**24CUTWWTC MASTER SCRIPT**

**COLD OPEN**

SOT: *One word to define 2024.* *(EVR writes Courageous on white board)*

ALEX GAUGERT: Courageous is going after something that you know is the odds are against you.

ERIK VAN ROOYEN: I know that if Jon was here, he'd want me to play that way.

ALEX GAUGERT: But your deep, strong-willed mind is like, I can do this.

ERIK VAN ROOYEN: Succumbing to pressure, it's pretty easy to do.

JUSTIN SMITH: Taking on any challenge that comes your way, never living in fear.

ERIK VAN ROOYEN: Playing within yourself. That's what we all strive for.

JACK WETZEL: Stepping out of your comfort zone. Playing for something more than yourself.

ERIK VAN ROOYEN: So playing with courage every single time.

ANNC: The 33-year-old was a star at Minnesota. There is the champ, Erik van Rooyen.

ALEX GAUGERT: Courageous is Trazzy. That’s what he was.

POST ROUND INTERVIEW: When I step onto the golf course it’s focus and it’s “Do it for Trazzy”.

**THE CUT TITLES**

**WELCOME TO PGA TOUR THE CUT**

**ERIK VAN ROOYEN FEATURE**

ERIK VAN ROOYEN: We created a scholarship in his name at the University of Minnesota the goal is to be able to support kids in the golf program and beyond. The biggest hurdle in professional golf is that it's so expensive. Guys graduate from college, they've got no money, they want to pursue a career in golf. So we're trying to create ways in Jon's name to help support kids like that.

JACK WETZEL: I'm a Junior here. I've always wanted to represent my home state playing golf. I got fortunate and just got the opportunity of a lifetime. The scholarship was all pretty recent so it was just cool to see his immediate impact and it pushes me to work hard every day and really make a make an impact on the program.

CAL SIMMONS: I knew John Trasamar very well. Brad James, who was the coach, talked to me about this young man that he thought was had the best swing, that he'd seen anywhere in the country. He redshirted his freshman year.

ALEX GAUGERT: Erik and Jon were roommates, Jon kind of took him under his wing. Erik came here to the US first time Jon drove all the way from Blue Earth couple hours to meet him at the airport.

ERIK VAN ROOYEN: I get off a 20-hour trip. I haven't showered in, like, two days, and he's there.

CAL SIMMONS: Jon didn't come in here an all-American. He worked his way up. He was on the Big Ten championship team and it was that team that John Trasamar was the captain of.

ERIK VAN ROOYEN: He was always just such an example for not only for a guy like me, but the younger guys.

ALEX GAUGERT: 2014 was amazing and it's a memory I'll never forget of Jon, there's a picture of him fist pumping on the 18th green. He was just a grinder and he was always that guy that would squeeze out all the juice out of the orange.

ERIK VAN ROOYEN: I lived in South Africa for five years, right off the college. He was in Scottsdale trying to find his path. And even though I was halfway across the world, we remained close. And we could encourage each other.

CAL SIMMONS: He had this goal to be a PGA TOUR player. That was always his focus. And whatever it took.

ERIK VAN ROOYEN: When he got sick. Jon was still grinding on the mini tours. He was on his way to Q-School, when that all hit. He got surgery, and they put two big pieces of metal in his femur’s, to stabilize it. And when he was recovered, he’d still in practice to work on his swing.

ALEX GAUGERT: I remember at RBC Heritage 2023, we were on a group chat all our teammates and he would update us every now and again and he gave us a clean bill of health. A a couple of months later, wasn't feeling good, and went and got a scan…

ALEX GAUGERT: We got to Mexico and he sent us a group text that he's got 6 to 10 weeks live and we were just like ‘poof’.

ERIK VAN ROOYEN: I'll never forget where I was. I was in the gym here on property, getting ready to come out for my pro-am on the Wednesday when that text came through. I was crying all day during the pro-am, crying in my room so it was really hard.

ALEX GAUGERT: It was a strange dynamic with everything in play with Erik on the bubble of keeping his card, to friend terminally ill, to trying to keep your job on the PGA TOUR.

