

Production Transcript for **26INTCUTKF - ADVENTHEALTH CHAMPIONSHIP**

[00:00:29.680]>>And the Korn Ferry Tour proudly present.

[00:00:33.130]>>First round coverage of the Advent Health Championship from Blue Hills Country Club.

[00:00:40.529]>>Been a part of this great event since 2019. Seventh time Blue Hills has hosted this tournament. A look at downtown Kansas City in the distance, the city of fountains, 200 or so fountains.

[00:00:52.779]>>Involved in and around Kansas City. Football team I hear is pretty good as well. Focused on this great golf tournament. Locals love it. golf course, one of the more difficult they play each year. Last year, the 6th toughest on the schedule, and we mentioned it, this is the 21st event of the season, and then we got 4 Finals events.

[00:01:11.720]>>And then we hand out a whole lot of PGA TOUR cards for next season, a very important year as we get set for 2027, of course, the change is coming to the PGA TOUR, but let me just tell you, ideal conditions right now in terms of weather, mid-70s, maybe the perfect golfing weather.

[00:01:34.690]>>Davis Shore

[00:01:37.949]>>I keep the speed up on this one. Perfect.

[00:01:51.050]>> Chirravuri rolls that in at 13th.

[00:01:54.260]>>Coming out of PGA TOUR University this year, finish 8th.

[00:02:11.479]>>It's coming.

[00:02:14.429]>>He liked it. Nice high draw into that flag.

[00:02:22.210]>>Now this is that putt at 16, player, play this high enough, breaks off the world that last couple of feet, no issues for sure.

[00:02:43.380]>>Morrison, it's just, it's a traditional beautiful golf swing.

[00:02:47.679]>>And he gets it done on the greens.

[00:02:50.339]>>Once played with Ben Crenshaw when he was 15, and he said to Crenshaw after the round, what should I do with my putting, and Crenshaw looked at him and said, nothing.

[00:03:01.970]>>back over to the 16th, Chirravuri trying to get to 8 under, right in the middle.

[00:03:12.690]>>Let's go to 18.

[00:03:14.750]>>Shaw out is for birdie, it's 6 under.

[00:03:20.529]>>Good looking, good looking, right in the middle, excellent roll.

[00:03:34.970]>>James, you mentioned that victory at the Dunlop Phoenix from this young man, lone amateur to ever win that golf tournament, and you talk about some of the names.

[00:03:53.410]>>We've seen birdies go in from everywhere. Chirravuri opportunity up and over here at 17 to get to 9 under.

[00:04:01.470]>>Looks really good, yep. Another one goes.

[00:04:16.220]>>I mean that was never missing, a lot of speed, 9 under par, and you're still a couple back of the guy you're playing alongside.

[00:04:28.750]>>He's playing the last, he's at 12, I need to find another one, get within shouting distance.

[00:04:35.989]>>An excellent role at the last 15th start of his season out on the Korn Ferry Tour.

[00:04:46.750]>>So you're referring now to

[00:04:48.589]>>Save his par

[00:04:51.220]>>OK.

[00:04:53.480]>>63 out of the gate.

[00:05:00.000]>>I think they're a little worried about the spin if they get it too far up here with the wedge. This one shouldn't have quite as much rip on it here, although the wind is starting to hurt just a little bit.

[00:05:11.380]>>That is perfectly dolled up. It's gonna have an excellent look.

[00:05:16.989]>>Yeah, beautiful wedge shot in there controlled the spin perfectly dead pin high. Look here to, to cap off a pretty phenomenal opening round as well. He's been spot on with his iron since we picked up this group and, uh, he's had a good look at this one and, uh, trying to put a bow on this opening round.

[00:05:39.209]>>Bangs in the back. That is a 10 under par 62.

[00:05:47.010]>>You shot 10 under, how'd you do against everybody you played with? Well, I beat one guy by 8 and then I lost to the other guy. Welcome to professional golf. Shane, 17 under par won this tournament last year, even par was a cut, uh, we're on pace for a 6 under cut. These guys are just lighting it up. Jose and now I gotta refocus. It's about 4 ft up the hill, this to close around to 60.

[00:06:15.660]>>The patience there with that last throw, I know we wanted one batter, but a 60, his career best on the Korn Ferry Tour, and for a man well outside that top 20 position on the points list, important as he wraps up his regular season with something special, and he got it today, James. I think if someone were to tell him before he teed off in this opening round, hey, do you wanna hit 4 fairways today and shoot 60, he'd be like, ah yes, I'll gladly take that.

[00:06:43.760]>>So I just got it done on the greens as well. So a 60 from Kozan, 62, Yuta playing alongside him, Jake Hart the 3rd earlier finishing up with a 62 himself.

