**24CUTTRAV – THE TRAVELERS CHAMPIONSHIP MASTER SCRIPT**

**A1 – COLD OPEN**

FANS: Happy Birthday Scheff!

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Thank you.

FANS: How was the cake?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: You can have it.

FANS: No way, you’re the best

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Y’all take the cake seriously

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: y’all have a good one

JACQUES SLADE: FROM MEMORABLE FINISHES – TO UP-AND-COMING TALENT – THE TRAVELERS CHAMPIONSHIP HAS IT ALL.

ANNC: One of the great things about these Signature Events is all the best players are coming together

JACQUES SLADE: WE’RE BACK IN NEW ENGLAND – AND GOLF’S BIGGEST STARS ARE SERVING UP *WAY* MORE THAN LOBSTER ROLLS AND CLAM CHOWDER.THIS IS THE TRAVELERS CHAMPIONSHIP

WELCOME TO A SPECIAL EDITION OF PGA TOUR THE CUT

**A3 – THORBJORNSEN**

RACHEL NOBLE: We would like to welcome Michael Thorbjornsen to the interview room here at the 2024 Travelers Championship

JACQUES SLADE: With this being -- you've obviously played this event, but first event as a pro. Does it feel any differently walking the range, playing the course this week than it has in previous years? I would have to say no. I think that's one of the big things with getting sponsors invites and being able to play PGA TOUR events as an Am, kind of makes it an easier transition for when you do actually turn pro.

JACQUES SLADE: Travelers has given some exemptions to some pretty good golfers over the years, what does it mean to play on that exemption, and two, what does it say about your game that you join that legacy of golfers that have that exemption?

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: It means a lot, especially it being my third year now getting that exemption.

ANNC: Seriously talented, good luck young man // this should be the best ever finish by an amateur

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN I’m extremely honored, I know some of the other players that they’ve invited and they’re outstanding guys, so to be apart of that group of invites is pretty special. This is one of the best tournaments on tour, so being invited to something this nice is really cool

ANNC: The locals will enjoy that, he finished 4th last year

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN I feel like every year I've come back I've definitely matured as a player, kind of just figured out what i need to work on in my game

MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN: I’m done with school, done with college, finished number one on pga tour u and have my tour card for the next 18 months, so this is really a dream come true.

JACQUES SLADE::any trash talk coming through your friends on text messages? No actually not, kind of wish there was a little more of that,everyone’s been so nice. I feel at home here and I’m excited for the next few months and on tour and hopefully the next 20 years. Good luck man, good luck out there.

THORBJORNSEN BRINGS THAT EXCITEMENT INTO THE FIRST ROUND

ANNC: oh yeah a birdie here at 15 for the young man out of stanford

BUT THE CHALLENGES OF PROFESSIONAL GOLF QUICKLY KICK IN...

ANNC: 17:30:40 Trying to save par and stay at even...so a three putt bogey for Thorbjornsen

AS THOR CARDS A FIRST ROUND 72.

**A4 – STANDUP BRIDGE**

JACQUES SLADE: JUST LIKE THOR – AUSTIN ECKROAT WAS ONCE A SPONSOR EXEMPTION AT THE TRAVELERS CHAMPIONSHIP BACK IN 2021. NOW, AS A PGA TOUR WINNER – AUSTIN LOOKS BACK ON HOW CRUCIAL THAT OPPORTUNITY WAS AS A YOUNG PRO.

**A5 – BRANDED CONTENT -- ECKROAT**

AUSTIN ECKROAT: Austin Eckroat here at the Travelers Championship, playing a little practice round. Braving it through the conditions. We’re going to have a good time though.

PRODUCER: First time here?

AUSTIN ECKROAT: First time here. That’s why we’re playing right now. I think the Travelers Championship has done a great job giving young guys a good opportunity to play whenever they come out of school. I think back to whenever I was still in school when Viktor Hovland got a sponsor exemption there and play well, then I got one, Ludvig got one. A lot of things came with it. The exposure of playing on the PGA TOUR. Getting comfortable playing in that atmosphere. The Travelers Championship in my mind is one of those first moments I had as a professional golfer. It’s definitely something I draw memories off of and look forward to going to every year.