VAN ROOYEN 2023 SOT: I’ve got a mate that’s really sick and I want to go see him. I’m 125 going into the week so I want to get the job done tomorrow.

ERIK VAN ROOYEN: It's such a strange game because a lot of us out there put your heart and soul into it. Even though it means a lot, it doesn't really matter and something like that happens with your friend. It puts things into perspective immediately.

ALEX GAUGERT: It was just golf wasn't life or death. And what we were dealing with was life or death for a friend. Before a shot, we discussed what we're going to do. And then he goes, all right, let's do it for Trazzy.

ANNC: Playing for something greater than himself now.

ERIK VAN ROOYEN: It's a statistical anomaly, right. To shoot 28 on the back nine and to go a birdie 16, 17, an eagle 18, hugely out of body and, it seems like there was something else in play.

ANNC: With a heavy heart but inspired play it’s Erik van Rooyen here at the WorldWide Technology Championship.

ALEX GAUGERT: We were meant to win that golf tournament. Like Trazzy had some little dust that he was sprinkling on us to win that event. And it was just kind of a final sendoff.

POST ROUND INTERVIEW: I was calm because there’s bigger stuff in life than golf. If you look at my ball we’ve got initials JT and it’s for Jon Trasamar, our best friend, whose got melanoma and he’s not going to make it. And every shot out there today was for him. I wish I could take all his pain away, but we are flying up to Minnesota tomorrow to go see him Tuesday morning, and I’ll give him a high 5 then.

ALEX GAUGERT: Seeing him in the hospital was a very tough day for for all of us. I’m sitting on one of the bed and Erik’s sitting on the other side of the bed. He was frail and he was wounded and you could see how hard he had battled and go in there held his hand and chatted with him for an hour and kind of be in and out but. There was a lot of tears shed, a lot of stories told, and yeah…

ERIK VAN ROOYEN: He was like a brother to me and to all of us. So right off the bat, we all try to find a way to honor him every day. We wanted to create a way to give someone else the opportunity that he had, that I had, that Alex had.

ALEX GAUGERT: Do it for Trazzy.

CAL SIMMONS: Do it for Trazzy.

CAL SIMMONS: I wanted the young men that are coming into the program to know what the best look like.

JUSTIN SMITH: Do it for Trazzy.

JUSTIN SMITH: Right to the end, Jon was playing competitive golf and professional golf and Jack is Gopher golf through and through. The leadership qualities in the constant pursuit of excellence and the ability to want to play this game for the rest of their lives competitively right fit right alongside with Jon Trasamar stood for.

JACK WETZEL: Do it for Trazzy.

JACK WETZEL: I just try to be as productive and purposeful as possible. If you have that bigger thing in the back of your mind, that's pushing you, it for us is powerful. Making the most of my time here is what I see as paying back to him.

ALEX GAUGERT: This scholarship is really going to prove his legacy and what he stood for.

JUSTIN SMITH: It's going to live on forever and we'll do our best to carry on his voice, his vision, and his impact.

ALEX GAUGERT: We wear these wristbands, “be like Trazzy” that encourages us all to do the right thing, it’s what he has kind of instilled in a lot of us. He touches us almost every day.

ERIK VAN ROOYEN: It's almost like a mantra now that reminds us of him. The biggest thing we've probably learned from it is how little time we have because you just don’t know what’s going to happen. So, even though Trazzy is not here anymore, he's still with us.

ERIK VAN ROOYEN: Do it for Trazzy.

**NOAH KAHAN AT SAWGRASS**

**VO: GRAMMY-NOMINATED MUSICIAN NOAH KAHAN PARTICIPATED IN THE EL CARDONAL CELEBRITY PRO-AM PRESENTED BY CISCO AT THE WORLD WIDE TECHNOLOGY CHAMPIONSHIP….BUT WHEN HE HEADLINED A MUSIC FESTIVAL NEAR TPC SAWGRASS, KAHAN COULDN’T RESIST GETTING SOME PRACTICE IN ON THE BACK NINE.**

NOAH KAHAN NAT: Don't want to pull a Sahith Theegala and tell the truth. Okay, see you later. Damn it.

NOAH KAHAN SOT: I play a lot. Should be much better.