[00:07:03.709]>>7th year that Blue Hills has been the host, great look of downtown Kansas City and this golf course, more demanding off the tee than most can see on the Korn Ferry Tour. A day ago, players ripping it up. We saw a 60, saw a couple of 62s, scoring not as low today, but still available if you're finding fairways.

[00:07:46.809]>>I love his wedge action. I mean, we talked about it before, how he's got to clean it up with more of his mid irons, but a tour tied for the most ever, and none when he's just out playing with his buddies. I know you've got like 50 double eagles when you've just

been out messing around with the crew, 1 on the Korn Ferry Tour. Grand core. Yep, great role.

[00:08:11.589]>>Looking to pay off that huge drive and that great wedge shot where he controlled the spin this one down the hill, yeah, no problems, no problems.

[00:08:20.190]>>You know, how positive you need to stay for so long, you never know when you're gonna turn it around with a couple of birdies.

[00:08:26.720]>>Another great 3 here at the 16th, Paw.

[00:08:35.119]>>Towards the hole as well.

[00:08:43.510]>>Spinning the hole.

[00:08:45.710]>>There we go.

[00:08:47.820]>>I.

[00:08:50.280]>>Looks like a new man, passed a couple of swings after he made that pass save.

[00:08:56.559]>>Yeah, it got nearly 1 inch of rain overnight from Tuesday into Wednesday. Golf course had been pretty dry before that. Yep. And then, I mean now you get perfect conditions with humidity that just sits in the air. Another confident swing from Francoeur.

[00:09:13.780]>>Back at the 15th, John Marshall Butler trying to continue his tear on this Friday, good looking putt.

[00:09:21.719]>>That central.

[00:09:32.130]>>Nicely done, yep, gotta make those.

[00:09:36.340]>>And you're tight, another opportunity for a 2.

[00:09:40.890]>>Of course, 4 straight for Bramlett. How about the run? Not the best spot in the world, 50 yards from the rough, very little green to work with. I think this is when you just take your medicine and try to give yourself a look.

[00:09:54.590]>>Or take a right at it. That is spectacular. Just drink the poison.

[00:10:01.390]>>With a little eagle chip here, perfect place to play from like we've been talking about with the wedges, just got to control the spin.

[00:10:14.419]>>Yeah, straight down the hill, down the hill, and I feel like he'd feel like he was stealing one. What a shot he hit on that 3rd, and this is on a good line. How about it?

[00:10:23.789]>>Unlikely, needed, what an up and in.

[00:10:33.380]>>Birdie, birdie, birdie to finish for Alistair Docherty.

[00:10:37.570]>>Back at the 7th, Francoeur actually putting for par, and out of position with the 2nd.

[00:10:45.510]>>Oh, sure.

[00:10:50.000]>>And get this up-and-down and tie for the lead.

[00:11:01.929]>>Nice shot.

[00:11:04.320]>>You know, just all these guys, it's such a, a really exciting young group of guys.

[00:11:11.330]>>So here we are, John Marshall Butler, trying to close with a birdie, does just that, really nice up and in, so.

[00:11:22.489]>>Lammer trying to continue the perfect start to his day.

[00:11:33.989]>>And he does. How about that? Birdie birdie out of the gate.

[00:11:39.159]>>I think it's maybe a little different these days, Nitty with 20 cards. Is that fair to say just because of the volatility of it? Yes. Understanding that you do, it's almost like this week, right? You've gotta keep pushing up the board.

[00:11:50.130]>>Golf on PGA TOUR Americas this season, 8 starts over there, 3 top 25s.

[00:11:57.059]>>Since thirty-seventh on their points list.

[00:12:01.080]>>And that's another great role, Scott, just calmly pouring one in. Yeah, watch out for Sandy Scott, especially at the end of the year.

[00:12:12.960]>>The stars are out here on the 12 tee, I'll tell you that.

[00:12:17.080]>>Dossey hit in the uh in a divot in the fairway on the last hole and then hit a beautiful shot and missed so he might be running a little warm right now directly at the pin just in just in front of that slope.

[00:12:32.130]>>A lot of the really tall guys, you know, Tommy's 6'9, you know, even a Christo Lamprecht, the swing looks different from the tall guys. This is the first really tall guy I've seen as a pro that has a relatively normal movement. He has a pretty swing, right, um, great tempo, doesn't look like he's having to go down to get the ball, like you said, from Lampret.

[00:13:00.109]>>Oh, Dossey.

[00:13:03.409]>>a really good line here, it gets there, oh, it does, walking it in.

[00:13:09.219]>>Beautiful too.

[00:13:10.960]>>This group off and running.

[00:13:18.440]>>Winding down our coverage on a Friday, Advent Health Championship, final regular season event of the year on the Korn Ferry Tour, and we've seen some great play Nitties. I mean, 15 under 4 guys, halfway mark already touching that, nearly seen a 59 this week.