AUSTIN ECKROAT: The season’s been going really well, got off to a pretty solid start.

ANNC: That is official. Austin Eckroat has broken through on the Cognizant Classic. A big, big win.

AUSTIN ECKROAT: A lifelong dream of winning on the PGA TOUR was accomplished. It opened the doors to all of the evens that I’ve always dreamed of playing in. I’m getting to play in the Travelers Championship, I’m getting to play the British Open this season. It’s just a great week.

AUSTIN ECKROAT: Feels great to be back. Now this’ll be the third time, most familiar place I’ve played since being a professional so it feels good to be back to a place I feel comfortable for sure. Looking back on last year’s Travelers Championship, I played pretty well. I think I finished about 25th. I think it’s a place I feel comfortable at since this was my first start on the PGA TOUR as a professional.

AUSTIN ECKROAT: To think of now playing in a Signature Event on the PGA TOUR, obviously I’ve had a lot of growth in my career to get here and this tournament’s also growing at the same rate and it’s pretty cool to see. This is the perfect place to host a signature event with the atmosphere and the great golf course. It’s been a fun journey and hopefully there’s a lot more Travelers Championships in my future.

ECKROAT CHANNELS HIS EXPERIENCE AT TPC RIVER HIGHLANDS IN THE FIRST ROUND...

ANNC: There we go, birdie putt at the 11th

AN OPENING ROUND 70 SENDS HIM BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD SITTING AT T44

 ANNC: Tom kim has a good look and a chance to take the outright lead // and does

BUT TOM KIM REMAINS BOGEY FREE AND TAKES CONTROL AFTER 18 HOLES.

ANNC: Such a good putt. What a finish, birdie birdie for Tom Kim, leading by two now

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**B1 – 15 ½ HOLE INBUMP**

JACQUES SLADE: Welcome to the 15 ½ Hole! Here, players get a chance to try and win $10k for their favorite charity if they can land it closest to the pin.

JACQUES SLADE: That way the fish can tag me on Instagram when find it and take a selfie with it.

JACQUES SLADE: I’m told it’s 79 yards. They gave me a 54, with 8 degrees so we’ll see if I can hit it anywhere close. Nope! That didn’t work, we’ll try it again

JACQUES SLADE: See that one went past the first one, thank you, thank you. This is why I host and I don’t play the game. Just delete the footage, just delete it

**B2 – BRANDED CONTENT – FITZPATRICK**

MATT FITZPATRICK: Hey. It’s Matt Fitzpatrick here. We’re at the Travelers Championship. Come play a few holes with me.

MATT FITZPATRICK: Drivable par four. Coming towards the end of the round, you know, it's an opportunity to pick up a birdie. So yeah, you know, you’re trying to hit the green, but with the water left, you've got to probably air on the side of caution.

MATT FITZPATRICK NATS: Not my best, but pretty, pretty thick. Pretty thick.

MATT FITZPATRICK: Try to visualize where the ball's rolling through. You know, coming back from the hole, how it gets to where I am, and then also vice versa; the other way around. Build the read from getting those two views and committing to something. I think that's most important.

MATT FITZPATRICK NATS: A bit firm, but it went in. Who cares?

MATT FITZPATRICK: I like the golf course. I think it sets up really nice. It's always in great condition. Scoring tends to be pretty low here. So, you know, you've got to make a lot of birdies.

MATT FITZPATRICK NATS: A little bit hard.

MATT FITZPATRICK: 17th hole. Tricky one, but yeah, for here, I’m looking for where my line off the tee is.

MATT FITZPATRICK NATS: That one’s cutting it close. And somehow bounces left … and is dry.

MATT FITZPATRICK: Made the cut both times I’ve played here. I've obviously got data on that and what I do well here, what I don't do well. I didn't putt well here last year. Something that would be an important thing to, to spend more time with them on this week.

MATT FITZPATRICK: It’s a good finishing hole. I think it’s a good driving hole. You've got to hit a good drive to give yourself a good chance. If you do that, there's a great opportunity for birdie. Otherwise, it makes it tough to scramble for your par. And I think that's what makes it a great finishing hole, really.

MATT FITZPATRICK: Ok, one under for the final four. Good little practice session there and hopefully, a few shots better over the course of the week, but looking forward to it.

