

Production Transcript for **REWIND_26HOUSTON_WOODLAND**

[00:00:20.559]>>The PGA TOUR proudly presents the season-long race for the FedExCup. Now coverage of the 2026 Texas Children's Houston Open.

[00:00:33.369]>>Hot, steamy day here in the heart of the Lone Star State, right outside of downtown Houston, Texas at this beautiful municipal layout hosting this Texas Children's Houston Open for the 6th consecutive year. And

[00:00:48.409]>>Andrew Coltart, Paul Waring had himself a day.

[00:00:52.479]>>Yeah sure did. This was a 3 on 12.

[00:00:56.080]>>Yeah, he sure did. This was a birdie putt on 12. Good to see you, the Englishman going along nicely after shoulder injury.

[00:01:03.560]>>Another birdie to follow here at 13 to get 3 under. Yeah, just inside 12 ft coming down the slope.

[00:01:13.589]>>Red hot putter all day long for the Englishman, 23 putts and he holed 160 ft worth of them on day one. Yeah, just inside 40 ft on 18th, his 9th.

[00:01:28.290]>>That was superb. Really good to see him back playing. Made the turn, we'll pick up another one from some range here at the 5th. Yeah, not a great wedge shot in there from just inside 140 yards, but pays it off with a curl up.

[00:01:42.239]>>And just chalking up the tally. Best putter in the field and strokes gained on day one, picking up more than 5 shots on the field and a beauty into number 6 here.

[00:01:53.010]>>Yeah, 450, the 6th is playing.

[00:01:57.190]>>Oh, just a medium iron short iron in there and perfectly pin high, so good indication that every single aspect of his game's clicking today. The 41-year-old Englishman, the owner of two victories on the DP World Tour, missed the cut here in Houston a year ago in his only appearance in this event, but a sensational round of 63 to set the pace on day one.

[00:02:23.940]>>He is 2 clear of 3 players, including Sam Burns, who's won 5 times on the PGA TOUR.

[00:02:32.070]>>And what a feeling to sign that scorecard after a blistering 63 to kick off the week.

[00:02:42.100]>>Some highlights from the Aussies opening round, starting here at number one. Yeah, coming from the front and left of the green.

[00:02:48.899]>>That's a good birdie there.

[00:02:51.710]>>This one across the green.

[00:02:53.800]>>At the 2nd

[00:02:56.779]>>Off the road, is it gonna hold its line, indeed it is. Lovely start.

[00:03:02.869]>>That was the club that pushed him across the line last year. A magnificent putting week for Lee on the way to the victory. He's early in his title defense, Waring in the house with a sensational round of 63 today.

[00:03:18.860]>>Germany's Stephan Jaeger with the sixty-sixth winner here a few years ago.

[00:03:27.850]>>And over at the 15th tee, Cole Hammer, a sponsor's invited into this tournament. Sending something way upstairs trying to get it to sit soft.

[00:03:39.339]>>How about 1? It sat softly in the bottom of the cup, didn't it?

[00:03:45.800]>>The Houston native, former collegiate star here at the University of Texas, and Cole Hammer delivers the goods. Hamm attack.

[00:04:01.820]>>There's just nothing better, is there? Yeah, there you go.

[00:04:06.039]>>This is worth another look here.

[00:04:11.580]>>Took it a mile upstairs, tough pin location to get to.

[00:04:17.239]>>And off the Cole Hammer, finds the bottom of the cup, and that is a beauty.

[00:04:24.350]>>There's only been 9 birdies.

[00:04:26.920]>>To that point,

[00:04:31.149]>>One, just gorgeous. Coltart, how many aces in competition for you?

[00:04:35.450]>>I had 55, yeah, yeah.

[00:04:39.690]>>Just got a pat on the back for them, that was it, no cars, no watches.

[00:04:47.549]>>So, the University of Texas is where Cole Hammer played his collegiate golf. Pierceson and Parker Coody. The two guys on the edges of those photos are part of that national championship team.

[00:04:59.480]>>Well, I lost in the final of the 2018 US Amateur, I think, to Hovland.

[00:05:03.899]>>Good call, uh, so it's, he's been on the cards for quite some time but he's yet to really sort of make the breakthrough.

[00:05:14.010]>>Beg your pardon, the semifinal, it was the US amateur.

[00:05:20.119]>>And a big ovation and a warm one for the Houston native.

[00:05:24.869]>>That's the hook em horns gesture, Texas Longhorns, the nickname for his collegiate school. Can't wipe the smile off his face right now.

[00:05:35.079]>>Tell him what his bar bill's gonna be later on, that'll do it. It'll be hefty.

[00:05:42.350]>>We may have to celebrate. Yeah, there's no doubt about it. Absolutely, get the drinks in here.

[00:05:49.579]>>After we've finished, of course.

[00:05:52.820]>>And it's a moment, that not only is celebratory for the player who makes the ace, but his caddie, the other guys in the group, like everyone that gets spooked up in the jubilation of it all.