[00:13:33.770]>>And we're not done that yet, yet either, scoring average is shade under 4 under par. Yesterday it was well over 4 under par, you're thinking you have to go out and average is shooting 4 under each day, it just shows how competitive and deep this field is at a course where once again the cut was even par last year, it shouldn't be playing this easy, and it is.

[00:14:12.539]>>3rd round of the Advent Health Championship, Blue Hills Country Club, Kansas City, Missouri.

[00:14:18.900]>>And I'll tell you what,

[00:14:21.159]>>Got to get used to watching a whole lot of golfers near the top of the leaderboard. We got a bunched board in this 3rd round, 4 tied at 18 under par.

[00:14:29.859]>>And a hosted 17 under, Currently 17 players within 2 of the lead. Shane Bacon with the 2011 champion of this great event, James Nitties, Drew Stoltz down on the ground, getting a little weekend work in.

[00:14:44.250]>>Few and far between for our guy Stoltzy.

[00:14:47.619]>>Last grouping, Joseph Bramlett, a part of it, this is his bid at the 7.

[00:14:55.049]>>That's what he needs to do, does everything great, does Bramlett, it's just on the greens. He can get a lot of those putts to go, he's always gonna be in contention.

[00:15:06.960]>>It's been a crazy week of scoring on a golf course that typically is one of the toughest all season on the Korn Ferry Tour, not the case this week. We have seen a 60 out of the gate.

[00:15:18.190]>>Go and did that on Thursday, near 59, needed a birdie at the last to do that, a par 5, made par.

[00:15:25.070]>>Seen some great scoring.

[00:15:27.270]>>Each of the first two days, much of the same today.

[00:15:31.260]>> Chirravuri out early.

[00:15:34.270]>>Well ahead of leaders, and he's putting together a beautiful round of golf, as is Peter Herubi, he's right there, 8 under par in his round of golf with a couple of holes left to play. Peter has not made anything but 3 on this back nine.

[00:15:48.969]>>To this point,

[00:15:51.799]>>Over to the 11th.

[00:15:53.909]>> Hunter Wolcott, longest player on the Korn Ferry Tour this season, averaging, averaging that he's 334 per poke off the tee. I'm surprised he had this far left in the short 11th and like 6 iron off the tee or what?

[00:16:14.270]>>Yeah, and coming off a short miss for birdie on the last hole, hit it in there about 6 ft and missed this hole playing 228 today, the longest of the par 3s here at Blue Hills.

[00:16:25.950]>>Mm.

[00:16:28.380]>>buddy.

[00:16:29.739]>>too.

[00:16:31.250]>>Do you like that Frank.

[00:16:43.039]>>I'm looking here. Yeah, walking right in.

[00:16:47.219]>>Sensational 2 on the lengthy par 3.

[00:16:53.229]>>Happy to see him in full health.

[00:16:56.109]>>Now Dixon, to match the two from Butler. There we go.

[00:17:00.500]>>Hadn't seen many today at 8. Got a couple out of our final grouping.

[00:17:05.719]>>Thomas stuck in neutral a bit in this 3rd round, just wanted to par.

[00:17:10.568]>>On his day.

[00:17:13.588]>>Just feel like.

[00:17:17.109]>>Feel that

[00:17:19.040]>>Something had to happen for him.

[00:17:22.760]>>Take a turn, pick up a few more, go up to 11.

[00:17:26.619]>>Sugiura

[00:17:30.079]>>Spin this one in there. Short par 4, there we go, like that, exactly, kind of like that, yep.

[00:17:39.099]>>Go back to 8 Chirravuri, who is finishing.

[00:17:42.489]>>This Saturday on this front side.

[00:17:45.219]>>Anywhere on the surface here, from 228.

[00:17:55.099]>>You to now trying to pay off that great wedge shot.

[00:17:58.680]>>So, add another birdie and shout out to Logan Spurlock and his team this week, just like putting on carpets.

[00:18:13.069]>>I mean, another one. We we keep talking about the 8th green for whatever reason.

[00:18:18.329]>>It's just a snack for these talented players. Yeah, you have been just knocking flagsticks down, walking putts in.

[00:18:27.390]>>Pretty comfortable back-to-back birdies.

[00:18:33.750]>>That's one of those putters that's so big, the caddie goes, you sure you wanna use this one? Weigh the bag down.

[00:18:39.719]>>Knock it in, come on, yeah.

[00:18:42.410]>>Whatever works, Jane.

[00:18:50.109]>>Still an opportunity for Birdie. He's trying to make this.

[00:18:54.699]>>Sure. Just another 4, another birdie, outright leader.

[00:19:05.520]>>Yeah, Yuta is leading, picking up within 7 shots on the field with the putter, Zack Fischer rolling that in.

[00:19:12.750]>>Round going for Fischer.

[00:19:17.160]>>He's got to be looking to make up for that here.

[00:19:22.770]>>That was a quick walk.

[00:19:47.969]>>As for 64, that is one way to finish off.

