2024 PGA TOUR: The CUT #5

International Script

COLD OPEN

MORIKAWA: Balance. Not only a balance, you know, just on the golf course with my swing and what I do but, just balancing life. Really enjoying and understanding the perspective and opportunity that we have and being able to take yourself from one place and put yourself in another place. I think it’s all about balancing your life and being able to enjoy every aspect of it. I’m a different player. My swing’s different, my body’s different. So you kind of find balance

**WELCOME TO PGA TOUR THE CUT.**

COLLIN MORIKAWA’S EVELOUTION

MORIKAWA: When it comes down to it and you're in the final group on a Sunday, it's all the same. All the practice, all the thoughts, all the studying you've done, it all goes out the window and it's just, you're in your own head, you're focused on what you want to accomplish.

ANNC: Morikawa for Birdie… and another one! What a performance! A final round 63. Morikawa dominates at the ZOZO CHAMPIONSHIP!

MORIKAWA: Winning again, it's so difficult. You have to have breaks go your way, and to know that it wasn't lost somewhere in the in the forest. To finally cap off another win and just get that feeling back, really exciting.

ANNC: His sixth career victory on the PGA TOUR.

**AFTER WINNING FIVE EVENTS, INCLUDING TWO MAJORS, TO START HIS PGA TOUR CAREER, MORIKAWA’S MOMENTUM SEEMINGLY DISAPPEARED… USHERING IN A WINLESS DROUGHT THAT INCLUDED A TOUGH LOSS IN 2023 AT THE SENTRY, WHERE HE ENTERED THE FINAL ROUND WITH A SIX-SHOT LEAD, ONLY TO WATCH IT EVAPORATE AND FINISH SECOND.**

ANNC: Collin had this thing right in the palm of his hand if he could’ve just held it together. Psychologically this could have a major effect on him. He looked unbeatable. You just never saw this coming. 

**DISAPPOINTMENT PROMPTED A COACHING CHANGE AND MORIKAWA MOVED ON FROM HIS CHILDHOOD COACH OF NEARLY 20 YEARS…TEAMING UP WITH MARK BLACKBURN BEFORE THE RYDER CUP.** 

MORIKAWA: I brought him on the team just to learn about more of why my swing does what it does, and I think when you're able to do that from a from a very surface level view then you can kind of use that and make it more intense.

**THE NEW PARTNERSHIP PAID OFF, WITH MORIKAWA WINNING JUST ONE MONTH LATER.**

MORIKAWA: What's great is that it's nothing new, right? It's nothing that I've never done before. I've just got to remind myself what I did.

ANNC: He was just unflappable right from the first tee box, it just seemed like he was out here to win. Nothing else even crossed his mind. He went 12 under his final 24 holes.

MORIKAWA: I think you learn more in those periods when you're not playing well.

What the past couple of years has done is, it's allowed me to understand what I need to do, what I need to focus on, how do I prepare, how do I show up at events.

It's always about adapting and realizing that even when you're not playing well, that doesn't mean you're going to go on this trajectory and have these downfalls.

ANNC: About as good a putting performance as we've seen for Morikawa. Yeah, that flat stick was hot.

MORIKAWA: There's always that belief in myself that I can do it and obviously it's nice to know and have the end result of winning, but setting goals for me is very important. Setting these goals throughout the year just gives you something to focus on. We're very lucky as golfers to do what we do, and I think if I can enjoy that as much as I can, we're going to succeed in every level.

APGA JUNIOR GOLFER & COLLIN MORIKAWA AT FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN

 PLA: I'm feeling good. I'm feeling excited. I am excited to see Collin. I'm excited.

**BY WINNING THE APGA JUNIOR SERIES, 15-YEAR-OLF STACI PLA WAS INVITED TO THE FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN PRO-AM.**

PLA: Hi, I’m Stacey.

MORGAN: Alex.

PLA: Nice to meet you.

MORGAN: You were hitting bombs right there.

PLA: Yeah, they're, they're pretty good.

MORGAN: Yeah.