[00:06:04.480]>>Oh, there's no, there's no better, it's like, it's a feeling like no other, you're kind of expecting to try and get it close, then suddenly you hear the roar, you see the ball go down and you can see the celebration there. Players, caddies, everybody's excited.

[00:06:18.489]>>I'm gonna give you this because it's called Hammer. I made a hole-in-one playing hammer and lost. Oh really? You made a hole-in-one playing hammer the game, hammer the game, hammer the game and you lost. That's a tough break. That that is a tough break. That was a costly hole-in-one. It was a costly hole-in-one. You're playing in the wrong group. Well, I was playing with Jason and uh he hammered me. I didn't hammer him back and I made one. I lost.

[00:06:44.529]>>Gary Woodland at the home hole here.

[00:06:48.140]>>Nice. His 9th of the day.

[00:06:52.309]>>2019 US Open champion at Pebble Beach. Such an easy man to root for among his brethren out here on the PGA TOUR, the fan base, everybody pulling for him.

[00:07:03.070]>>Knapp putting for eagle at the par 5 16th.

[00:07:15.529]>>Downhill off the left.

[00:07:20.640]>>He told you.

[00:07:23.579]>>that came off the right.

[00:07:26.049]>>Nice 3.

[00:07:30.880]>>Eagle at 16, for Knapp picks up a couple and this was a no doubter. I think as well, he's burned the edges quite a few times today, but he's stayed patient, rewarded there.

[00:07:43.459]>> Adrien Dumont de Chassart.

[00:07:46.739]>>Over the back of the green here at 2 is the 11th.

[00:07:51.200]>>Oh, hello, that's the way to do it. The young Belgian moves it to a couple under.

[00:07:59.510]>>I had to stalk this one for Min Woo Lee, it's a subtle double breaker. Gotta be a little bit right to left to start off with, but I reckon inside left edge almost should do the trick.

[00:08:21.799]>>What a way to end the day for Min Woo Lee. That's gonna be a 2 under par round of 68 for the defending champion. It was a bit of an adventure along the way.

[00:08:33.400]>>But all's good in the end.

[00:08:39.000]>>Yeah, good opening round of your defense, all in all.

[00:08:43.580]>>Sort of irons out some of those mistakes. One or two of them are a little bit elementary, then, uh, the rest of the week should be pretty good.

[00:08:53.109]>>Paul Waring with a bogey-free 63 today. One of 9 bogey-free rounds in this opening round.

[00:09:02.640]>>Good story developing. The Englishman coming off of.

[00:09:06.309]>>An injury marred campaign a year ago working off a major medical extension because of that shoulder injury, and he very much looked the part today. Putting in particular was magnificent, holding 160 ft of putts, Best in the field to set the pace here by a couple of shots.

[00:09:27.190]>>Top 50 in the world at week's end, will punch their ticket to Augusta. So there's.

[00:09:35.799]>>Some different storylines unfolding here that we'll keep an eye on for you as the week unfolds, and we will, of course, crown a champion at week's end as well. And Paul Waring off to a cracking start here in Houston.

[00:09:50.659]>>Round 2 is next.

[00:10:03.010]>>And we welcome you to Memorial Park Golf Course just outside of downtown Houston, Texas, and live second-round coverage of the Texas Children's Houston Open, 12th event on the calendar for this PGA TOUR Season along the road to the FedExCup. Just another gorgeous day here. Superb scoring conditions on this municipal layout.

[00:10:26.955]>>The PGA TOUR for the 6th consecutive year and some highlights from earlier in the round today, defending champion Min Woo Lee at the 2nd, playing 161 yards today. Made birdie there in the opening round and would make another today to get to -6 and a stout title defense being put forth by the Australian, making a move up the leaderboard. At the 5th, Michael Thorbjornsen, a young player who was,

[00:10:55.429]>>Part of the story at THE PLAYERS Championship a few weeks ago.

[00:11:00.559]>>possesses a

[00:11:02.869]>>An abundance of talent, natural gifts. He would get to 8 under there after a birdie. Adam Scott, 2007 champion here in Houston, was out in 32 in his opening nine today. Terrific shot into the seven.

[00:11:18.479]>>And utilizing that little backboard.

[00:11:21.880]>>Effectively, it would nudge down there to about 5 ft. Scott would handle that one to move to 7 under par.

[00:11:29.909]>>But the man they're all chasing and looking up to on the leaderboard, Gary Woodland, Birdie the 18th to cap a sensational round of 63.

[00:11:41.590]>>For the man who shot 62 on the final day here last year to finish second, and he has carved out a 4-shot lead over the defending champion, Min Woo Lee with Thorbjornsen in position after a 64 today.

[00:11:58.330]>>No.

[00:12:06.679]>>Nicolai Højgaard fizzing one in there close at 17, and pushed it a mile down there.

[00:12:15.340]>>He's had himself a really strong 2nd round, Short one for birdie there at the 6th.