AFTER A HARD-FOUGHT 74 ON THURSDAY..

FITZPATRICK BIRDIE ANNC: 10:20:37 there ya go // tough day yesterday for fitzy, but in the right direction today

FITZY BOUNCES BACK WITH A SECOND ROUND 65 TO SIT AT MINUS ONE...BUT TOM KIM REMAINS IN THE DRIVERS SEAT THROUGH 36

TOM KIM WRAP UP ANNC 17:42:33:tom kim 22 going for his 4th win, there’s a lot at stake

**B3 – STANDUP BRIDGE**

JACQUES SLADE: AS YOU'VE GUESSED BY NOW, THE TRAVELERS CHAMPIONSHIP LOVES GIVING THE NEXT GENERATION OF GOLFERS NEW OPPORTUNITIES. AND THEY'RE DOING THAT, AND THEN SOME AT THE ANNUAL CHARLIE SIFFORD GOLF OUTING, USING GOLF TO PAY IT FORWARD.

**B4 – SIFFORD TOURNAMENT**

CHARLIE SIFFORD, JR: My dad had been coming up here for many years playing in back in the day was the Insurance City Open and then Hartford, now Travelers. The fact that he won his first tournament here was, you know, it was really something amazing.

ANDY BESSETTE: To think of what he accomplished to be the champion of the Travelers Championship in 1967 is remarkable.

ANDY BESSETTE: This is our third annual Charlie Sifford event, and we raised $100,000 each year to give to the foundation for the scholarship fund. HBCUs and the students who are going to this with golf management programs, these scholarships are like paramount to keep going and to keep giving. And that's important for the future of golf as well.

CHARLIE SIFFORD, JR: The first year of the scholarships, we gave out seven. This year we kicked the number up to 12, and hopefully every year we can, as the donations come in, we can give more donations to various kids going to school.

ANDY BESSETTE: Diversity and inclusion is really important to us at Travelers. To be able to host this event is really important to what we do as a corporation and as a tournament.

JACQUES SLADE: What do you see as the lasting legacy of your dad?

CHARLIE SIFFORD, JR: A person who persevered under extreme difficult circumstances to succeed at a game that he really loved and played. And, you know, he wanted to make it easier for people behind him to have it easier for them to be able to play the game and get involved in it.

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**C1 – REJOIN/WELCOME BACK**

JACQUES SLADE: WELCOME BACK TO THE CUT! IF YOU DON’T KNOW BY NOW MY SNEAKER GAME IS CRAZY. OUT HERE – I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE. KEEGAN BRADLEY PROUDLY ROCKS JORDANS ON AND OFF THE COURSE – AND IT’S *HERE* THAT HE WALKED HIS WAY INTO ONE OF HIS MOST SPECIAL WINS YET.

**C2 – KEEGAN BRADLEY PROFILE**

JACQUES SLADE STANDUP : Welcome back to The Cut. Look, if you don’t know by now, my sneaker game is crazy, but out here, I’m not the only one. Keegan Bradley, he rocks Jordans on and off the course and it was here, last year, when he let his inner Jordan come out right in front of his family and friends.

JACQUES SLADE: So Keegan, I know you're sort of a Jordan guy on the footwear side, you have your own custom shoe and we know that. Tatum on the Celtics. He's a Jordan signature athlete as well. Is there any, crossover or some kind of crossover golf basketball shoe thing going on?

KEEGAN BRADLEY: I'm very proud to be with Jordan, and I know Jason is too, so maybe. Who knows, maybe that's a great idea. I'd love to do that.

KEEGAN BRADLEY: Going to Travelers is always an exciting time for me.It was always one that I was circled on the schedule.

KEEGAN BRADLEY: I grew up going to that tournament. I remember getting my tour card and my first thought wasn't, Oh, maybe I'll be able to play the Masters. I was I can't wait to go play Hartford.

KEEGAN BRADLEY: To go there and be able to walk up 18, three shot, lead and enjoy and win with my whole family there, you know, I don't take it for granted.

ANNC: New England’s very own takes the title at the Travelers!

 KEEGAN BRADLEY MEMORIAL CAM A (01:49:21) It was probably the happiest moments of my career I've had bigger wins, but that was my happiest. That was my most joyful winto enjoy with the people of New England and also my family all being there. It was pretty spectacular.