NOAH KAHAN: NAT: No way.

NOAH KAHAN SOT: I have a lot of fun. I love it so much. It makes me really happy. And I'm slowly improving.

NOAH KAHAN NAT: You're all signing NDAs.

NOAH KAHAN SOT: I shot 88 earlier in the summer. Not to brag. Today is looking like it could be 100, maybe more. But it's a hard course.

NOAH KAHAN NAT: Yes. Our game is tight right now. We're playing for a membership. I forgot to tell the clubhouse at the beginning of the round.

NOAH KAHAN NAT: Wow. Last 17 Sawgrass, boys. Wow. So. I'm so nervous. Especially after that last hole. I would just love to put it on the green the first time, but I'll be honest with you, I will be asking you guys to edit it. to whatever. I'm gonna probably hit 12 shots and just pretend it was my first try.

NOAH KAHAN FRIEND NAT: Just looks so easy.

NOAH KAHAN NAT: I know.

NOAH KAHAN NAT : Stupid smelly loser. Everyone hates your music. Oh, same thing I was pulling. First shot at 17. First time ever playing the hole emphasizing this is my first shot here. Oh. Oh, it's still sitting. Stupid. You're weird. Everyone hates you. All right.

NOAH KAHAN FRIEND: Imagine doing this in front of, like, a thousand people dude.

NOAH KAHAN SOT: No. Golf is the easiest sport ever. The more strokes you have, the better you do. I seem to kill that so far. I don't know what Scottie Scheffler is doing. He keeps shooting like, 60,59. I’ve been getting 107 every day. Beat his ass. Cut that out. Golf is really easy because it's always the same. Nothing changes. Every day your swing is the same. Every club you hit good, you hit good every time. I love it because it's an escape for me, especially on tour. It's great to get out and play golf. It's. I don't know, I usually like to be pretty good at things that I do, but I like I'm so bad at golf but I still want to play it every day, which is a fun thing. It's fun to know that you're terrible at something and still enjoy it.

NOAH KAHAN NAT: That's all there is to it. First try try. First try. Player A always wins. Green at TPC Sawgrass 17. Wow.

NOAH KAHAN SOT: I'm on the green in four. It's like my putting is actually the only thing that I feel pretty confident about. It'll be great to jar this one. I'm just gonna keep it. Gotta keep it short or got to keep it before. I don't know. I am just going to hit the ball.

NOAH KAHAN NAT: Dude, he does it at 17. Let's go. That. That's our first two of the day. That's such an awesome hole. I'll play that over and over again. I was so worried about shanking it that I was, like, hitting it. I was trying to hit it, so left. And then seven times later and then when I played with Wyndham Clark, they were like, just come play golf for we’re just chillin. I get there and it's literally 25 people, a cameraman Wyndham Clark. I got the Shanks live on camera. The top comment was whenever Noah swings, my lawnmower starts.

NOAH KAHAN NAT: It's actually not bad.

NOAH KAHAN SOT: I started playing golf during Covid. Fell in love with it. Played soccer growing up. And so like golf scratches that competitive itch and touring is so much like monotony, golf really breaks it up. And I get the privilege to play a bunch of really nice courses and break the course record high every time. I'm more nervous on hole one of a municipal course than I am you know, when I’m at Madison Square Garden. You should always have balance in your life, and golf provides me a lot of balance. So I love playing golf the day of the show. It allows me to step away from the tour for a second, to feel like I'm doing something that is totally separate.

NOAH KAHAN NAT: It's definitely the right side.

NOAH KAHAN SOT: I feel like with the camera on me, the camera adds 15 pounds and takes off 15 yards, so I might try to come up a little bit.

NOAH KAHAN NAT: Got a putt for par.

NOAH KAHAN NAT: All right. That’s a five. Good playing buddy.

NOAH KAHAN FRIEND NAT: Thanks, bro.

NOAH KAHAN NAT: Yeah. Always a blast.

NOAH KAHAN FRIEND NAT: Always, baby.