[00:12:26.619]>>And the 8th year, the par 5.

[00:12:31.289]>>Yeah, shot left into a pretty good leave really when you consider the pins up the back of the green. Very nice chip on the birdie there.

[00:12:42.900]>>And taking care of this one for birdie of 15 from just off the surface.

[00:12:52.229]>>Nice read and then as you would expect par 5, well reachable in 2 for this powerful young stud.

[00:13:05.169]>>Smart shot in the end, going a little deep into the green, but better than deep in the water. And 2 putts down there would.

[00:13:14.479]>>A another bird.

[00:13:16.609]>>Both of the Højgaard twins competing here this week, and Nicolai very much.

[00:13:23.330]>>In the picture here.

[00:13:29.750]>>Well, we saw the great approach and beautiful putt there from Nicolai Højgaard. He flies up the leaderboard and into a tie for second.

[00:13:42.349]>>So I think a barber grocery.

[00:13:48.770]>>He's a 4 to go.

[00:14:00.000]>>175 yards to the flag at 18 for Nicolai Højgaard. I, I'll tell you what, he's, he's not got any more than a 9 iron in his hand, it may even be less than that.

[00:14:19.919]>>Very good, very good indeed.

[00:14:25.179]>>And we'll drop back one with Day.

[00:14:28.919]>>164 yards, the perfect 9 iron, just trying to cruise one, work it right to left. A draw.

[00:14:42.630]>>And that one dancing around the flagstick.

[00:14:55.599]>> Højgaard to get in at 10 under. Yes. 7 birdies and an eagle on the Danes Friday scorecard. 62, low round of the week. Yeah, and remember he was under a little bit of heat coming in here because of where he is in the world rankings. 47th, had to make sure he was gonna get in the side, the stay inside the top 50 for the Masters, he's gonna do that.

[00:15:20.789]>>Back to 17, day for another birdie. Uphill, giving this at least a ball and a half, maybe even two, off the left hand side, it will swerve left to right.

[00:15:37.820]>>Man, this guy's something to behold on the greens, always has been. Spectacular work today from Jason Day, and he's got to 9 under. And almost 112 ft on the greens today as we take one more look at this one.

[00:15:51.520]>>Just perfect.

[00:15:55.409]>>Gary Woodland made some fine work of Memorial Park Golf Course in the morning wave this morning to take the lead. Show you how he got it around in '63 today. This birdie at the fifth growing the lead, swinging from left to right.

[00:16:14.900]>>Another one here at the 8th.

[00:16:18.809]>>Uh, par 5.

[00:16:21.229]>>Another birdie there, out in 32.

[00:16:29.820]>>This at the 10th from 116 yards, just target practice for Gary Woodland.

[00:16:40.909]>>153 at 12, missed a fairway on the left hand side, going for a good angle to the right-hand pin.

[00:16:50.239]>>I love his shot.

[00:16:58.719]>>Par 516, had to lay it up.

[00:17:05.438]>>His pin position, defenseless there today, taking it beyond the flagstick, pulling the string on it.

[00:17:13.958]>>Iron play has been superb, best in the field and strokes gained approaching the green, number one in putting as well this week.

[00:17:23.420]>>Yeah, and that was, I'll tell you what as well as he was getting some pretty good club head speed on his big stick too. Couple of drives over 190 MPH ball speed, that is huge.

[00:17:33.689]>>Final birthday try at the last, and it would go.

[00:17:42.500]>>Woodland, the leader by 3.

[00:17:46.119]>>Just 25 putts to get it around Memorial Park Golf Course for Gary Woodland today, and he's back in the hunt to win again in Houston after coming up just shy a year ago. Yeah, he's doing exactly what he has to do out here at Memorial Park, take care of the par 3s, all of them are difficult, he's played them in even par through the 1st 2 days, and then being aggressive, remaining aggressive on the par 5. 7 under through the 1st 2 days, just 6 of them there.

[00:18:13.449]>>Wonderful story brewing here with Gary Woodland. It's been uh.

[00:18:18.319]>>Close to 7 years since his last victory. It was a big one, the, the US Open at Pebble Beach.

[00:18:24.000]>>And he's got himself in position through 36 outstanding holes of work this week.

[00:18:31.209]>>A 63 for Gary Woodland to lead by 3. The third round is coming up next.

[00:18:43.430]>>Just off the edge of the downtown urban core of Houston, Texas, an event that dates back to the 1940s. It's a beautiful municipal layout that folks in the area can play most weeks of the year, but reserved for the very best in the game here this week. And they had their way with this place on Thursday and Friday, but

[00:19:04.130]>>As we've seen already, some different conditions, a little blustery, wind coming from a different direction. Today, it's cooler, just a, a couple of added layers of challenge to determine who's gonna remain in the hunt for the 12th PGA TOUR title of the season. Great to have you along. John Swantek here, Andrew Cozart, Colin Swatton alongside. We've heard from Inci down on the ground for us walking with the final group of the day here.

