

26INTSPLAY MASTER SCRIPT

Show Open/Tease

ANNC: Back here once again at TPC Sawgrass, where the stadium course has been the dramatic backdrop since 1982 for the PGA TOUR's crown jewel, and what great theatre we have had each and every year, every step along the way, triumph and heart break..

ANNC: Yes he did! What an answer.

ANNC: He doesn't like it, has he lost it right? Oh, way right..

ANNC: This guy is on a heater early//you better watch out for him..

Young: My thought process over that ball is// I'm going to hit the best shot of my life right here. I don't know if I can think of one that's better.

ANNC: he's got the crown jewel of the PGA TOUR! Young is a PLAYERS Champion.

First Round/2026 Setup

ANNC: It is that time of the year where we gather once again in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida// this time for the 52nd edition of the PLAYERS.

Rose: Always great to be back. I feel like this tournament has evolved so much through the years// I love it actually// one of the best courses that we play on TOUR. I think it's very fitting for this championship. It suits all types of players.

ANNC: The evolution of this Pete Dye design has really been something to behold/ the test will be thorough and the penalties severe.

Scheffler: I think when you look at this golf course, I think you see a variety of winners, and you also don't see one style of player winning this tournament a bunch of times.

Brooks: I think it's awesome that we come back to the same golf course every year. // it's the PLAYERS Championship. Everybody knows it's a tournament you want to win.

McIlroy: I've been playing here since 2009, so it's not like I don't know the place.// It seems like a pretty different setup this year than what it's been in previous years in March.

SOT: Rory where is your back right now and are you still committed to play?

Rory Presser: It's better, better than it was//probably a game-time decision; all indications are pointing in the right direction.

Round 1 Competition

ANNC: From TPC Sawgrass, PGA TOUR headquarters, we're glad to have you along here for the opening round of the PLAYERS championship.

VO: AS THURSDAY ARRIVED, RORY MCILROY'S TITLE DEFENSE WAS STILL IN QUESTION...

ANNC: After withdrawing from Bay Hill//due to a bad back// The defending champion is ready to give it a go//

VO: ULTIMATELY, MCILROY TEED IT UP – CARDING A TWO-OVER 74 IN ROUND 1. EVEN WITHOUT HIS BEST STUFF, MCILROY WAS JUST PLEASED TO FINISH THE ROUND.

McIlroy: Just felt like unbelievably rusty out there// I'm glad I got through the round. // I was trying to just get back to even par for the day on that back nine. Couldn't quite get there.

VO: WHILE THE DEFENDING CHAMPION SHOOK OFF THE RUST, SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER, ANOTHER TWO-TIME PLAYERS CHAMPION, HAD AN AVERAGE ROUND BY HIS STANDARDS...

ANNC: The world number 1 is over par here in the opening round, searching...

Scheffler: Hit a lot more fairways and struck it better on the back nine // made a few mental errors and just need to be a little bit sharper the next few days.

VO: AS THE TOP 2 PLAYERS IN THE WORLD FELL BEHIND ON THURSDAY, OTHER TOUR VETERANS BEGAN TO POSITION THEMSELVES AT THE TOP.

ANNC: Coming off of what we saw from Justin Thomas// last week at Bay Hill, this is an outstanding round of golf here on day one at the PLAYERS.

ANNC: 4-under 68, Justin Thomas says hello//

Thomas: It's a place like visually, it just fits my eye, there's a lot of trees I feel like I can work things off// It's a place that requires your sole attention on every shot and you can get exposed pretty quickly just as well as you can get rewarded.

ANNC: This would be a heck of an up and in for Xander// Just like that, a 34 on the first nine for Xander.

ANNC: Hasn't made a bogey so far today and just two back...

VO: AFTER A 3-UNDER 69 ON THURSDAY, XANDER SCHAUFFLE FOUND HIMSELF ONE BACK OF CAMERON YOUNG, WHO WAS ALREADY PLAYING SOME OF THE BEST GOLF THROUGH THE OPENING ROUND...

ANNC: Oh what shot, go in! // What a shot from Cameron Young, that will be a tap in for him to get within one.