[00:19:56.729]>>After running that eagle putt just by, I tell you, this kid has been consistent this season, hasn't he, James?

[00:20:03.170]>>And he's progressively got better since his rookie year.

[00:20:08.979]>>He that roar earlier. This is Francoeur at 14, long range, fans just.

[00:20:15.670]>>I Want to get excited about something, this will help.

[00:20:18.640]>>Drippy.

[00:20:20.670]>>Here we go, that gets back that short miss of the previous hole, see one go down.

[00:20:27.989]>>17 for Sugiura out of position back at 16.

[00:20:36.750]>>Looking straight down at it.

[00:20:38.849]>>Breeze helping. There we go.

[00:20:44.160]>>At a clinic with the irons today, Yuta has had so many inside 8 ft for birdie.

[00:20:54.079]>>Came into the week

[00:20:56.089]>>Just outside looking in, thirty-fifth on the points list.

[00:21:01.650]>>There we go.

[00:21:15.650]>>17, Yuta short putt here.

[00:21:19.489]>>And another birdie.

[00:21:28.250]>>Now, sure.

[00:21:30.880]>>At the green, good looking, good looking, there we go.

[00:21:37.390]>>OK.

[00:21:41.839]>>Not taking much time at all either. Straight over it here, doesn't do a lot from this part of the green.

[00:21:59.160]>>Put himself in a real position come tomorrow, pick up that first career win.

[00:22:05.150]>>64

[00:22:10.530]>>Out of position

[00:22:12.130]>>Like you to earlier.

[00:22:15.660]>>Anything hole high within 20 ft here's a good shot, just like that. Up on that top level.

[00:22:24.209]>>Be a broadcasted event this season.

[00:22:32.250]>>Potential to get in that final grouping tomorrow if this goes.

[00:22:44.910]>>He's getting faster and hitting the ball longer than he did in his late twenties, and straighter and straighter. The accuracy's off the charts for those speeds.

[00:22:55.910]>>Straight in the back.

[00:23:02.670]>>That's about how the day has gone for Bramlett.

[00:23:09.729]>>2nd round and a great front nine today.

[00:23:13.109]>>Pulled off over these final 9 holes, Shane he's had about 4 putts of that length, and they've all missed left on this back nine.

[00:23:23.300]>>Mentioned the full swing was missing left, the putt's missing a little low as well. Still incredible opportunity come Sunday here at the Advent Health Championship for John Marshall Butler, who came into the week 60th on the points list to make a real push up the board, potentially get that first win.

[00:23:42.410]>>And who knows, could lead to a PGA TOUR card. Got 18 left to give out, but it's gonna be a battle between Yuta, who was impressive with the irons.

[00:23:52.310]>> Sugiura leading 64 after that 62 on Thursday.

[00:23:58.250]>>Had a full season on the Korn Ferry Tour, has had success worldwide, looking to continue that.

[00:24:05.069]>>Out here, Blades Brown, a moment a day ago where he's battling to make the cut, now just outside the top 10, looking to add more points to an incredible season.

[00:24:24.219]>>Final round of the AdventHealth Championship as we wrap up the Korn Ferry Tour season.

[00:24:29.219]>>Shane Bacon alongside James Nitties and John Marshall Butler, who was so hot a day ago on this front nine. James with the putter pours one in there at the 5th. Made a couple of long ones on this front nine yesterday, didn't he? Another one there. Started the day 1 off the lead. Now how about some of the players chasing? Sandy Scott started the day 7 back, this at 15, calmly rolls that in for another birdie, gets him to 8 under on the day, and Sandy Scott pushing up this leaderboard.

[00:24:58.219]>>As is so many names, of course, everybody chasing Yuta Sugiura, this at the 7th from 154.

[00:25:06.170]>>Lived in the fairway in round 3 and executed with fantastic line shots like that 1. 24-year-old from Japan, first full season on the Korn Ferry Tour, looking for that win. And how about Austin Hitt, much like Sandy Scott making a move this at 13. Seeing eagles here today, James, and we get another one that from Hitt. I mean, you talk about needing a big week, had just one top 10 this season on the Korn Ferry tours, played good as of late, and now hit at 14 to get the 9-under on the day.

[00:25:36.390]>>Rolls this one in, catches that left side, that's that new putter he put in this time last year, there's a big change, working today.

[00:25:45.239]>>So birdies dropping from all over the place. Now Yuta at the 8th.

[00:25:53.160]>>Been very impressive.

[00:25:54.979]>>Won one of the biggest events on the Japan Golf Tour a few years ago as an amateur turned professional right after and now getting an opportunity to go up against the best on the Korn Ferry Tour, and he's been impressive. The question is what's that winning score gonna be? We have seen incredibly low scoring around Blue Hills Country Club.

[00:26:29.010]>>As we go back out to some of the play here at Blue Hills, great approach there from Yuta.