[00:19:30.900]>>Over at the 9th, Min Wu Lee with the tee.

[00:19:34.569]>>Hey there.

[00:19:36.380]>>He sweeps it in at the 7th beautifully, and here at the 9th, gorgeous shot from the Aussie.

[00:19:43.719]>>He's letting it cook.

[00:19:45.540]>>He would have been licking his lips back on the tee, the way he likes to move the ball. The defending champion Min Woo Lee with a beauty at the 9th.

[00:19:56.839]>>And this is Min Woo Lee for birdie at 9, we saw the great approach.

[00:20:01.369]>>Hey, nicely done there for Min Woo Lee, defending champion. Yeah, it was good, hey, kind of needed that, I didn't want to sort of fall any further behind with coming to the end of a tournament.

[00:20:14.069]>>Left-hand side at 10, look at that, what's that.

[00:20:19.660]>>He's hit some world class shots today.

[00:20:24.849]>>OK, this is a gift.

[00:20:28.810]>>Min Woo Lee, this is a terrific defense. Not easy to do that.

[00:20:36.310]>>That the line looks very manageable for Woodland down there in sea. Yeah, it's great, 122 yards, but it's almost like a mini green inside the actual green because you've got a bit of a front, it slopes away from you if you go long. So you've got no more by about 12 and 10 yards. Small target, 10% of the full yardage.

[00:20:59.930]>>Excellent, excellent, terrific shot.

[00:21:08.199]>>This will snap a little bit more at the very end, plenty to learn from Højgaard's part.

[00:21:15.329]>>And he did exactly that. So, it's actually, I thought it was gonna hang out there for a second. Well read, and this is a very impressive round of golf for Gary.

[00:21:30.599]>>This is a spectacular angle, Andrew, 165 yards. This is no more than a pitching wedge.

[00:21:37.579]>>I would fancy this for him. That looked a good action. Look at that, the 10 wedge, pitching wedge, oh brilliant, little bit of ground help there.

[00:21:51.500]>>What

[00:21:53.319]>>What then is in the fairway here.

[00:21:56.069]>>Not as good of a lie compared to Højgaard there, 156, same club with the pitching wedge. I reckon aiming at that flag, let it bleed to the right a little bit.

[00:22:08.949]>>Cannot see him making the mistake that Suber made. No.

[00:22:15.500]>>And two beautiful shots there from Højgaard and Woodland.

[00:22:19.050]>>Both Woodland and Højgaard make birdie at the par 4 12th as Woodland maintains his 1 shot lead.

[00:22:35.859]>>Well, a little ingenuity required from Min Woo Lee here at 17. 0, we thought this might be the case, John, we saw Adam Scott.

[00:22:49.020]>>Just in the group, a couple of groups ahead of us here, in a similar situation.

[00:22:54.530]>>This is important though, they've got to talk this this shot out.

[00:22:59.589]>>At the moment he's 6 behind.

[00:23:02.839]>>What he doesn't want to do is shoot himself.

[00:23:05.869]>>Too far out of contention. If you're young and flexible like the 27 year old Australian, this isn't quite as daunting, but boy, this is all kinds of hard.

[00:23:24.150]>>Oh, how did he do?

[00:23:26.069]>>How did he do?

[00:23:29.180]>>Pretty special. Well, we're gonna do a highlight reel at the end of the day, no doubt, and that should be the top of the list. That was an incredibly difficult shot. It was a work of art.

[00:23:42.239]>>Let's get another couple of peeks at this effort. And that picked up the club extremely quick, he's way down on the steel, the leverage, the ability to be able to pick that up, hit it with enough force to get it out is just spectacular. Look at that. Yeah, you, and you're also worried about the Putt of the club sticking into your leg and not being able to, it's sort of impeding the, the club going through the, through the hitting area. It's almost like sitting on top of a chest of drawers trying to hit down on it as abruptly as you can.

[00:24:11.780]>>It's incredible.

[00:24:16.770]>>Well this little subplot of who's gonna join Woodland and Højgaard in the final group tomorrow is becoming quite compelling here, isn't it?

[00:24:24.260]>>Min Woo's about to get it to 12. Stevens may have something to say about that as he deals with the A team.

[00:24:41.869]>>Yeah, it's an all-time sandy right there. That's simply world class. 2 in a row for Min Woo, and high stepping it over to the 18 tee box.

[00:24:56.589]>>All right, Woodland, back to work at 17.

[00:24:59.500]>>Not an easy shot this ball sat down, so I think it almost eliminates the high shot despite playing from a slightly higher, more elevated position. I reckon he's looking to backfoot, bump and run this on the uphill slope, but you need a couple of bouncers on that fringe still.

[00:25:16.020]>>Well

[00:25:17.859]>>Bye.

[00:25:20.250]>>Yeah, that is pretty well played. We've got a great view of that from down in front of the green. Complexity to the shot. Another angle here.