PLA: Just warming up.

MORGAN: So, this is my first tournament. So, I feel like you gotta help me out here.

PLA: Oh yeah, well it's…

MORGAN: Teach me the ropes, show me how it works.

PLA: Yeah, it's Pro-Am. This is a fun event. So, we're just gonna win.

MORGAN: Okay, all right, we're just gonna win.

PLA: Wait are we the next tee time at 9:12? Hi Collin, I’m good.

MORIKAWA: Good to meet you.

PLA: Nice to meet you too.

NAT: Very nice.

PLA: Great shot.

STARTER: Next on the tee will be Staci Pla!

NAT: Play well everybody.

PLA: It feels great to be at the Farmers Insurance Open this week. It's a great experience and I'm excited to play with my group today and watch the pros tomorrow.

MORIKAWA: Anytime, when you're growing up and you're able to go back on positive memories, they motivate you. You know this is something that she maybe wants to do in the future is play, you know, professional golf and when you look back on these days and feel like oh yeah, you know, it wasn't that bad or maybe I wasn't that nervous or, you know, I had a great time like that's those are the things that are going to just keep pushing you and realize, you know, why you love the game.

PLA: The next time you see me I'll probably be hitting it close to you. From the same tee box.

HICKS: There you go.

HARDY: She can go to any college she wants.

PLA: Probably, yeah

HARDY: I played nine holes with Staci. Was really impressed with her game. She swings it really hard. Like a lot of young, up and coming players like her, they are fearless. Really impressed with her whole game. Wedge play, putting, everything. She's a rockstar.

MORIKAWA: For Farmers to be able to give her this experience she can now create memories of a lifetime and you know, knowing that she has a bright, bright future ahead of her in golf or whatever she wants to do, it's gonna be exciting.

PLA: I'm very thankful to Farmers Insurance and the APGA for allowing me to have this opportunity. I think it's just inspired me to just continue my journey and see how far I can go in golf.

MARCUS BYRD FEATURE

AUDIENCE QUESTION: What would you do if you got invited to play?

BYRD: I'd be very, very, very happy and honored to represent the APGA Tour and all of my friends for the Farmers.

Let’s go!

I feel like that's what I live for. I want to showcase my talent, I want to play at the highest level.   
   
ANNC: Very tough read, very fast putt. One time. How about that young fella?! There he is the winner of the Farmers Insurance Invitational Marcus Byrd. At the Sunday at Torrey Pines.

BYRD: My earliest memories would be just my dad having some plastic clubs, and I would just go hang with him whenever he would go to the driving range, or just competing, really and Golf was something that I could compete with him, you know, against. So it was, I think that's what kind of led me more towards golf.

GARVIN: Marcus was one of those kids who didn't have to worry about, we knew that if he's at the golf course he's gonna be practicing golf, or playing golf.

BYRD: Langston is a historically black golf course. It was like a home away from home almost for me, because I could just get dropped off there and see cousins, friends, uncles, whatever.

GARVIN: He was show up, you know, eight, nine o'clock in the morning, come in and have breakfast, go to the driving range, hit some balls, and off he goes to the golf course with some of his buddies.

BYRD: It just has so much history, so many great players who came through there. I think that was the biggest thing for me was having other kids to grow up with who I could play with that looked like me and we're out here wanting to be the best players we can be.

SHAFFER: When you're a teacher, you're looking for kids that are really passionate about it, and he was one of those kids. He had already obviously had some experience, but in the meantime, no fear, just gets up and does it.

BYRD: You know right away, he kind of knew I had the talent to kind of get where I needed to go and Coach Terry, pretty much was my coach all the way up until college.

SHAFFER: I remember when he was 12 years old. He had come down for some lessons and then he was practicing and I decided to take him out on the golf course with two of my other students who were adults. Here he was, 12 years old, and he decided to play with us back at men's tees and he ended up shooting three under par. A 32 and the other two students were looking at me saying Terry, “how come you can't teach us to play that way?” But that's the way Marcus was. He was really that good.