FIRST TEE ANNC: Please welcome our Travelers Championship Defending Champion Keegan Bradley.

AFTER FINISHING THE OPENING 2 ROUNDS AT MINUS 4, BRADLEY MAKES THE TURN SATURDAY WITH A CLEAN SCORECARD….

ANNC: Uh oh. Defending champion starting to feel it here.

**BUT THE BACK NINE PROVES TOUGH HALTING THE DEFENDING CHAMPION AT MINUS 4.**

**C3 – JUSTIN ROSE MINI**

JACQUES SLADE: I'm a sneaker head.

JUSTIN ROSE: Right.

JACQUES SLADE: And I've been noticing you've been rocking a lot of one lows on TOUR.

JUSTIN ROSE: Yes.

JACQUES SLADE: What prompted the change?

JUSTIN ROSE: I've always liked very flat golf shoes. You know, I tend to not like too much of a heel. Just for how it feels with my golf swing and my posture and my balance.

JUSTIN ROSE: I don't really buy into the fact that you need a lot of spikes in there for grip and stability.

JACUES SLADE: Yeah.

JUSTIN ROSE: Sometimes traction in the ground isn't always exactly what you want. I'm a guy that actually moves quite a lot with my feet.

JUSTIN ROSE: They are the golf version, but I mean, so small. The difference between the golf and the actual sneaker. They are pretty much a sneaker.

JACQUES SLADE:. On the on the golf side of things. How do you feel about where where your game is now?

JUSTIN ROSE: Coming off, you know, two tough weeks at Memorial US open at two tough venues, two difficult golf courses. I haven't had my game, unfortunately. And those types of golf courses find you out.

ANNC: So it's bogey five here for Rose

JACQUES SLADE: Coming up to the playoffs, right now, I think you're ranked number 74 and you know, we’ve got to get under the cut which is 70.

JUSTIN ROSE: Yeah. We’re kind of getting into that crunch time in the season now. This week would obviously be huge, elevated event. A few more points. Scottish Open’s, another good opportunity for me, Open Championship. It's up in the air right now whether I'm in that or not. So there might come a point in the next month or so. We'll have to maybe add a couple that I wouldn't historically have played.

ANNC: Just ran out of gas, so Rose going to give one back here.

SITTING AT 7 OVER AFTER THE FIRST TWO ROUNDS, ROSE FINDS HIMSELF OUT OF CONTENTION EARLY BUT BOUNCES BACK WITH A FIVE UNDER SIXTY-FIVE ON MOVING DAY.

ANNC: How about that? Nifty birdie here for Justin Rose.

ANNC: Tom Kim, good birdie there on the tough par 3.

TOM KIM ADDED 6 BIRDIES ON SATURDAY EN ROUTE TO A 65 MAINTAINING A 1-SHOT LEAD OVER CAM YOUNG, AKSHAY BHATIA, AND SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER**.**

**C3 – SERVPRO**

JOSH KELLEY: I’m here at Detroit Golf Club to recreate an incredible recovery shot from SiWoo Kim. This shot was hit in 2021 in tournament play and SiWoo was playing the 7th hole, but he was actually in the sixth fairway. What makes this shot hard is it’s 246 yards. You gotta keep it low, you gotta cut it a little bit so I see why he hit driver off the deck.

JOSH KELLEY: I wasn’t sure why he didn’t go with the 3 Wood but I think the 3 Wood gets too high and hits the trees. SiWoo only had one try at this, but I’m gonna give myself 4 mulligans to pull this off.

JOSH KELLEY: Yeah that one cut a little bit too much and this is why this shot is not easy. Short left. Definitely a little lower than SiWoo hit his.

JOSH KELLEY: Alright we got two more mulligans left. Pressure is starting to mount. Oh it didn’t cut it’s gonna hit that tree, isn’t it? Off the tree, oh! That was wild. I think it’s on the green or on the very edge. Alright this is it, last chance to pull this off.

JOSH KELLEY: Oh! That could be it. Oh it’s cutting a little bit too much. Oh there it is. Hang on. We got it! That’s almost exactly he hit his shot to, back right.