**SERVPRO**

**VO: THE CUT PRESENTS RAPID RECOVERY**

**VO: IN THE SECOND ROUND OF THE 20-23 WORLD WIDE TECHNOLOGY CHAMPIONSHIP, LUKE LIST CAUGHT THE WRONG PART OF THE GREEN ON THE PAR THREE 11TH.**

ANNC: Races that one by. What will it do? It will not stay there//he certainly took that flag on, just caught that downslope bit of an unlucky bounce.

**VO: MISSING THE GREEN LONG MIGHT HAVE RESULTED IN A CHALLENGING RECOVERY BUT NOT FOR LIST.**

ANNC**:** This is where it came to rest and oh haha that’s how you make a two. That was just so good.

**WINNERS PIEÇE**

ANNC: Eckroat just looks to be to be pretty unstoppable right now.

AUSTIN ECKROAT: I was lights out today, I couldn't miss. For it to still be tight, it was tough to win out there, so I was very fortunate for it to go my way. Yeah, very happy.

ANNC: Every time we see his face, Austin is smiling. He seems very comfortable, very relaxed.

AUSTIN ECKROAT: I was never nervous today, which was really weird. until the very end.

ANNC: 25-year old from Edmund, Oklahoma, a two-time winner on the PGA TOUR and in 2024 .

AUSTIN ECKROAT: You get that first win. You know, you make a joke that maybe this open the floodgates and you know, they're going to start crying. And, you know, I think that second win kind of, you know, solidifies that you can win on the PGA TOUR. You can't just say it was lucky this time

ANNC: Austin Eckroat finishes up at twenty- four under after a brilliant 63.

**FEDEXCUP FALL GFX**

**VO: ALREADY INSIDE THE TOP 50 AT SEASON’S END, AUSTIN ECKROAT’S POSITION DID NOT CHANGE WITH THE WIN, BUT THE PRESSURE IS ON FOR OTHERS WITH THE FEDEXCUP FALL WINDING DOWN.**

**BIRDIES FORE LOVE GFX**

**VO: AND IN THE BIRDIES FORE LOVE CONTEST, RICO HOEY MAINTAINS THE LEAD WITH 119 BIRDIES OR BETTER WITH ONLY 2 EVENTS REMAINING.**

**BIRDIES FORE LOVE UPDATE-COREY CONNERS**

**VO: WHEN COREY CONNERS WON THE OVERALL BIRDIES FORE LOVE COMPETITION IN 2020, HE WAS ABLE TO MAKE A LASTING IMPACT ON HIS HOMETOWN.**

ANNC: There you go. That’s a very strong finish for Corey Conners.

COREY CONNERS: Pretty awesome to. You know, I’ve played pretty solid today and got enough birdies.

COREY CONNERS: A portion of our birdies fore love winnings went to start our own foundation back home in Listowel Ontario, Canada in the local community in hopes to help support kids in sports and education. Listowel’s not very big. It’s a small town in southwestern Ontario. It’s home for me. The foundation my wife and I created it’s called the Corey and Mallory Conners Family Foundation and basically the goal is to help support the community and kids especially in education and athletics.

HEIDI CULLITON: As a community foundation, we help donors to create giving funds. And those funds support community projects and initiatives that the donor has a very close connection to. Corey and Mallory have supported many projects. Locally, they have supported a playground to improve the accessibility for that playground, a new swing set for one of the largest schools in our region.

HEIDI CULLITON: Also, they have contributed to a park. It’s a memorial park that will be used by the community.

JEFF NEWELL: So right now, we’re on the site of the original Listowel Memorial Arena. There was a tragic incident back in 1959 where the roof collapsed and a number of children and recreation director lost their lives. What we’ve wanted to do is commemorate this place and make it a place of reflection as well as passive recreation for the community and visitors just in a way to honor those people that lost their lives there and the effect that its had on our community and this is just a positive way to recognize the importance of that loss in our community.

HEIDI CULLITON: There is a new program locally that is called the Imagination Library and Corey and Mallory were one of the first donors to help launch this program here in Listowel and the surrounding region. And currently there’s close to 600 children that are already participating, so its an incredible impact on the community.

COREY CONNERS: Without the RSM Birdies Fore Love, I don’t think the Corey and Mallory Conners Family Foundation where it is today. You know it got us off to a great start and gave us some resources that were very needed and we’ve been able to continue to grow that and this definitely wouldn’t have happened without RSM Birdies Fore Love.