ANNC: No surprise that man is just one off the lead a lot of people liked his chances coming in//

VO: WHILE OTHER AMERICANS CLIMBED TO THE TOP OF THE LEADERBOARD, ONE WAS UNABLE TO FINISH HIS ROUND

ANNC: Collin Morikawa, oh that was significant. Immediately knew that didn't he?

Morikawa: Are you kidding me? One shot into this tournament.

ANNC: You hate to see it, a guy coming in with so much form. Let's hope he is able to go.

Manny: Nice Woo.

Morikawa: How much time do I have?

Manny: I think you can call an official. We should probably get going right?

ANNC: Called in a rules official, talking about his back. He has been rubbing it.

Si Woo: Are we good to go or?

Manny: 210 is here.

ANNC: He may be done? Oh, wow that is something right there. Fourth in the world, a winner this season coming off a solo fifth last week at Bay Hill this certainly had to be a week that Morikawa thought he had a really good shot. This is one that has been on Morikawa's radar, you can see the disappointment.

Aberg: It's kind of awkward; I don't know what to say.

Manny: There is not much we can say, I think he is done.

Si Woo: That was hard practice swing, he felt it for sure.

Morikawa: Sorry boys.

Si Woo: Sorry, Collin.

ANNC: Hold that trophy at the end and call himself a PLAYERS champion, but that will have to wait.

NOW, PLAYING IN A TWO-SOME WITH SI WOO KIM, LUDVIG ABERG WENT ON TO SHOOT A 3-UNDER 69.

ANNC: Great way to finish the round, nice start for Aberg.

VO: MEANWHILE, FELLOW EUROPEAN SEPP STRAKA TIED THE LOW ROUND OF THE DAY AND WAS IN PERFECT POSITION THROUGH 18 HOLES...

ANNC: Got it! // and he shares the lead at five under.

ANNC: Last four years at the PLAYERS he's 26-under, only Scottie better than that.

Straka: I don't think I can putt much better than I did today or hit my wedges much closer than I did today. So can't imagine that would continue, so definitely going to need to find some fairways out there.

ANNC: //You've got five players at 5-under par, company at the top//Justin Thomas//Xander Schauffele also on that first page of the leaderboard.

Overheard on 17

VO: EVERY YEAR, THOUSANDS OF SHOTS ARE HIT INTO THE ISLAND GREEN. THIS YEAR WE WENT OUTSIDE THE ROPES ON THURSDAY AND HEARD FROM FANS AS THEY TOOK IN THE ACTION ON THE ICONIC PAR THREE...

Fan SOT: I'm sure they get a little nerve s in their stomach when they step up on 17 don't you think?

Fan SOT: There is not a human sole that plays golf that ain't going to be nervous hitting this shot. Si Woo what you can do.

Fan: I wonder if any golfer ever walking around the edge of that green has fell off? Like oops? I think they have. Like look how close he is. I'm sure that would make funniest home videos?

Fan: I want Hoge. I want Hojgaard.

Fan: My wife loves that dude right there. I hope you dunk four of them in that water. This dude stole my wife and he's never met her.

Fan: Adam Scott. Adam hot, he's my man. That's your man?

Fans: That guy? The one that is over there? Keefer? The one who put it in the water? Yeah he was really cute.

Fan: Ohh that looks really good. Looks deep too. Oh, go go go go, oh my gosh! Don't steal my wife!

Fan: Ohhh let's go come on! Adam, are you kidding me? I wanna buy another LAB putter, I want to buy some Uniqlo. I saw the look in his eyes, and I wanted to put it right there. He's him.

Fan: Hojgaard. Straight into the water. Got a lot of ground on that. Oh, ohhhh see ya.

Fan: I could probably sit here all day and be happy. A lot of people do, espespecially when the birds start fishing. See him right there. The waterfowl adventures here and national geographic.

Fan: Hey baby, my arch nemesis almost hit a hole in on 17. Ludvig, your boyfriend. Started walking away and I said don't take my wife. I did.

Fan: There we go Ben. I really want to buy a dozen Maxfli's after watching him.

Fan: JT! Yell out war eagle.