[00:26:35.050]>>I mean that's where he was perfect from yesterday in the fairway, it just, and that's his strength, doesn't hit as far as these other guys, but showing it there.

[00:26:44.310]>>Lost and Hitt, Currently your leader.

[00:26:47.839]>>Outside opportunity for Austin Hitt to.

[00:26:51.250]>>Roll that one in. If he birdied out, it would be 59.

[00:26:57.530]>>Could potentially be the 2nd.

[00:26:59.500]>>In the last few weeks, now Blades Brown, there we go, that club heating up is good signs for Blades fans. It creeps into the top 10 now.

[00:27:08.979]>>you know.

[00:27:19.770]>>Come on, Austin Hitt.

[00:27:28.890]>>And Butler, who had not made a bogey all week, and dropped his first shot on the 9th hole on Sunday. Now Scott at 18.

[00:27:40.040]>>We back pinned today at 18. James, how many birdie putts has he had inside of 6 ft this week? Feels like almost every hole in that one just sneaks from the left side, but he has continued to pepper the flagstick.

[00:27:58.369]>>Slow on this back shelf, up and over.

[00:28:03.359]>>Looks good, yes.

[00:28:06.000]>>The Scotsman gets it to go here at 18, what a finish.

[00:28:13.089]>>Right.

[00:28:17.239]>>Those names, and we have seen putts dropped from all over the place on these perfect Blue Hills greens.

[00:28:29.140]>>Just gonna continue to try to apply the pressure. Just 3 good opportunities, give yourself a chance.

[00:28:37.280]>>Like that, just like that, Shane. Absolute dart from here.

[00:28:42.989]>>Back here at the 10th, both Butler and Fischer have great looks for birdie, Yuta, in that greenside bunker.

[00:28:50.680]>>I know

[00:28:57.380]>>Now Hitt.

[00:28:59.130]>>Trying to get to 11 under par, keep that dream alive of posting 59. Another birdie for Austin Hitt.

[00:29:10.560]>>The hold on, it's still on that whole location front right at 17, a little more gettable due to trying to save his par at 10.

[00:29:18.089]>>Great up-and-down, be a good statement, considering.

[00:29:22.260]>>Needed that to go

[00:29:25.050]>>You talk about a momentum stopper, unable to get that up and up and in, I'll stop it quickly. now, Butler.

[00:29:34.729]>>No issues there and quick bounce back after the bogey at 9.

[00:29:40.239]>>In the rough, but a great angle for a hit at 17, even to finish birdie birdie for 59.

[00:29:47.949]>>The eye looks OK, angle, not bad either.

[00:29:57.760]>> Sugiura now at the 11th.

[00:30:02.670]>>Yeah, to this pin that looks benign, but there's a little more to it than looks from the middle of the fairway. This is flighted beautifully, trying to control the spin. Will it stay on top?

[00:30:13.209]>>Hitt 17, 59 is still in the cards, gotta make this one, but he's got a chance to win the golf tournament. Yeah. This or eagle the last.

[00:30:23.939]>>I have a little stress

[00:30:26.859]>>Kind of one of those, if you make this, you might win the golf tournament, par saves.

[00:30:33.150]>>And he gets it

[00:30:35.630]>>First stressful moment of the day for Austin Hitt, no issues. He'll head to 18, 11 under on the day.

[00:30:46.739]>>Now Yuta at 11, all the while calmly rolling that in. And after the great par save at the 10th.

[00:30:54.150]>>Into that run of 3 straight, picking up another.

[00:31:10.000]>>How about this shot? How about this round?

[00:31:13.390]>>Absolute dart at the last for hit that.

[00:31:17.489]>>To shoot 60 on this Sunday, they could have just won in the tournament, Shane.

[00:31:23.530]>>Best look at the group, uphill the whole way, not a lot of break in the Putt that I can find.

[00:31:30.930]>>Yeah, good look, good roll.

[00:31:44.089]>>What a round of golf.

[00:31:45.989]>>Just incredible stuff.

[00:31:49.280]>>He'll be waiting around and watching, but Austin Hitt did his work, 29 on the back nine, round of 60.

[00:31:58.030]>>Didn't get his first Korn Ferry Tour victory, now very close indeed to raising that trophy, and closing in style. Chirravuri now at 14, that putter remaining hot, you see the reaction.

[00:32:11.020]>>He's making a push to the finals.

[00:32:15.089]>>Talking low scoring, this guy out of the gate, Jake Card the 3rd, great round of golf to start his week, shot 62.

[00:32:23.819]>>Making some putts late on a Sunday.

[00:32:40.430]>>Good pace here, really nice.

[00:32:44.739]>>You know, what a way to clean up that iron shot off the tee.

[00:32:55.859]>>He's been great on this closing stretch.