BYRD: We just have such a great relationship and, I have a lot of loyalty towards him for what he's done for me and my family. So, you know, I definitely can't say I'd be here without his help.

MARCUS BYRD FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN UPDATE

STARTER: Next on the tee from Temple Hills, Maryland, please welcome Marcus Byrd!

ANNC: A lot of good amateur wins and now he comes out here at Torrey Pines with the best players in the world. That’s an excellent sponsor’s exemption there. I watched him hit a few balls, it’s impressive.

How about Marcus Byrd? What a day he’s having in round one. Well done!

**AFTER RECORDING A 68 IN ROUND ONE TO SIT INSIDE THE TOP 20, BYRD STRUGGLED IN ROUND TWO… AND MISSED THE CUT BY 4.**

MATTHIEU PAVON WINS FARMERS INSRUANCE OPEN

ANNC: This would be some story for a guy that just got his TOUR status if he was able to win this one. A rookie on the PGA TOUR, has the dual membership with the DP World Tour. He has a ton of professional experience, actually birdied his last 4 holes at the DP World Tour Championship to get his PGA TOUR card.

Playing quickly. Yeah he’s in a hurry to get it done. No! Oh boy that’s not what you want.

PAVON: I don't know actually if my ball just hit the lip and came left or it was just a

bad shot. I was like, listen, Woody, like the lie doesn't look too bad, I feel like I can do it and he said OK, but it's your call (laughs).

ANNC: Boy he gave it everything he had. What a shot! He pulled it off!

[In French]: *Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes! Yes! Matthieu Pavon becomes the first French player to win a tournament on the PGA TOUR! Fabulous!*

PAVON: I can't thank the PGA TOUR enough. Give us the opportunity to come from Europe and compete here in America against the best players of the world. That has always been the dream for me and I got finally a shot and I took it. It's a dream come true and it's a little bit hard to believe.

**MATTHIEU PAVON SITS AT 2ND IN THE COMCAST BUSINESS TOUR TOP 10 BECOMING THE FIRST ROOKIE THIS SEASON AND THE FIRST FRENCHMAN EVER INSIDE THE TOP 10.**

PAVON: I think it is historic for the French golf. I hope it will inspire a lot of people because coming from an amateur player which is 800 in the world to a PGA TOUR winner, it's pretty big.

FEDEXCUP STANDINGS

**PAVON MOVES INTO THE TOP 10 OF THE FEDEXCUP FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS CAREER AS DOES NICOLAI HØJGARD WHO SITS IN A TIE FOR 9TH AFTER HIS RUNNER UP FINISH AT TORREY PINES.**

SCRAMBLING LEADERS

**THE CUT PRESENTS, SCRAMBLING LEADERS.**

**AFTER THE FIRST MONTH OF THE 2024 SEASON, THESE ARE THE PLAYERS AT THE TOP OF THE TOUR IN SCRAMBLING PERCENTAGE.**

ANNC: Short chip for Palmer and very well done.

ANNC: Here’s Murray. It was far enough up in the bunker it wasn’t too bad of a shot. I’d say that’s pretty good. He’s 5 for 5 before that bunker shot right there.

ANNC: Well he’s going for style points, that’s for sure. I like it and he’s done it rather nicely. Has he ever. Wow. Go in! Come on! What a shot that was.

ANNC: We’ve seen Jordan Spieth hole these plenty of times and gonna hit a little stab, skipper in there. That’s really good!

RYAN FOX FEATURE

Ryan Fox, I'm from Auckland, New Zealand.

ANNC: A gold star performance from the New Zealander.

FOX: My upbringing helped shape my game because I grew up in a sporting family.

New Zealand in general, love sports. My dad played for the All Blacks. My mum's father played cricket for New Zealand, so I always had a bat, a ball, a golf club, tennis racket, something in my hands growing up.

NAT: Oh, nice. Good shot. You liked to hit it hard back then as well. Sure did. Nothing’s changed.