Fan: You wouldn't have favorited justin Thomas' pants if they were puke pink. Salmon. Oh Salmon, I'm so sorry.

Fan: Alex! There we go he got you.

Fan: This dude could play tackle for the Jaguars. Gollee.

Fans: Cam Little where you at?

Fans: Wait, Cam Little! Can we get a picture? Dude come on! Woo Pig. Come here bro. Do you klthink he can kick a golf ball onto the seventeenth? No. There's no way. That's not how that works. You need to go back and do some science lessons or whatever.

Fans: That sounded flush. Hey if golf never works our Sami you can go try football.

Fan: Nice putt.

Round 2 Scottie and Rory

VO: AS ROUND TWO GETS UNDERWAY, THE TOP 2 PLAYERS IN THE WORLD FOUND THEMSELVES BATTLING TO MAKE THE CUT.

VO: WHILE THE PAIR FELL BEHIND EARLY, THEY WERE STILL LOOKING TO MAKE HISTORY AND JOIN JACK NICKLAUS AS THE ONLY OTHER 3-TIME PLAYERS CHAMPION

Scottie and Rory Chasing Greatness

ANNC: You're talking about probably the two most talented players in golf.

McIlroy: Jack, Tiger and Scottie were the only three with multiple players and multiple majors. And, you know, a nice club to be a part of.

Scheffler: I mean, I think anytime you can get mentioned with those guys, you think you're doing something right. And, to have the opportunity to win, not only, you know, one of those, but multiple. It's almost like, more, you know, validation for the first.

ANNC: And the Scheffler victory train just keeps on rolling.

McIlroy: Scottie is and has been the best player in our game for know the last couple of years and I've been close but just not quite there. But that's motivating. Trying to become the best player in the world again.

ANNC: All of that talent in McIlroy's body, going to join a select few that have won multiple PLAYERS titles and multiple major championships.

ANNC: Rory McIlroy, the 2025 Players Championship winner. His second Players Championship, 28th of his career.

Scheffler: I think any time somebody's beaten any of us out here, I think we're all inspired. You know, Rory's been playing some tremendous golf this year

Scheffler: Let's go baby. Come on baby.

ANNC: Scottie Scheffler is the 50th PLAYERS Champion and the first to go back-to-back in a half century.

ANNC: The way Scotty's playing it is a masterclass in how to play PGA tour golf. He is an elite player. His Tigeresque he is Jack Nicklaus-esque if you will. He is the best in the game at the moment, number one in the world. Even Rory McIlroy has said this year that he learned so much from watching Scottie Scheffler last year and see how Rory's playing, so he's going to be really tough to beat.

McIlroy: Every time I play with him and I watch how he plays and how disciplined he is. It's a really cool thing to watch and honestly, just trying to take a little bit of a leaf out of his book.

Reporter: You can join Jack with three next week at the PLAYERS. What would that mean to you?

Scheffler: I'm not going to step into the tournament thinking about winning. I'm going to do what I normally do, but, anytime you're getting mentioned with Mr. Nicklaus, something good is going on.

VO: AFTER AN EVEN PAR BACK NINE ON FRIDAY SCOTTIE SAFELY PLAYED HIS WAY INTO THE WEEKEND

VO: MEANWHILE RORY MCILROY SAT RIGHT ON THE CUTLINE AS HE MADE THE TURN IN ROUND 2...

[Round 2 Competition](#)

ANNC: //at the PGA TOUR's flagship event// just about 15 miles southeast of downtown Jacksonville the PLAYERS stadium course at TPC Sawgrass.

VO: AFTER A FIVE-WAY TIE AT THE TOP THROUGH ROUND 1, SOME OF THE GAMES BEST LOOKED TO CAPITALIZE ON FRIDAY MORNING'S PERFECT CONDITIONS...

ANNC: 2-under par 70 for Sepp in round 2, in a good position entering the weekend.

Straka: A lot better off the tee today. Yesterday was pretty shaky off the tee. I hit my driver and woods terribly off the tee. Today was a lot better.

VO: WHILE STRAKA SAW IMPROVEMENT OFF THE TEE IN ROUND 2 XANDER SCHAUFFELE DOMIANATED OFF THE TEE - HITTING EVERY SINGLE FAIRWAY ON FRIDAY.