[00:32:58.770]>>That's the goal, Shane, 2 shots back, make sure you're within 1 playing the par 5 last, just.

[00:33:05.989]>>Of course, he'd like to finish with a flurry of birdies and take this championship.

[00:33:12.300]>>1.

[00:33:14.119]>>I went right here, right over here. Chirravuri now at 17.

[00:33:21.349]>>Oh yeah, here we go. What a shot, that front right hole location.

[00:33:35.880]>>I.

[00:33:39.229]>>I'm gonna have to watch that one.

[00:33:43.520]>>Gets a little extra on the fairway too.

[00:33:48.030]>>Walmart.

[00:33:53.239]>> Chirravuri here in 17, excellent approach. Putter has been.

[00:33:57.750]>>Molten today that will continue quiet fist pump.

[00:34:21.408]>>There we go, how about it? Just about tie the lead with that approach, wow.

[00:34:33.020]>>Over at 17, playing alongside Peter is Shore.

[00:34:38.500]>>That's a nice birdie.

[00:34:40.550]>>Important birdie there.

[00:34:47.010]>>Now you two to get within 1.

[00:34:53.090]>>Yup.

[00:34:55.600]>>Just a professional hole played.

[00:34:59.100]>>By Yuta, 1 shot back, 2 left.

[00:35:08.120]>>Yeah, less than driver here, just ideally looking to play something up the left side here would give you the best angle to this right pin.

[00:35:23.850]>> Chirravuri

[00:35:28.780]>>He's in now.

[00:35:32.179]>>OK.

[00:35:33.510]>>That's fine.

[00:35:42.340]>>This looks right at it.

[00:35:44.750]>>How about this guy's iron play? Ridiculous.

[00:35:50.310]>>Impressive from the young man. Just been a statement of 18, your hurry, who was.

[00:35:56.439]>>Wayward with that approach, I mean, this is pitch inable, oh my goodness, just about did it.

[00:36:02.449]>>So now at 18, Chirravuri trying to finish it off with the last good stroke. Putter has been.

[00:36:09.239]>>Out of this world all week long. Great week.

[00:36:30.750]>>Buckets.

[00:36:32.610]>>No doubt about it and an opportunity at the last.

[00:36:36.540]>>Birdie and you win. What a run.

[00:36:47.129]>>Co-leader, birdie at the last, you're a champion for the first time on the Korn Ferry Tour.

[00:36:52.649]>>Hm wow.

[00:36:56.239]>>170 mile per hour, a little bit of speed, adrenaline for Yuta.

[00:37:01.179]>>So the question right now, did Austin Hitt do enough to find himself in a playoff or is the 24-year-old U Yuta Sugiura gonna take this thing home? He is on a run. Hitt gonna go trade in the chair for probably a few practice swings and see if he's got extra golf. A man that has known a thing or two about playoffs over the years, understanding the pressures coming down the stretch to win a golf tournament.

[00:37:29.830]>>Appreciate it.

[00:37:32.989]>>Just when you think the week might be over, back to the grind. Austin Hitt, tied for the lead, 12 under par, 60 today, career low on the Korn Ferry Tour. We asked him after the round, best run of your life, and he said, in the under the circumstances, I'd have to say yes, and he might have to play a little more golf.

[00:37:57.500]>>Yuta, coming off back-to-back birdies, knowing 3 straight would make him a winner on the Korn Ferry Tour for the first time, and James, no matter if it's Hitt or Yuta,

would be the 15th first-time winner on the Korn Ferry Tour this season. Yeah, that's incredible. Just so much talent here, you never know which week is gonna be yours and.

[00:38:22.919]>>We talk about Yuta, and he's.

[00:38:27.530]>>Hasn't had a great season, he's had two top 15s, they're his best results, so, and they were months ago, you're talking Argentina and Chile, I mean these are events early in the season, but he has that pedigree and knows how to win, and when he gets in contention, he's,

[00:38:44.830]>>As we've seen in these past few holes, knows how to execute, as I said, that very big win at Dunlop Phoenix, a couple of other wins in the Japan Golf Tour, so.

[00:38:53.879]>>For you to look at to become the 3rd player from Japan to win on the Korn Ferry Tour.

[00:39:00.639]>>Fisher figuring out what to do with the 2nd. Yeah, I think that's I'm absolutely fine.

[00:39:06.199]>>Was that number to the bunker?

[00:39:08.149]>>Uh, 270 to get over it. how much to the Yuta's gonna go.

[00:39:14.449]>>Yeah

[00:39:18.020]>>Yeah, he's ready to fire. Long iron in hand, well over 300 yards to the screen, just looking to lay it up to a number that he's comfortable with.

[00:39:25.399]>>And he's done exactly that, very well struck.

[00:39:28.540]>>that from 351, so position play.

[00:39:32.989]>>Which is exactly what he knew he'd be doing standing on the tee, we've only seen one player get near the green today, that was James Nicholas, hit it over the back, but one for the entire week to find the surface in 2.