FOX: Dad played for the All Blacks from 1984, 85 to 1993. He was regarded as one of the greats. He was the highest point scorer at the time in All Black history that won the 1987 World Cup, which was the first rugby World Cup they had, and that was in New Zealand and hat helped shape the competitive juices growing up.

Wow, I actually think that is my first ever set of golf clubs.

I came to golf relatively late. I played golf all the way through school, but rugby and cricket were my main two sports and I didn't start competitive golf until after I left school when I was 18. So, a lot of guys are full time college players by then, and I certainly was a two or three handicapper that struggled to break 80 other than my home club.

I didn't turn pro till I was basically 25. It was a bit of a process to get out on to the DP World Tour. I started in Aussie in 2012. I got some invites onto the Challenge Tour on 2015 and managed to get a challenge to a card and then went back on to the Challenge tour in 2016 and had a really good year.

ANNC: Look at this, it’s dream golf from a really top-class player.

FOX: That extra year really did set me up for what was a pretty good year for that DP World Tour in 2017. Keeping your card your first year out is always the goal and I did that pretty comfortably.

ANNC: One of the European Tour’s most storied events.

FOX: The Irish Open hurt a lot in 2018.

ANNC: Oh, it’s got a chance. Well done what a fantastic putt.

FOX: Russell Knox holed two 40 footers from about the same spot, which is almost unheard of.

ANNC: It’s looking good again, it’s looking good again, oh he’s done it. I don’t believe it.

FOX: After I got over the initial hurt, I felt like at that point that I could compete.

It was the first real shot I had at winning.

ANNC: You’ve got to be joking.

FOX: Obviously had someone do something really, really special to beat me and I took a lot out of that.

ANNC: Ryan Fox, he’s broken through.

FOX: Winning the World Super 6 at Perth was an amazing feeling and got it done pretty comfortably in the final against Adrian. It's kind of a strange feeling not getting to walk up the last and soak it all in but it was a massive goal of mine to win on a major tour.

ANNC: First time winner on the European Tour.

FOX: It had been a tough couple of years with COVID, and after those years I'm not sure if I still had it and to win early took the pressure off the rest of the year.

ANNC: Fox has gone wire to wire in Ras Al Khaimah.

FOX:  I put myself in contention a lot more and then to win at Dunhill Links at the end of the year going round St. Andrews and coming down 18 with a lead is probably one of the best feelings in golf.

ANNC: And Fox has his place history, he is a winner at St. Andrews.

FOX: Cemented me in the top 50 in the world, got me into The Masters and a bunch of the big PGA TOUR events. It was just a year to dream of.

FOX: I never thought at my age I'd get to that point. It had probably pass me by a little bit. Just getting onto the DP World Tour, having a couple of wins out here was not necessarily my ceiling, but I was pretty happy with that. To have a year like that was just amazing.

Golf is just getting stronger and stronger at the moment. We've had so many young guys out here. It was just kind of nice to prove that as an older guy, I can still compete a little bit with those young guys and it's nice to take that opportunity.

ANNC: How about that from Ryan Fox, he’s a Rolex Series winner, he’s the BMW PGA Champion.

FOX: I'm in a really good position now. I've got an opportunity to do it on both Tours and I still love playing out on the DP World Tour, but would love to be able to play a lot more in the States so going forward I'd love to be able to keep dual membership and play both tours and being one of the best players in the world.

AT&T PEBBLE BEACH PRO-AM LOOKAHEAD

ANNC: Monterey Peninsula, not many places like it, certainly not in the world of golf.

CANTLAY:  I love Pebble Beach. It’s one of the best golf courses on TOUR and one of my favorites.

SPIETH: When I won here in 2017, it was, it just was a checkmark on a bucket list to be able to win a professional event at Pebble Beach.

ANNC: Justin Rose, back in the winner’s circle!

ROSE: Kate, Leo, Lottie, this one’s for you guys. I wish you were here at Pebble with me. I mean what a place to win a tournament.