**SIMPSON CUP**

NICK KIMMEL: Hi, My name is Nick Kimmel. I was a sergeant in the United States Marine Corps.

NICK KIMMEL: On my second deployment to Afghanistan, we were building a patrol base, and I was putting the roof on a guard post. And when I jumped off the piece of heavy equipment, I landed on a 48 pound IED, which, took both my legs above the knee and my left arm above the elbow.

PRODUCER: Where do you think you'd be right now without golf?

NICK KIMMEL: Dead. I think without golf, I probably would have been a statistic.

NICK KIMMEL: As a veteran and an injured veteran. Golf is probably one of the best things I've come across for physical and mental rehab. In 2019, got introduced to the on course foundation, which then brought me back into competitive golf. And now here we are. It's it's quite an experience being able to play at such a high level, at such pinnacle, just iconic golf courses. This is probably going to top the list here at Shinnecock.

JOHN SIMPSON: I put a charity together called the On Course Foundation, and we launched it in 2010, in the UK and 2012 in America. And we teach golf to injured servicemen on a long term basis. So we teach them the rules, the history and etiquette.

ANNC: He just wants to inspire the wounded soldiers

CHAD PFIEFER: The Simpson Cup is you know it's one of the best events.

NICK KIMMEL: This is one of the few tournaments that's strictly military along the adaptive circuit.

MIKE BROWNE: This is the cream of the crop, this event, we try all year for it and, to qualify. It just means a lot to a lot of us. it's the best week of the year for us.

NICK KIMMEL: The competition and the camaraderie is at the highest peak level. You'll see these are definitely some of the best. adaptive golfers in the world. and then you get that camaraderie, part because not only are we all adaptive, we're all military.

CHAD PFIEFER: Guys from both sides of the pond, you obviously create a special bond with the US guys, But at the same time, you get to know the team GB and their players and their captains.

NICK KIMMEL: There's no separation between countries. If you're if you chose to stand up and raise your hand and serve your country, you have that natural internal bond.

NICK KIMMEL:. But then when you come into the competition, it's it's interesting because, everyone wants to win and everyone has that alpha bravado, you know, that the military draws. You get some exciting golf.

**VO: AFTER THE UNITED STATES TOOK AN EARLY 4- 2 LEAD DURING 4-BALL, GREAT BRITAIN CAME BACK DURING SINGLES PLAY TO TIE THE MATCH AND RETAIN THE TROPHY.**

**LOOKAHEAD- BERMUDA**

ANNC: Back in beautiful Bermuda for the Butterfield Bermuda Championship. Pink sand beaches.

ANNC: A place that could hold a special spot for Camilo Villegas. Looking for his first PGA TOUR win since 2014.

ANNC: Camilo Villegas is back in the winner’s circle, and this one’s for Mia.

SEAMUS POWER: It's one of those weeks you look forward to. There's something about the island that's nice.

ANNC: Irish eyes are smiling on Power in Bermuda.

RYAN MOORE: This place is pretty spectacular. The golf course is a really good, little golf course. I know it's short by our standards, but generally, you know, with some wind and with some tough angles. You've got to be mindful of where you're putting it and give yourself chances that way.

BEN GRIFFIN: The stretch of 13 through 16 is what catches most people's eyes around this golf course. Those are some of the hardest holes, maybe the pivotal holes coming down the stretch, those are ones that you need to make pars or give yourself birdie chances on.

This course kind of tailors towards a lot of wedges. My game fits perfectly. My eyes, I mean, just seeing shots and feeling shots with the wind.

ANNC: Third shot. Got that to turn over a bit to the left. This is pretty good. Might be enough. There it is. Woah. What a shot.

ANNC: The Bryan brothers both made the cut on the number. Pretty cool.

WESLEY BRYAN: Pretty special just to be able to tee it up on the PGA TOUR with him. That's nothing that can be taken away from us moving forward. To be able to say that we did that together is pretty daggum special.

SEAMUS POWER: It's one of those weeks you look forward to. There's something about the island that's nice and honestly just can’t wait to come bac

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