JOSH KELLEY: Alright walking up here, this green is a lot more elevated and undulated than I thought. And this ball is closer than the shot I was trying to hit. That low stinger riser. I think I’m a little closer than he was. But I’m glad I was able to pull it off with my last mulligan. What a fun shot that was to recreate.

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**D1 – JORDAN SPIETH HOLE-OUT**

ANNC: Right at it, right at it. Oh! He’s done it again! Unbelievable. All of these crazy things that have happened here and that might just top them all.

**D2 – STANDUP BRIDGE**

JACQUES SLADE: JORDAN SPIETH’S BUNKER HOLE-OUT IS JUST THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG OF MEMORALE MOMENTS THAT PLAY OUT HERE ON 18. TAKE SAHITH THEEGALA FOR EXAMPLE -- WHO QUICKLY PROVED HE BELONGS ON THE BIG STAGE.

**D3 – SAHITH THEEGALA PROFILE**

ANNC: That's Theegala who is up there with a little bit of trouble unfortunately, at 18 under leading xander Schauffele

SAHITH THEEGALA: 18 is a great example. If you hit the fairway, it's a birdie hole. If you don't, you'd be lucky to make four. And I found out the hard way.

ANNC: Oh, this is dangerous. Oh, no. It just was never a shot. He should have attempted.

SAHITH THEEGALA: That's probably the one shot I regret most in my tour career. Not just wedging that one out and and trying to get up and down from there.

ANNC: Oh, that is cruel. Double bogey at the 72nd hole. And Schauffele now knows that all he needs is par to win the tournament.

ANNC: Xander Schauffele wins the Travelers Championship.

SAHITH THEEGALA: I know how few opportunities there are to win, and that's why something like this is really, really going to hurt. It's really going to hurt, but I'm just going to grow from it. And, I'm really excited to see if I can, you know, do it again. Keep putting myself in these positions.

NOW A WINNER ON THE PGA TOUR, THEEGALA POSTS THREE ROUNDS IN THE SIXTIES AND NEEDS ANOTHER LOW ONE ON SUNDAY

ANNC: That’s a three-putt bogey for Theegala here at 11

BUT FALLS FLAT WITH A FINAL ROUND 72 AND FINISHES T48...AS IT’S TOM KIM AND SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER WHO CLOSE THIS ONE OUT IN STYLE

**D4 – FINAL ROUND FEATURE**

ANNC: Would like to get it closer than 18 the first go-around. Is that any good?! Hit right next to the hole

ANNC: I bet he’s not one bit surprised that Scottie hit it in there close. He knows what he’s got to do

ANNC: oh no...it looks like he’s got a bad lie

ANNC: Scottie Scheffler comes out of the chaos in Connecticut with another tournament title

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: I've been very fortunate to come away with some wins this year and it's been fun. It was a lot of hard work paying off, and so very grateful to have some trophies to show for it.

JACQUES SLADE: SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER ADDS ANOTHER WIN TO HIS IMPRESSIVE SEASON, MAINTAINING HIS LEAD IN THE COMCAST BUSINESS TOUR TOP TEN.

JACQUES SLADE: SCHEFFLER ALSO ADDS TO HIS LEAD IN THE FEDEXCUP STANDINGS, WHILE TOM KIM’S RUNNER-UP FINISH GIVES HIM A MUCH NEEDED BOOST.

**D5 – STANDUP/ROLLOUT/COPYRIGHT**

JACQUES SLADE: THAT DOES IT FOR US HERE AT THE FINAL SIGNATURE EVENT AT THE TRAVELERS CHAMPIONSHIP. IT’S BEEN SUCH AN EPIC RUN FILLED WITH A WHOLE LOT OF MEMORIES, FUN, AND SOME PRETTY GOOD GOLF. WE’VE TAKEN YOU BEHIND THE SCENES AT EVERY SIGNATURE EVENT – AND IT’S SAFE TO SAY – THEY ALL DELIVERED. NEXT UP ON THE SCHEDULE IS THE ROCKET MORTGAGE CLASSIC. AS FOR ME, YOU’LL JUST HAVE TO STAY TUNED. THANKS FOR WATCHING, AND I’LL SEE Y’ALL ON THE FLIP SIDE.