ANNC: That is a perfect driving day in round 2 at the PLAYERS for Xander Schauffele 14 for 14, amazing.

VO: NOT ONLY WAS SCHAUFFELE PERFECT OFF THE TEE – HE WAS NEARLY PERFECT INTO THE GREENS, HITTING 16 OF 18 IN REGULATION, CARDING 8 BIRDIES ON THE DAY.

ANNC: //Xander, Oh yes! // What a game, what a great putt.

Xander: //for the most part I felt like I was in control and felt like I was attacking the golf course versus playing defensive. // it's always easy to be aggressive from the fairway here.// Might as well take advantage of the greens being just a hair softer.

VO: PLAYING WITH SCHAUFFELE, DEFENDING CHAMPION RORY MCILROY SHOT A ONE-UNDER 71, FINSHING ONE SHOT INSIDE THE CUTLINE EARNING HIMSELF A CHANCE ON THE WEEKEND.

McIlroy: I feel like I hit the ball a bit better today than I did yesterday also, so hopefully I've done enough to get into the weekend and have another two days at it.

VO: WHILE THE REST OF FIELD BATTLED FOR A SATURDAY TEE TIME, CAMERON YOUNG QUIETLY FIRED A 5-UNDER 67 TO PUT HIMSELF ONE BACK OF SCHAUFFELE'S LEAD

ANNC: //Cameron Young trying to get to nine under// Oh it does fall in for him//what a back nine for Young.

Young: //The goal was to put myself in contention as much as I can so that I can be as comfortable as possible hopefully late on a Sunday//

VO: SCORES IN THE SIXTIES WEREN'T ONLY SHOT BY VETERANS, IN HIS PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP DEBUT MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN HOLED OVER 121 FEET IN PUTTS IN ROUND 2 ON HIS WAY TO A 7-UNDER 65.

ANNC: Michael Thorbjornsen for his birdie// beauty// that young man has a lot of game...

VO: THANKS TO AN ELEVEN SHOT IMPROVEMENT FROM ROUND 1 TO ROUND 2, THORBJORNSEN JOINED MATT FITZPATRICK IN A TIE FOR TENTH - WHILE

THEY BOTH ENDED THE DAY 7-BACK, THIER FRIDAY PERFORMAMCE FORESHADOWED WHAT WOULD BECOME A WEEKEND IN CONTENTION.

ANNC: Matt Fitzpatrick from 157//oh my goodness, how about right at the hole. // Wow!

ANNC: Walked it in the center// unbelievable 3.

VO: LAST YEAR ON FRIDAY JUSTIN THOMAS TIED THE COURSE RECORD TO MAKE THE CUT. THIS YEAR, HE WAS FOUR-MONTHS REMOVED FROM BACK SURGERY AND VAULTING UP THE LEADERBAORD.

ANNC: I'm telling ya.. Oh, Justin Thomas! Come on! // This is just his fourth round back since the surgery. // What a 3 at 11 for Justin Thomas.

Thomas: It'll be tough for me this weekend, I know it will. It'll be exciting tough. // It felt like a Saturday afternoon today to me out there. We did some pretty cool things and made some putts and shots to get the crowd going. //it was loud.//

ANNC: Gotta be thrilled with the first 2 days here at the PLAYERS//

VO: AFTER A BIRDIE ON ONE OF THE TOUGHEST CLOSING HOLES IN GOLF, THOMAS MOVED INTO A TIE FOR FOURTH AT 8-UNDER. BUT THE STORY AND ROUND OF THE DAY BELONGED TO THE SWEDE – LUDVIG ABERG.

Si Woo and Aberg's Friday 63

VO: AS ABERG'S SCORE BEGAN TO GET LOWER, THE CROWD FOLLOWING THE ONLY TWO-SOME GREW LARGER AND LARGER.

VO: KIM'S PLAYING PARTNER, LUDVIG ABERG, HAS A GLOBAL FAN BASE BUT LIVES NEARBY...

ANNC: It is just packed with people rooting Ludvig on, he has a ton of local support.