[00:39:46.810]>>Austin Hitt

[00:39:48.689]>>Just trying to find that swing that produced one of the rounds of the year on the Korn Ferry Tour. Started the day 6 off the lead, shoots 12 under, still, to this point, not good enough.

[00:40:12.429]>>Two players at 28 under par, one controls his destiny, the other waiting to see.

[00:40:18.750]>>If 60 was good enough, Yuta, ready to rock.

[00:40:51.629]>>You know,

[00:40:59.040]>> Sugiura getting set to play. Fisher did play his 3rd, got a great break off the trees. It was actually headed into the long hay right of the fairway here, hit a tree, knocked it straight down, and he hit his 3rd through the back of the green. We just have a little chip coming up, but now Sugiura, 141 yards uphill the entire way to this back center flag.

[00:41:27.639]>>He's eyeing it, he loves it and he should. What a shot.

[00:41:36.439]>>This kid has been sensational with the irons.

[00:41:40.719]>>One more dart, he's going to have a couple of feet for the win.

[00:41:45.649]>>Birdie the last three holes on the front nine earlier today to give himself an opportunity on this back, potential birdie, 16, 17, and 18 to win by 1. James, what an approach. Especially to execute from 141. Austin Hitt was around 167, a little further back, but.

[00:42:06.750]>>Not an easy flag to get it in there tight from that distance.

[00:42:11.659]>>This young man, impressive.

[00:42:16.260]>>Looks like he just shut the door. The swing in the middle of the round, James, got a little wonky, he was hitting some shots right, got a little loose, but he corrected quickly, and his attitude never changed. Never looked stressed, never looked like he was struggling with the fundamentals of his swing, he was just.

[00:42:34.870]>>Kept on going, slight smile here and there, stayed patient.

[00:42:42.370]>>I'm this proud.

[00:42:44.250]>>Celebrating the play in this moment.

[00:42:47.489]>>Chances of Yuta, I mean, I'd be saying you the man, he is the man right now if he could kick this in.

[00:42:56.290]>>It was Amada back in 2000 who won for the first time.

[00:43:01.409]>>Out of Japan on the Korn Ferry Tour, Nishi in 2024.

[00:43:11.870]>> Sugiura trying to become the 3rd player and he's just a couple of feet away from doing so and you have got to be devastated, James, if you're Austin Hitt putting that round together.

[00:43:23.330]>>Looked like enough for a long time.

[00:43:26.510]>>Especially the birdie, he made himself to close it out and.

[00:43:32.530]>>When you talk about Yuta.

[00:43:36.060]>>The last couple of holes, I mean it was 1 ft, 1 inch at 16.

[00:43:40.949]>>When you hold a 20 footer at 17.

[00:43:44.709]>>And now just this length on 18 to win his first Korn Ferry Tour event.

[00:43:52.969]>>And now Yuta Sugiura, first year on the Korn Ferry Tour, came into the week eighty-fifth on the points list.

[00:44:01.760]>>Just 4 top 25s all season long. One of the greats of the game watching on a man that knows a thing or two about clutching up down the stretch, this to win.

[00:44:13.729]>>For the first time on the Korn Ferry Tour.

[00:44:16.989]>>And that is how you finish in style.

[00:44:20.939]>>Yuta, the latest champion.

[00:44:24.010]>>Picks up his first win as we wrap up the Korn Ferry Tour regular season and he does it with 3 straight to close. 65 for our champion.

[00:44:38.199]>>Up and in from 141 yards, Shane, birdie the last 3 holes. You said it, not in the greatest of form.

[00:44:48.669]>>And now just outside that top 20 looking in on a PGA TOUR card.

[00:44:59.290]>>Got his card this season through Q School, gets the handshake from the legend.

[00:45:07.750]>>When you think about Tom Watson and how he put a big emphasis on traveling around the world and playing golf, you see that impact decade over decade.

[00:45:18.350]>>This kid has won big events, but this sets him into a new stratosphere just outside the top 20 in terms of points, but pushing towards the PGA TOUR card next season. Ishikawa giving him a big hug and a congratulations.

[00:45:37.300]>>What a moment there. um Ishikawa.

[00:45:44.560]>>And he did it in style, Shane, he didn't overpower the golf course like a lot of the other players we see out here on the Korn Ferry Tour. Iron after iron shot.

[00:45:55.239]>>Execution

[00:45:57.800]>>Throwback golfer is you to Sugiura and deserves every bit of this win, the way he did it down the stretch.

[00:46:07.939]>>Well, you think about the approaches you mentioned it down the stretch, 174 on 16, hits it to a foot.

[00:46:15.110]>>17, 178, hits it inside of 20 ft, 18, I mean, it wasn't a flip wedge, you're talking, you know, 9 irons into, you know, a closing par 5, and he stones it, and over the back there is not easy, directly over the flag, and, and we've, we haven't seen many guys get it back to that hole location.

