're sitting across from Arnold Palmer like he was, especially when we were in our early twenties and we were living together and out here practicing every day. He was he was like a buddy.

SAM SAUNDERS: Look at the loft on this 2 iron and then and look at the loft of the driver. Just think about modern equipment. I mean that’s like a 4 iron.

ERIC COLE: yeah it is, that’s got a ton of loft on it.

ERIC COLE: he took such great care just making sure everyone felt like, he noticed them and stuff that was that's something that I always noticed. That really stuck with me, like, man, if I ever do anything in golf or in life, I want my interactions to kind of make people feel the way he made them feel

SAM SAUNDERS: I think one of the coolest things now at the club since we redid the locker room, our club championship it's yeah. Victories right next to each other on the wall downstairs. Yeah. We're going to have to go look at it to know exactly what happened.

ERIC COLE: Hopefully we're going to be on like major championship trophies together, but if nothing else, we got the wall in the locker room.

ERIC COLE: This is the year where both of us played.

SAM SAUNDERS: I had a good year. Oh, I peaked. I peaked at golf in ‘06.

SAM SAUNDERS: I just I love that back to back is right there.

ERIC COLE: We just need to move our names from this wall over to the wall with the Arnold Palmer Invitational.

SAM SAUNDERS: Yeah, maybe a big trophy someday would be good.

ANNC: Well the winds have arrived at bay hill, and as expected they have spiced up this second round. A different story for World Number One Jon Rahm. 76 today, that is 11 shots higher than yesterday.

**AS THE WEATHER WORE DOWN EARLY CONTENDERS, A NEW PACK SIEZED THE OPPORTUNITY.**

ANNC: World No. 6 Xander Schauffele, second round 70.

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Every hole you got to be on. Can't take any holes off.

ANNC: Did he get it? Jordan Spieth, right on the center of the flag stick.

JORDAN SPIETH: Tee to green I’m doing what I need to be doing to win a golf tournament. Just got to try to hole more putts.

ANNC: No one better than Kurt Kitayama. He’s made just two bogeys in his first two rounds

KURT KITYAMA: For me it's just keeping myself focused the entire way. You can't let up at all mentally.

ANNC: Kurt Kitayama with rounds of 67 and 68 – nine under at the halfway point.

KURT KITAYAMA: It’s just nice being done…it’s just getting harder, get to relax now

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: we call him Quadzilla or the Quadfather. He’s a really good player and he hangs tough, not surprised to see him up there on the leaderboard.

KURT KITYAMA: Just trying to get that win is tough, just got to keep putting myself in that position to give myself a chance.

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: I revealed your nickname by the way.

KURT KITAYAMA: They were like which one is your favorite? And I was like…none of them.

**C1: REJOIN**

NO COPY

**C2: MOVING DAY**

ANNC: You come back to Bay Hill and everything just seems right in the golfing world. The leaderboard is loaded with star power but it was a 30 year old still looking for his first that had a two shot lead at the halfway point.

**KURT KITAYAMA BEGAN MOVING DAY WITH HIS THIRD 36-HOLE LEAD – THE MOST OUT OF ANY PLAYER ON TOUR THIS SEASON – BUT THE DANGER OF BAY HILL WAS LOOMING.**

ANNC: Kurt Kitayama has begun his day with three straight pars but has run into some big trouble here at the fourth, this tee shot ob, now has this four double bogey, and he buries it.

KURT KITAYAMA: There's no giving up. It's just kind of in my nature, I feel like. Even when it's going bad, you can't just like pack it in. You fight for every shot.

ANNC: Viktor hovland, yes! And look at this leaderboard jamming up here at the top after that double bogey from Kitayama

SCHEFFLER BIRDIE ANNC 16:40:13 Scottie Scheffler back in contention this year, the Scheffler Slam is still alive.

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: I just tried to keep it in my mind that nobody was going to extend themselves really far away. I just have to stay patient and pick your spots. Because the minute you try and force around this golf course you're running into a spot where you're going to make another bogey.

ANNC: Kitayama for birdie… maybe that’s the igniter Kitayama is looking for.

KURT KITAYAMA: 10 was, that was a big putt I made. It got me settled down a lot more, for sure.