Manny and Si Woo: What soccer team is that jersey? That yellow one? Sweden. For like the world cup? Is Ludvig Sweden?

Si Woo: Yeah.

ANNC: Ah there's a new leader here in round 2 of the PLAYERS. Ludvig Aberg, what a beginning to this round.

ANNC: Aberg's game really coming together// A perfectly played hole// look out for that man today what a start.

ANNC: Ludvig Aberg is absolutely on fire today.

VO: ABERG BEGAN ROUND 2 BY DOING SOMETHING THAT HAD NEVER BEEN DONE BEFORE...

ANNC: Oh, another eagle! Does it a bit better with a 29!

VO: HIS 7-UNDER 29 ON THE FRONT SET A NEW COURSE RECORD AT TPC SAWGRASS

Reporter: Have you ever started a round as good as you did today in your career?

Aberg: I don't think in a tournament. I've probably done it at home at some point. But no, I don't think so.

Manny SOT: I've never seen so many cameras in my life. Two, three, four, five, six. Can you imagine how many cameras there are at this tournament?

Si Woo: Seven, seven on the tee box. Eight, nine.

Manny: I feel like I am in Japan.

Si Woo: I've never felt Friday feel like Sunday. Maybe because we are playing with the leader.

Si Woo and Gotterup Cutline – Chasing Sunday

VO: AT MINUS ELEVEN THERE IS NO DANGER ABERG WILL MISS THE CUT... KIM IS WALKING A FINER LINE AT MINUS ONE - WITH THE 17TH ISLAND GREEN LOOMING...

ANNC: Ludvig Aberg had the shot of the day yesterday on this hole. That is a really good shot.

Manny SOT: You got it? Come on full committed.

ANNC: Doesn't love it, headed just a little left.

Manny SOT: I need you to take your time here, ok? 87, 80 on top and it's off the right.

ANNC: That comes up shorter than he would have wanted. 20 feet up the hill you know it moves right. That's a tap in for 5 at 17...

VO: WHILE SI WOO STRUGGLED THROUGH 17, AMERICAN, CHRIS GOTTERUP, FOUND HIMSELF RIGHT ON THE CUTLINE NEEDING SOMETHING SPECIAL OVER HIS FINAL 2 HOLES...

Gotterup: Get in the bunker.

ANNC: This the par 3 8th hole in the greenside bunker to the right.

Gotterup: I am making this awfully hard.

Stockton: Not terrible there, it is just in the bunker that's a pretty straightforward shot.

ANNC: What a shot. Great touch.

Gotterup: I would have loved that to go in. I like driver in this wind, I don't want to lay up and then have 280 in. Try and make something happen.

ANNC: That is exactly what you want on this par 5. Hammered down there too.

Gotterup: Ok, I am just... that was hit so bad. Everything is out to the right. I mean I'd love it on the green but left bunker would be great but I do think you have to carry it pretty far to get to the left bunker. Left, get left! Go. Alright, up and down or just make it, that would be nice.

ANNC: It is all under his control.

Stockton: Three feet on or so? Ya, great. Hit your spot.

ANNC: Like that, just like that. A little different than how everyone else gets it done

Gotterup: Thanks fellas. I want to get the f*** out of here.

ANNC: And that gets him off the cutline with some cushion.

Gotterup: ahh that was the longest back nine ever.

ANNC: To even par through 36 holes, a huge finish for Chris to make it to the weekend here at the players.

Gotterup: Good playing, well done. Have a good weekend.

Round 2 Conclusion

VO: FOR KIM, HE OVERCOMES THE DOUBLE BOGEY ON 17 WITH A CLUTCH PAR ON 18 TO SOLIDIFY HIMSELF INSIDE THE CUTLINE...

WITH SI WOO SAFELY INSIDE THE CUTLINE HIS PLAYING PARTNER FINISHED OFF HIS RECORD SETTING ROUND.

Aberg: I feel like I've understood a little bit more what's important for me in my golf swing and kind of sticking to that// my mind is very good when it's simple, and when things are very easy, and that's what I've felt like I've been able to do over the last couple of weeks.

ANNC: 63, one off the course record. Ludvig Aberg some show today//during the second round.