[00:25:29.780]>>Couple of bounces, feeding it onto the green.

[00:25:33.520]>>What

[00:25:42.810]>>Still a tough shot this. Højgaard, he's a tall guy, about 6'2, ball below his feet. Looking to pitch this on the fringe for sure. And then just let it trickle on, you need to get this strike absolutely spot on on that trajectory.

[00:26:00.000]>>God.

[00:26:02.099]>>Uh, beautiful set of the hands, the wrists, cock.

[00:26:06.089]>>From that bunker allowed him to generate a lot of speed, make that somewhat manageable. Just watch the way that he maintains the loft through the ball, sliding that right hand underneath. Look at the face of this sandy pointing straight back at him. That is textbook stuff there. You can see the the wear mark.

[00:26:24.469]>>Right in the middle of that club face, gorgeous.

[00:26:31.339]>>So Birdie Putts back at 17, Woodland and then Højgaard to follow.

[00:26:36.949]>>He's done that every time where his left hand just holds this almost left half of his chest, maybe just to square up his shoulders. But this just to increase that gap from the rest of the field, may be a two man race.

[00:26:50.959]>>Yeah.

[00:26:52.239]>>On a day that began with a bogey, 7 birdies have followed for Woodland.

[00:26:59.839]>>And Højgaard to match Woodland yet again and get back within one again.

[00:27:12.150]>>In a ding dong battle between these two guys all day.

[00:27:19.680]>>He's not going away. No, he's not going away, there's fewer people capable of winning this as we get to one round left to play.

[00:27:26.510]>>Well, Nicolai Højgaard has a chance to shoot back-to-back rounds of 62 if he could birdie the 18. Crazy stuff. He and Gary Woodland.

[00:27:36.030]>>Running away from the pack here. Højgaard is 5 clear of 3rd.

[00:27:42.500]>>Now I would say slight advantage to Gary Woodland. Højgaard is a natural draw of the golf ball, Tree may be in his way to put off a slightly.

[00:27:52.459]>>Oh, you heard them saying go, go, could he could obviously tell with the strike that er he got a little bit of spin on it, he was expecting that one to release up to the flag, the direction was great.

[00:28:05.069]>>This is an awkward number for Woodland, 165 yards, I think Nicolai Højgaard tried to step on a pitching wedge, but I reckon Woodland just looking to massage a 9.

[00:28:16.170]>>He's been great with these lazy swings.

[00:28:32.979]>>Well, what a show these two put on on this Saturday in Houston, piling up birdies and separating from the pack, and Woodland and Højgaard will be the.

[00:28:44.689]>>The two gunslingers in Texas on Sunday. That's a nice little moment there actually. Woodland, Woodland took the flag off of Højgaard, so Højgaard could, could look at the puck from the other side of the hole without getting the visual distraction of the, of the flag stick in front of him.

[00:29:00.290]>>It's been lovely camaraderie all the way around. Wasn't sure how today would play out, but I was just watching Nicolai and Gary walking down 17, having a nice chat. I think there's just an immense amount of respect for one another. Nicolai with a left to right putt.

[00:29:20.579]>>Oh for another 62.

[00:29:24.400]>>Oh, within a whisker.

[00:29:32.140]>>Brilliant round of golf for the 2nd straight day for the Dane, and this would have blown the lid off this place. Oh.

[00:29:46.380]>>A little 62 on Friday, back it up with one higher today.

[00:29:56.550]>>And so the lead for Woodland will be.

[00:29:59.540]>>Either 1 or 2 pending the outcome of this birdie putt now.

[00:30:06.449]>>This is a much slower putt for woodland. A little bit steeper up the hill, it's got a bit more break left to right. I reckon about 1 ft or so.

[00:30:18.310]>>It's been a real battle between these two.

[00:30:36.349]>>Oh my, that would have been birdie number 22 on the week for Gary, and a little wry smile creases his face.

[00:30:44.239]>>15 birdies between the two of them today. It's incredible, you know, you talk about that emotion, you know, huge day for him tomorrow, he's not one since 2019. Uh, you know, 6.5 years, they go, he'll feel like he's gonna win for the first time potentially tomorrow if that's the case. Højgaard, he's trying to get his first victory in the PGA TOUR, as is Thorbjornsen. Gonna be a lot of emotion out there on the golf course tomorrow.

[00:31:12.219]>>And they're gonna be in the final group again tomorrow after two brilliant rounds to start the weekend here. Point guard trying to win for the first time on the PGA TOUR in Woodland, trying to get across the line for the first time in nearly 7 years.

[00:31:27.900]>>The final round is next.

[00:31:34.369]>>We are here and we are playing for history and we're playing for the players that came before us.

[00:31:40.170]>>I've worked since I was 2 or 3 years old to have a chance to play professional golf for a living. The, the guys that win the most, they're in contention so much, they're up there all the time. That's where I want to be.