ANNC: Tap in for birdie gives him a share with Scheffler and Hovland

KURT KITAYAMA: You just look at the leaderboard, the rankings and what they have done. People probably cheering for them louder, you know. So there's nothing I can do. Just embrace it.

KITAYAMA MICROSCOPE ANNC 17:55:52 that is -9 and your 54 hole leader! What a way to finish

KURT KITAYAMA: I just feel like I've always grinded, no matter what I'm doing. Even just practice, trying to get better. Always been putting in the time. So I owe it to myself to, even when you get off to a rocky start, to keep fighting.

NATS: that’s a hell of an even par round today, the grind! Absolute definition of grind

ANNC: no doubt Arnie would love a weekend just like this at Bay Hill

**C4: SPONSORED FEATURE**

**BEFORE KURT KITAYAMA’S FIRST TEE SHOT, MASTERCARD ANNOUNCED A MULTI YEAR EXTENSION WITH THE PGA TOUR AND ARNOLD PALMER INVITATIONAL PRESENTED BY MASTERCARD.**

LINDA KIRKPATRICK: We're honored to be here. What a tremendous venue and you know, incredible opportunity to engage with both you and with you, Jay. We've just been delighted and honored to have a 28-year relationship now with the tour and going on 20 years with the Arnold Palmer Invitational.  And what better venue than this one to announce our multi year extension to our partnership with the Arnold Palmer Invitational, we're just absolutely thrilled to carry on your father's legacy.

JAY MONAHAN: The PGA TOUR is where it is today because of your father, and to be here to announce a multi-year extension, you know, and to witness Mastercard’s extraordinary commitment through the years, is a very, very, very proud day for the PGA TOUR. Your father opened himself up to the world and let everyone into his world and has inspired so many people into this game.

AMY SAUNDERS: I am very honored to be part of all of this with both you Jay and Linda. The relationship and partnership with MasterCard is so meaningful it was to my mother and father. And now to be able to carry that forward, I feel extremely honored to be part of that. So, thank you.

RAJA RAJAMANNAR: The passion for sport is truly universal. And nobody fueled that passion—or used it more powerfully for good—than the legendary Arnold Palmer.

His spirit of connecting passion to purpose really resonates and deeply at Mastercard.

This is what keeps us coming back to Orlando even after 20 years. This year’s event was no exception. We have had an incredible week at Bay Hill. There were a host of priceless experiences. There was Face time with legendary players and, most importantly, the opportunity to connect with the next generation of fans over our shared love of golf.

None of this would be possible without Mr. Palmer and the legacy he has left behind.

Thank you very much for joining us at the 2023 Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard. We’re already counting down to next year.

**D1: CLOSING BILLBOARDS**

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**D2: FINAL ROUND FEATURE**

ANNC: Concentration comes out of a combination of confidence and hunger. That’s one of the many memorable quotes from the King. Kurt Kitayama is going to need those attributes in this final round as he attempts to stave off some of the brightest stars in the sport.

ANNC: You get the feeling he’s going to break through. Maybe it’s his day today.

**KURT KITAYAMA STOOD ON THE 9TH TEE WITH A TWO-SHOT LEAD, HIS DRIVER IN ONE HAND, AND THE CHAMPIONSHIP IN THE OTHER.**

ANNC: Concern right away Anything to the left of that cart path is out of bounds. Oh boy…Kitayama in some peril

KURT KITAYAMA: From what I've learned in the past few years and being in these situations. I've been able to control how I feel a lot better.

ANNC: That’s his third runner up finish on the PGA TOUR.

KURT KITAYAMA: Especially when it's coming down 18 like that or hitting a tee ball out of bounds. You just got to let it go.

ANNC: Here we go folks, the last nine holes. Don’t count out Kitayama / now one back.

**BUT WITH THE TOURNAMENT NOW ANYONES TO GRAB, THE STARS TOOK FULL ADVANTAGE.**

ANNC: Jordan Spieth takes the solo lead!

ANNC: Scheffler for birdie…ok, here he comes!

ANNC: McIlroy – jumps into a tie for the lead!