**JUSTIN ROSE WILL BE HUNGRY TO DEFEND HIS TITLE AT THE SECOND SIGNATURE EVENT OF THE SEASON, COMING OFF 3 STRAIGHT MADE CUTS THIS SEASON**

ROSE: You have the ability to play for elevated points and that's what we're all striving for out here on TOUR is to be in these big events so we can have that opportunity to amass as many points as possible.

**IN ADDITION TO THOSE ALREADY ELIGIBLE FOR SIGNATURE EVENTS BASED ON 2023 FEDEXCUP STANDINGS, PLAYERS LIKE BEAU HOSSLER …**

ANNC: Oh look at this! Oh wow!

**… WHO HAD A STRONG FEDEXCUP FALL AND GRAYSON MURRAY, WHO NOTCHED A WIN IN HIS FIRST START THIS YEAR …**

ANNC: Grayson Murray has pulled it off! He’s a winner again!

**…EARNED THEIR WAY INTO THE FIELD AT THE AT&T PEBBLE BEACH PRO-AM THROUGH THE AON NEXT 10 AND AON SWING 5.**

**THE PLAYERS IN THE AON NEXT 10 FINISHED 51 THROUGH 60 IN THE FEDEXCUP FALL STANDINGS, WHILE PLAYERS IN THE AON SWING 5 HAVE EARNED THEIR STARTS IN PEBBLE BEACH THROUGH TOP FINISHES THIS SEASON AMONG THE PLAYERS NOT ALREADY IN THE FIELD.**

ANNC: Pure perfection, Pebble Beach Golf Links.

TOUR PLAYLIST

**THE PGA TOUR RETURNS TO A NORMAL THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY SCHEDULE AS THE ACTION BEGINS IN PEBBLE BEACH LATER THIS WEEK.**

APGA FARMERS INSURANCE INVITATIONAL

ANNC: The APGA Farmers Insurance Invitational, such an important tour across America. Diversity, inclusion, really good players.

The Farmers Insurance with the PGA TOUR was Wednesday to Saturday, so these players are playing this course sight unseen.

HOULEMARD: The APGA originated in 2010 as an outcome of a conversation between Ken Bentley and Adrian Stills, the two original founders, and what they saw was an opportunity to create access and opportunity for black and brown golfers to be able to develop their skills to play on the PGA TOUR.  It allows them to play in the same setup, which is really what we're designed to do.

TAYLOR II: It's huge. I get to test my game on one of the hardest golf courses on the PGA TOUR and see the things I have to work on and that much more up in my game against how those guys played it this week and it's just gonna be a confidence booster. I'm learning a lot about myself today and how to handle myself on a big-time golf course so then once I get out here, I'm going to be prepared.

WORTHINGTON II: Being just here on TV here and, you know, representing and, you know, trying to put the best foot forward to inspire the next generation just to pick up a club and inspire to you know, if you don't want to be inside the ropes, if you will, but you can still be a part of the golf industry as well.

HORSCHEL: I love seeing the enthusiasm they have for the game of golf. They all have a lot of talent. They all have the ability to achieve every dream they want to in the game of golf. And I'm just here to be a support and to do whatever I can to help them achieve the dream of playing at the highest level of professional golf.

ANNC: Our man Michael Herrera for birdie at nine.

Got to do everything you can to kick all the spin off of it. You do not want this thing to win back hard towards this flag at all. Yeah if you can take some a wedge, club up and take some off, that's how you get it to slow down and spin. (Easy, easy) And look at this. What a great shot.

Michael Herrera, a winner on the APGA Tour.

HERRERA: You know, playing last year and playing in tough conditions. I think it was blowing 20 to gusts of 30. And so being able to fall back on that, it did feel like I had an advantage, I knew where to miss, I knew that I couldn't get too aggressive out of the rough, fortunately it was good enough this weekend.

Farmers, they gave me an opportunity to play in the PGA TOUR for the first time last year. So I'm extremely grateful, you know, for them to be a part of my life and a part of the APGA Tour's life.

This is the first tournament I ever came out to watch on the PGA TOUR. So it's always had a soft spot in my heart and so to play last year and then now to win this year, it's amazing. I can’t put it into words.