[00:32:09.109]>>Championship Sunday in Houston. We welcome you back to Memorial Park Golf Course and the final round of the Texas Children's Houston Open as we decide

the 12th PGA TOUR champion of the season, Gary Woodland with a one-shot advantage over Nicolai Højgaard to start the day. They're in the final group together.

[00:32:31.689]>>Are you gonna hit it low or are you gonna try to cut it? I mean, I think we need to. Let's try to play a little. If I cut it, I gotta hit too hard. If I hit it low, it's probably at 4 in a row. Yeah, I play. Yeah, I do. I get these people back just a little bit, guys. Please. Thank you.

[00:32:45.680]>>Luckily in just a hair on your left.

[00:32:49.140]>>And I would try, you can almost finish that.

[00:32:53.239]>>Yeah, just because of law.

[00:33:04.469]>>Woodland and his man, Brennan Little trying to formulate a game plan here.

[00:33:10.800]>>Inci Mehmet down there with eyes on this script for us today.

[00:33:14.310]>>Good afternoon. Almost a replica of yesterday's tee shot, just not as far right this time for Woodland.

[00:33:24.119]>>Just trying to keep this one nice and low, the tree branch overhanging slightly in the way, and if anything trying to put a big cut spin on this one. Especially with the contours on the green right to left, chasing it up there.

[00:33:43.209]>>Mm, what a great leave there for Gary Woodland. Well thought out, executed shot, giving him plenty of green to work with. Let's take another look at this one here. One of the steeper swingers gets down.

[00:33:56.520]>>Look at the release of that club face there.

[00:34:03.530]>>Now the defending champion. Hasn't defended titles too well so far. Obviously won several times on the DP World Tour, this being the first proper defense on the PGA. 194 yards.

[00:34:17.479]>>So.

[00:34:19.020]>>No.

[00:34:28.770]>>Here's the lie Højgaard will be managing over here. It's a good ball, just slightly above his feet, having to play this over the trees.

[00:34:36.850]>>Got a bit more room beyond this flag.

[00:34:40.100]>>One hand special. And that's over there in the vicinity of Gary Woodland. These guys didn't get off the, the fastest of starts yesterday at this opening hole, and again in similar situations today. Championship Sunday, boy, it comes with a whole set of different feelings and emotions.

[00:35:02.639]>>And all 3 in the group here, missed the green at the 1st.

[00:35:06.540]>>Overall it's a good lead, but I would say this is probably the toughest up-and-down for Woodland compared to his two playing partners. Looking to pitch this on the uphill slope of the fringe, most likely, otherwise it's a bit steeper further up there on the putting surface. Looking for a bit of momentum as you chip it up the hill.

[00:35:28.979]>>Uh, finicky little pitch shot there for Woodland. You usually get a pretty good indication of how the nerves are, especially these few, first few starting holes. It's gonna be an emotional rollercoaster for that man.

[00:35:44.070]>>What about Nicolai here, Vince? A Little bit more straightforward, definitely be looking slightly further left of the flag, it will kick to the right, he can afford to pitch a slightly higher up.

[00:35:54.739]>>This time round.

[00:35:57.439]>>Still keeping the flight down.

[00:36:05.090]>>Well, both of these players with a little bit more work than.

[00:36:09.469]>>They would have liked at the opener.

[00:36:12.320]>>This golf course has really certainly evolved over the few days, hasn't it? And dried out, Greens have got a little faster and looks like Min Woo's in a shiny part of the,

[00:36:20.709]>>The front of the green here

[00:36:22.439]>>I think it just absolutely indicates that you need to miss it on the correct spots. You leave yourself with the downhillers and the shiny parts, incredibly difficult. Min Woo Lee just chipping uphill, aiming this slightly right.

[00:36:35.830]>>Oh, that is a beauty. We saw it, a short game in absolutely fine form yesterday, and he's picked it up again here.

[00:36:54.179]>>Big one there early in the round. That was enormous there for Woodland.

[00:37:03.909]>>Yeah, leads the putt this week.

[00:37:07.429]>>Evidence of it there.

[00:37:12.870]>>Beautifully read, great piece.

[00:37:15.989]>>That'll help settle a player into the round, won't it? 100%.

[00:37:20.290]>>Big pot, as John said, as Cole said, sorry.

[00:37:25.570]>> Potgieter to match him with a 4 here.

[00:37:31.899]>>And cannot.

[00:37:33.449]>>Uh, just lacked a little bit of speed there, good line. It's amazing he was 50 yards further away from that first green after the tee shot's Woodland and he managed to extend his lead.

[00:37:46.270]>>Well, we had some drama earlier today at the 2nd playing 179 yards. Today, Shane Lowry took aim at the target.

[00:37:55.429]>>He doesn't mind a hole-in-one, does he?

[00:37:58.250]>>It's incredible, Lowry. He's made some doozies in his career, hasn't he? No, 16th at the Masters, 17th at THE PLAYERS, he did it over there at Pebble.