ANNC: That for birdie. Harris English with his first birdie of the day! Just one off the lead!

ANNC: There’s one stroke separating eight players right now. This is vintage, classic, Sunday, Bay Hill.

**WITH A POTENTIAL PLAYOFF LOOMING, RORY MCILROY AND HARRIS ENGLISH SIGNED THEIR SCORECARDS AND WAITED TO LEARN THEIR FATE.**

**[BEAT]**

**AS THE TOP PLAYERS PRESSED DOWN THE STRETCH, KITAYAMA BATTLED BACK ON THE 71ST HOLE.**

ANNC: It’s right at it. What a beautiful shot there for Kurt Kitayama and he’ll have that putt to get to 9-under par!

KURT KITAYAMA: I just ripped it and it started leaking little right, but I hit it good enough to cover and it was perfect.

**BUT THE CO-LEADERS IN THE CLUBHOUSE WATCHED WITH ANITIPATION…**

ANNC: Kurt Kitayama! Right in the center of the cup! / Heading over to 18 with a 1-shot lead!

ANNC: He’s taking some deep breaths. Knows he’s two putts away from finally getting it done.

KURT KITAYAMA: I was definitely nervous, just tried to focus on speed, and that was it, and try and blank everything out besides that.

ANNC: He might just pour it in! Oh, wow! I think that’s a two putt!

ANNC: Step aside all you superstars, Kitayama’s in the winner’s circle, finally, on the PGA TOUR!

KURT KITAYAMA: To get your first win is an unbelievable thing. Lucky enough to have it at a very special place, so that's a bonus.

**D3: WINNER FEATURE + FOLLOW**

ANNC: He rules Arnie’s kingdom. Big smile of relief for Kurt Kitayama.

J.C. DEACON: Arnold Palmer would have been really, really proud of Kurt because he fights and he's resilient and everything that Arnold stood for. Kurt's going to have that literally the rest of his life, that that's the tournament that he won first. And it's going to mean the world to him.

JUSTIN SUH: All right. Dinner Monday through Sunday. That's all on him.

ANNC: Kitayama getting, I'm sure his phone blowing up.

NATS: It's going to be a little hot. Yeah, try this on.

ANNC: They just started this tradition not too long ago. The presentation of the red cardigan sweater. He's going to have a big night.

NATS: Kurt, who's going to be your first phone call?

KURT KITAYAMA:I call my parents. I got that one.

KURT KITAYAMA: Just like a big sigh of relief, really. You know that this was really happening.

TIM TUCKER: You deserve this. All the hard work. And I'm so proud of you, man, and happy to be on your bag. Cheers guys.

NATS: Come back, look to the left. How about that?

KITAYAMA NATS: Congratulations, Kurt. I was watching all day. Welcome to the Bay Hill Champions Club. Andy Bean. Pretty cool.

J.C. DEACON NATS: Florida gator right there. You just won the King’s Tournament man.  I can’t believe you just did that.

KITAYAMA SOT: It’s pretty surreal to be right here, right now. Like this, it's really cool.

J.C. DEACON SOT: He's just thoughtful and gentle and nice and literally, that's what this world needs right now. We need more people like Kurt Kitayama.

SPIETH NATS: Kurt, very nice going, Tim. Good work.

NATS:  we had had a few cocktails. Tim enjoyed himself, drink of choice.

Coronas for him. I only had a couple. Do you know where bag storage is? It’s my first PLAYERS. It's around the side by caddy entrance. Awesome. Awesome. Man.

**D4: FROM BAY HILL TO SAWGRASS**

JORDAN SPIETH: Kurt, nice going. Tim, good work.

KURT KITAYAMA: Tim enjoyed himself.

NATS: Drink of choice?

KURT KITAYAMA: Corona, for him. I only had a couple.

TIM TUCKER: Do you know where bag storage is?

KURT KITAYAMA; It’s my first PLAYERS. It’s around the side by the caddy entrance.

NATS: Congrats, happy for you, awesome stuff man

ANNC: Kurt Kitayama fresh off his maiden PGA TOUR victory at Bay Hill Club and Lodge last week in his 50th career start is ready to take the tee at the PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP at TPC SAWGRASS.