[00:46:38.350]>>So to, to step up and take that chance of getting your first Korn Ferry Tour victory, especially when you haven't had that season that all these other guys who are inside the top 20 on the points list have had, and, and then deliver.

[00:46:50.560]>>Inside 2 ft.

[00:46:53.139]>>Signing a whole bunch of stuff for the fans, a reminder, you gotta go sign that card as well.

[00:46:58.919]>>Shout out Kansas City, a boatload of fans out this weekend.

[00:47:04.010]>>Take it in the action, they got a show. I mean, Austin Hitt, did everything he could down the stretch to give himself a chance to win and finish solo 2.

[00:47:15.139]>>Round of his career.

[00:47:17.649]>>You're right, Shane. All right, time to go off and sign that card. Let's make this official.

[00:47:24.060]>>Don't forget, we've had issues in the past.

[00:47:31.500]>>62, round one, slowed down a little bit with 68 in round two, but then 64 yesterday.

[00:47:39.550]>>And 65.

[00:47:41.639]>>In this final day,

[00:47:44.149]>>Everyone running up that leaderboard.

[00:47:48.409]>>Austin Hitt, positive week for him, heartbreakingly short.

[00:47:53.639]>>Shooting 60 today, but he did everything he could down the stretch, also a birdie at the final hole from 167 yards, I mean, yeah, he had played the last 6 holes 6 under par, give himself an opportunity to win, eagle 13, birdied 14, 15, 16 and 18.

[00:48:10.040]>>Just sometimes you get beat, and this was an example of a player beating the guy that went out and shot the round of the week.

[00:48:20.310]>>Yeah

[00:48:21.399]>>There are moments where someone misses a putt for you to win, and there are moments where you go out and grab it.

[00:48:27.649]>> Sugiura grabbed this golf tournament when it seemed to be slipping away from this final grouping, Butler having his issues, Fischer started to fall off and all the while Yuta patient with the golf swing, even when it got arrant in the middle of the round, some of those swings right as he made the turn, but he figured it out quickly, and that's the type of birdie putt you dream of having to win on the Korn Ferry Tour for the first time.

[00:48:56.600]>>The eyeballs of an eight-time major champion just off the green.

[00:49:00.639]>>All the pressure in the world trying to make a push towards a PGA TOUR car.

[00:49:21.419]>>Yeah.

[00:49:24.340]>>Those tears you hear, James Nittie's crying away his scoring record of this tournament. Lasted 15 years, my friend. I'm, I'm proud of you for 15 years, but, uh, that one is done and dusted. Yuta finishing at 29 under par. Take us through some of the highlights.

[00:49:42.800]>>And you're gonna see a theme here, James, iron play, incredible. Yeah, well, this was the run of 3 birdies in a row on the front nine.

[00:49:52.429]>>Just the sound is perfection, that was at the 7th. Yeah, he was slow going out of the gate, birdie the 1st, dropped the shot at 2.

[00:50:03.179]>>You said a chain. It's, this isn't the 9th, is his 2nd? Goodness. I mean, they're all like 3 ft away. It's not like he was making 10-footers, and then when he had to make a 10-footer, he did this at 11 after a nice save at the 10th.

[00:50:19.439]>>And it's not like he had wedges into a lot of these par 4s like we're seeing. These are mid-irons, they're 6, 7, 8 irons.

[00:50:27.110]>>Another one here. Yeah, this is from 174.

[00:50:32.689]>>Just about cash, is it?

[00:50:36.449]>>That was where he thought, hang on a second, I've cleared up that little issue he had with a couple flares in those swings in the middle of the round. And then this from distance, I mean, it was going his way, but when these start to drop, it's your week. Well, that was the blow to Austin Hitt, 20 footer right there, Hit was on the range, he's sinking, OK, he's gonna have to eagle the last if this doesn't go in.

[00:51:02.429]>>He got it to go, and then 145 in with his 3rd at the 18th.

[00:51:07.810]>>Not an easy back hole location.

[00:51:12.320]>>Last year to this year, 20 under 1 last year, we had 29 players this year finished 20 under or better.

[00:51:21.010]>>What a way to wrap up the regular season on the Korn Ferry Tour, James. We've given out two cards. We've got names close to being declared tour bound, but we get into these finals, Points go up and the pressure mounts.

[00:51:44.120]>>Korn Ferry Tour gonna take a breath and then dive deep into these finals. Simmons Bank, top 156. We'll cut it down to 132 after that. Top 100 make it to the Compliance Solutions Championship and then the Korn Ferry Tour championship for the first time this year, top 60.

[00:52:03.439]>>But a shout out to a round of golf from Austin Hitt. It was almost good enough, but Sugiura birdied the last 3 to win for the first time in incredible fashion.