[00:38:09.389]>>Nice Sunday going for Jake Knapp. He's reached the 15th.

[00:38:20.760]>>He would make birdie to get to 11 under.

[00:38:26.639]>>Jake Knapp with the finest Sunday round going on the golf course. Oh, this is a front pin, and I think he's taken it on. There's no room for error. Well, that is going to provide some excitement there's just two of them, it moves on.

[00:38:41.320]>>At the 5th with Lee playing his 2nd from the fairway.

[00:38:45.870]>>One thing you need to be careful of is to not go long, you've got a runoff area beyond this pin, so trying to flight this one down, pitch it short and chase it up there.

[00:38:58.260]>>Yeah it's been a popular spot, just at the bottom of that tier.

[00:39:04.080]>>And it's a long stroll up to the ball of Woodland.

[00:39:07.570]>>It's an unbelievable drive, but playing from the left half of the fairway, so on the angle you're almost pitching this on a slightly steeper uphill slope just shy of this flag. So we would expect Woodland to try and flight this down once again from 108 yards, get that first bounce hopping forwards, and they get that bit of delayed grab.

[00:39:36.139]>>He would make birdie to get to 19 under.

[00:39:44.600]>>Here comes the birdie putt for Lee now with the 5th.

[00:39:49.469]>>It's a relatively slow put up the hill, almost flattens up in that second half, breaking off his right all the way.

[00:40:05.479]>>He would make bogey to drop to 11 under par.

[00:40:10.699]>>Jake Knapp trying to move to 8 under par for the day.

[00:40:14.639]>>Downhill out the left.

[00:40:20.250]>>Oh, it's straightening, it's doing well, it's doing really well. Started the day tied for 34th and Jake Knapp in a share of 3rd.

[00:40:34.139]>>I think like 5 off or driving in 5, perfect, 5, I, I think that's fine in that gap, yep, yep, perfect.

[00:40:44.030]>>This wind has just completely died down.

[00:40:47.780]>>When we leave from 119 yards, I would say advantage Woodland, disadvantage Højgaard, I'm in kind of in the middle.

[00:40:56.340]>>You'll be looking slightly right at this pin, be the perfect sandwich for him.

[00:41:02.639]>>Yeah.

[00:41:03.610]>>He would make birdie to move to 12 under.

[00:41:08.909]>>Thankfully not too much tree trouble here for Højgaard.

[00:41:12.010]>>It should be the perfect lob wedge for him, just shoot up over the tree. Yeah, he's lucky he's got a lie there coming in, it is the wrong angle.

[00:41:20.760]>>A birdie from there and he would move to 17 under.

[00:41:26.129]>>I prefer the 8 iron option, just trying to pitch that on the front right knuckle. If it hangs out to the right, it's OK, if you get the kick it will only get better.

[00:41:38.669]>>Not, the kick he wanted.

[00:41:41.169]>>No, wrong decision.

[00:41:45.899]>>I reckon from what we've seen from Gary Woodland so far, he's almost putting these kind of lazy swings. I'm not saying he's swinging it lazy, but trying to take the speed out of it when you don't really need to go at it. I just wonder if he's trying to take that knuckle out of play, play for a slightly different tactic here on the par 3. Almost just smooth one in there.

[00:42:18.909]>>He did it yesterday, he's doing it again today, he's doing what he has to do. He has to play somewhat aggressive to conservative targets.

[00:42:29.209]>>At 7 with Højgaard playing his 2nd from the bunker at the par 3, tried to force it, went 1 less, went with the 8 iron and now paying the penalty.

[00:42:40.270]>>The whole green slopes away from you, and it's so easy to get cute with it, which is what he did the first time round, but look at that guy.

[00:42:47.850]>>He would make a double bogey to drop to 15 under.

[00:42:52.330]>>Staying here for Woodland's putt for birdie at the par 3.

[00:42:58.260]>>Well, with this one, it's breaking off his right, about 1 cup. 5 or so.

[00:43:12.669]>>Oh, what a putt.

[00:43:15.639]>>Well with Nicolai doing what he was doing in the bunker left, Gary Woodland saw an opportunity and he took it and he quickly moves to 20 under.

[00:43:24.600]>>That's the tournament record winning score of last year. Oh, big deep breath there, you can see Gary Woodland, he knows.

[00:43:32.050]>>The gravity of that moment right there, just take that opportunity and cement it, and now he can sort of have that little bit of breathing space that he needs. Yeah, that's right, Colin, there's no doubt.

[00:43:46.850]>>At the par 3 9th with Woodland putting for birdie.

[00:43:59.419]>>Gary Woodland is a runaway freight train. That was by no stretch of the imagination, an easy putt, extremely fast coming down and across the slope, and for the first time today, seen a little smile, deep exhale.

[00:44:15.040]>>At the par 3 11th with Lee hitting his tee shot.

[00:44:28.250]>>That

[00:44:33.229]>>Well executed golf shot there for Min Woo Lee, gives himself a decent look at Birdie.