ANNC: Xander out early today with 65 conditions were perfect and they went pin seeking// Cameron Young 67 today// he's right there just three off the lead after 2 rounds of play.

Dan Hick and Gary Koch – Better than Most

ANNC: Johnny, that's better than most. How about in? Better than most, better than most.

KOCH: What I like is you see Tiger start to raise his putter when the balls about 6 feet short of the hole. It's like, wait a minute, how do you know that's going in?

Producer: Can you guys believe it's been 25 years since this?

HICKS: Yes and no.

KOCH: Yeah. I was going to say it's hard to imagine that it's been that long, but, time moves on and Tiger is 50 now, so. Yeah, it all makes sense.

HICKS: Time has flown by, and. But when you get something that memorable, you just kind of get back in that moment. It was like it was yesterday.

ANNC: Johnny we hear this is a nine iron. I got to think it's a smooth one at that. Ah look at this, I'm surprised at that club selection. Well I tell you what if ole Tiger gets this one down in two. Will you believe in him? I will believe in him.

HICKS: Some of our best commentary is in the commercial, Gary.

ANNC: I mean, if he can get it within 6 or 7, eight feet of the hole he's done great.

HICKS: I mean that captures it perfectly. That was our honest feelings, right?

KOCH: Well, again, you know, again, just based on what I had seen earlier in the day, I mean, if he were to have gotten that putt within 6 or 7, eight feet of the hole, it would have been remarkable.

HICKS: But you could kind of tell that none of us expected it to go in. You know the odds, not even with Tiger and a guy of his ability.

ANNC: Johnny that is better than most. How about in? Better than most, better than most!

KOCH: I'm in my tower, 150 yards away. Yeah. The hair on my arms were standing up.

HICKS: We were in the 18th tower. We can always hear roars over there from 17 because it's not too far away. But I remember taking my headset off and just absorbing this thunder that we heard here. It remains the best call, the best moment at the Players Championship. There's been a lot of good ones, you know Hal Sutton and, you know, be the right club. There's a lot of that. But nothing has come close to this. And I dare venture to say that if this championship is played for 100 more years, I cannot see any more perfect scenario. So you're a part of some great history, pal.

KOCH: I appreciate it Dan. Thanks,

Producer: So we have one more clip. This is Tiger's reaction.

TIGER: One of the cooler parts about it for me, I got to get a big kick out. Is you hear better than most. And then I said, how about in and right at that moment, you see this little, this little putter

go right across the screen because the guy from beyond the green, he zoomed in on the ball. You see this putter go right across the screen and that's me walking left and then throw out this big fist pump.

Producer: What was better? The putt or the call?

HICKS: Oh, that's a loaded question.

KOCH: Yeah, it is a loaded question. I think I made this statement safe to say you can at that putt 50 times, maybe make it once. I probably could have said you could hit it 100 times and probably make it once. If the putt isn't hit, the call doesn't happen. So I would have to say the putts better than the call.

HICKS: I'll say this. I'll say the call matched the putt. Oh, because that's not easy to get it right. You're given only these small little moments. And in Gary's 30-year broadcast career, whatever it was to kind of come through, you get one shot, the seconds are clicking by as this thing is rolling, snaking its way. And you can screw that up in a hurry. Believe me, this is live television. Or you can just do it. Not as well. Or you cannot have the magic of the three better than most calls in between Johnny's call I mean, a lot of other stuff could have happened, but I don't think it could have done any better. And so I think the call match the putt.

KOCH: I joke often it'll be on my tombstone better than most.

HICKS: And it wouldn't be a bad thing!

KOCH: Well, that's true. Certainly, the most exciting moment. The most, enjoyable moment. You know, looking back at it now, again, pride in how it was presented, not just me, but the entire team, as Dan mentioned, Johnny and myself setting it up and, you know, taking the time to do it right. It's clearly the highlight of my broadcast career, no doubt about that.

VO: NOW, 25 YEARS LATER THE ROUND 3 HOLE LOCATION WAS CUT IN THAT VERY SPOT AND FEATURED A SPECIAL CUP AND PIN FLAG TO HONOR THE ICONIC CALL AND TIGER'S LEGENDARY PUTT...

Round 3 Competition

ANNC: //third round Saturday at the PLAYERS the stage, one of the best in all of golf set for a wild weekend around TPC Sawgrass. The first 2 days featured some incredible shot making especially yesterday by Sweden's 26-year-old Ludvig Aberg.//

ANNC: The last 24 years, only six 36-hole leaders have gone onto to win the PLAYERS//

ANNC: //There's Aberg, the leader at 12 under at the halfway point//

VO: AS THE LEADERS ARRIVED TO THE FIRST TEE, SCOTLAND'S ROBERT MACINTYRE STEPPED ON TO 17 AND TOOK DEAD AIM AT THE ICONIC PIN LOCATION...

ANNC: Terry he is red hot. He's had 8 birdies already today // what a day// Macintyre// 9 birdies now on the day//

VO: MACINTYRE'S SATURDAY 65 WOULDN'T BE BESTED – BUT ONE ROOKIE WOULD COME CLOSE...

Yellamaraju: I knew my good game had not come yet. I knew I had to stay patient. Today kind of finally it came and hopefully that will carry over to tomorrow.

VO: THANKS TO A BOGEY FREE 66, THE CANADIAN ROOKIE WAS IN PERFECT POSITION FOR A FINAL ROUND CHARGE...

ANNC: Jumped up 40 spots on the leaderboard from 51st to 11th..

VO: AS SATURDAY CONDITIONS AT SAWGRASS INTENSIFIED, NAMES AT THE TOP BEGAN TO STRUGGLE...

ANNC: Disaster kind of hole happening here for JT...

VO: AFTER A TRIPLE BOGEY ON THE SIXTH, JUSTIN THOMAS BATTLED ALL THE WAY BACK TO KEEP HIMSELF IN THE MIX

JT back to where he started ANNC: Back to where he started at 8-under, hasn't gone away.

VO: WHILE J.T. FOUGHT BACK, XANDER SCHAUFFELE FELL BEHIND AFTER A PAIR OF COSTLY MISTAKES.

ANNC: Woah! // The dreaded toe shank, right off the toe//

ANNC: It's just been that kind of day for the X-man, nothing has gone his way.

ANNC: 4-under on the day, Fitzpatrick now on the tee at 17// Oh! Do that//

VO: FITZPATRICK CRUISED THROUGH HIS SATURDAY ROUND CARDING 7 BIRDIES IN 17 HOLES.

VO: BUT A COSTLY 3-PUTT ON 18 STALLED ANY MOMENTUM HE HAD HEADING INTO SUNDAY.

ANNC: And that wasn't even close// coming off two birdies in a row and he throws two away here//

ANNC: Cameron Young hanging in there at 10-under.

ANNC: got good pace here, looking for a little magic!//

ANNC: 46 feet seven inches, into second place by himself.

VO: WHILE A SATURDAY 72 MIGHT SEEM UNEVENTFUL FOR CAMERON YOUNG, HIS ROUND WAS EVERYTHING BUT THAT, FINISHING IN THE EXACT SAME FASHION AS FITZPATRICK...

ANNC: Maybe the best shot of the day, better than Fitzpatrick's?

ANNC: He's got it turning too much to the left, uh oh, needs to hang on//

Young: Honestly, the tee shot wasn't bad. I almost bent over to pick up the tee when I hit it. There's a bunch of wind up there, and it just kept turning and turning and was a foot too much. //

VO: YOUNG WOULD LOOK TO TAKE THAT LESSON WITH HIM ON SUNDAY WHEN EVERYTHING WAS ON THE LINE... WITH HIS DOUBLE BOGEY ON THE LAST, YOUNG FELL TO THIRD ALL BY HIMSELF BUT REMAINED AS CONFIDENT AS EVER...

Young: //I also feel like could I shoot 8- or 9-under// I think those numbers are out there, and no reason why I can't be the one to shoot them.

ANNC: Thorbjornsen has not been off the gas pedal since the 65 that he shot yesterday.

VO: CARDING THREE BIRDIES ON HIS FRONT NINE, MICHAEL THORBJORNSEN PICKED UP RIGHT WHERE HE LEFT OFF ON FRIDAY.