[00:44:44.949]>>Back to 11.

[00:44:47.159]>>This putt looked pretty straight to me. Anything at the very end might creep off his right.

[00:44:59.219]>>Oh, nicely done there for Min Woo Lee.

[00:45:03.070]>>And that'll get him one closer.

[00:45:07.409]>>JD off the right.

[00:45:10.370]>>He gets to 13 under.

[00:45:19.530]>>And Højgaard just clinging to 2nd place for the moment, Inci. You need to club up here for sure. It's a long iron in for your 2nd shot into 14. That wind's picked up. It's into off the left. Lots of room beyond this pin.

[00:45:37.889]>>Hm, that's his best strike of the day, isn't it? Yeah, there's not been anybody closer uh on 14. That is a very nice shot. He would make birdie to move to 16 under par.

[00:45:51.620]>>Adam Scott at 11.

[00:45:54.409]>>Yeah, difficult pin to get even close.

[00:46:01.060]>>And not for Adam Scott.

[00:46:05.040]>>Always a special moment, so cool, we've played hundreds of events on the PGA TOUR and all around the world, it's still a, a singular moment.

[00:46:15.969]>> Min Woo Lee in the center of the fairway here.

[00:46:23.750]>>He's got 191 yards. He's gonna carry that front portion, it has done.

[00:46:33.300]>>Cracker.

[00:46:34.969]>>What a punctuation to the week for the defending champ.

[00:46:44.449]>>Have you noticed when he puts his glove on, he almost gives it a bit of a smack with his other hand, I think. It's almost him saying, come on, let's do this, and that's exactly what he needs to do right now. One more swing.

[00:47:11.419]>>Gary

[00:47:13.350]>>What a lovely sound, lovely strike, good swing.

[00:47:21.260]>>That's fine.

[00:47:26.149]>>Closing in on his.

[00:47:28.810]>>Best ever finish as a member of the PGA TOUR, about to lock up second place here shortly. Gotta take your hat off to um 166 yards to go.

[00:47:39.909]>>I.

[00:47:50.739]>>You catch a piece of the green.

[00:47:53.090]>>What a show these two have put on. What a battle it was, Woodland and Højgaard.

[00:47:58.550]>>Throughout the day, yesterday they both went really low and it had a match play sensibility about it as they began to draw clear of the chasers late on Saturday.

[00:48:09.760]>>And we were curious how Sunday was going to unfold and how this man was going to emotionally hold it together. It's been admirable how he's done it.

[00:48:30.439]>>At 18 with Woodland playing his 3rd at the par 4 from just off the green.

[00:48:47.659]>>Wouldn't that have been something had that one dipped in there.

[00:48:55.290]>>Bit of a slow one back up the green here for Højgaard's swing from the right hand side.

[00:49:04.590]>>Good work, just drifts a few feet past the hole.

[00:49:12.729]>>Min Woo Lee with a

[00:49:14.639]>>Cracking shot in there and looking to get in 15 under, grab a share of 3rd here.

[00:49:20.239]>>Yeah, it's been a great title defense for this man.

[00:49:31.270]>>3 at the last

[00:49:33.159]>>Well done. Yeah exciting talent, they, the crowds love him, he's exciting to watch on the golf course.

[00:49:39.959]>>A real character.

[00:49:46.050]>>It's going to hit him hard in a moment's time.

[00:49:51.969]>>Gonna be the best ever PGA TOUR finish for Højgaard.

[00:49:56.979]>>Hm.

[00:49:58.870]>>Yeah, kind of sums up his day unfortunately, er just getting out of the way there, he was conscious of him standing actually on er Gary's line, he won't worry about that too much.

[00:50:15.080]>>Crowd support has been phenomenal this week. The outpouring of energy and love and support from the entire golfing community, as Gary has pointed out.

[00:50:27.250]>>Has been so

[00:50:29.389]>>Integral to his comeback to the winner's circle here.

[00:50:38.360]>>And Gary Woodland's inspirational journey has brought him back to the winner's circle.

[00:51:34.100]>>That was brilliant. How did he manage to keep all that inside him all day?

[00:51:41.580]>>How about that one, center cut for par at the last.

[00:51:48.989]>>And then everything inside of them that's been building up all week long.

[00:51:54.300]>>For a few years, you could say, just came pouring out of him. Oh that embrace says it all.

[00:52:05.399]>>So Woodland up to 25th in the FedEx Cup race with the 500 points that he puts in the bank this week.

[00:52:13.790]>>And wins for the 5th time on the PGA TOUR.

[00:52:20.889]>>No, absolutely superb, um, an incredible performance there from Woodland from beginning to end.

[00:52:28.469]>>And credit to him for taking home the tournament record with everything he's had to deal with. Runner-up here a year ago, one better in so many ways this time around.

[00:52:39.409]>>This concludes the PGA Tour's coverage of the Texas Children's Houston Open for Memorial Park Golf Course in Houston, Texas.