ANNC: Thorbjornsen // for eagle. // He has been impressive with the iron play he's within one of the lead.

ANNC: You are going to continue to hear the name of Michael Thorbjornsen.

VO: SINCE THE START OF LAST SEASON, THORBJORNSEN HAS FIVE TOP FOUR FINISHES ON TOUR BUT IS STILL SEARCHING FOR HIS FIRST WIN.

Thor: If you keep putting yourself in that position, it's going to happen at some point. So I think that's really the main goal of all of us players out here is to have a chance or be in contention on the back nine on Sunday, and however the cards may fall, that's just how it is.

VO: AFTER A RECORD SETTING 29 ON FRIDAY, ABERG'S FRONT NINE ON SATURDAY PROVED TO BE THE OPPOSITE...

ANNC: //He was 5-under at this stage yesterday in his round, he is now plus one at the same stage//

VO: ABERG MISSED THE FIRST 5 FAIRWAYS ON SATURDAY BUT QUICKLY PUT IT BEHIND HIM WITH AN IMPRESSIVE EAGLE ON THE PAR 5 11TH...

ANNC: You're not kidding he really found it on this one//

ANNC: // Ohh there was never a doubt! Come on now.//

VO: WHILE HE ONLY SHOT 1-UNDER ON THE DAY, ABERG INCREASED HIS LEAD TO THREE STROKES AND NOW HELD THE BIGGEST 54-HOLE LEAD OF HIS CAREER...

Aberg: Yeah, I'll definitely be nervous. I've been nervous the last three days.// it will be a challenge for sure, sleeping on a lead at a place that I really like// but that's also what's so fun about this place and about these tournaments is to have these opportunities and is why we play golf.

VO: WHILE ABERG IS IN POLE POSITION, THORBJORNSEN'S 67 EARNED HIM A SPOT IN FINAL GROUP ON SUNDAY WITH THE SWEDE.

Thor: He's a great guy. I love playing golf with him. He was one of the guys in college that I looked up to, even though he's only one year older than me. // pretty cool that I guess two hometown guys are in the final group.

Aberg: Walking up the last hole, I said. It looks like we're playing with Michael tomorrow, which will be fun. // when we were both in college, it felt like we played every single tournament together. He's a great guy, good player//

ANNC: So, you got Thorbjornsen and Aberg in that final pairing, and you got Young in there four back and you got all those 8-unders trying to go for another piece of history//

Round 4 Competition Part 1

ANNC: It is one of the premiere days in this sport, the final round of the PLAYERS Championship always entertaining, always pressure packed.

ANNC: There is no doubting this golden opportunity for the man from Sweden to put away the biggest title of his career. He's got a lead by three over Michael Thorbjornsen// Cameron Young four back and then you got a cluster of players five back trying to match the largest final round comeback on the players stadium course//

VO: AHEAD OF THE DRAMA ATOP THE LEADERBOARD, RORY MCILROY CONCLUDED HIS TITLE DEFENSE WITH A 1-UNDER 71 ON SUNDAY AND WAS RELIEVED HIS BODY HELD UP.

McIlroy: Happy I got through four days and my body feels good. I feel like my game sort of progressively got a little bit better as the week went on, even though the scores probably didn't reflect it over the weekend. I hit the ball well. I just didn't make anything on the greens.

VO: WHILE THE DEFENDING CHAMP HEADED HOME, SUDARSHAN YELLAMARAJU WAS HAVING THE BIGGEST ROUND OF HIS YOUNG CAREER.

ANNC: Yellamaraju for birdie//can he get it to double digits within three? What a great story// Sudarshan Yellamaraju// got the round of the day going...

Yellamaraju: I think I kind of exceeded what I thought I could do. // I just wanted to play one shot at a time, play the best golf that I could. I stayed patient. I fought until the very end and never gave up, and that's all I could wish for.

VO: IN HIS PLAYERS DEBUT, YELLAMARAJU'S FINAL ROUND 68 PUT IN HIM IN A TIE FOR FIFTH, SOLIDIFYING ONE OF THE BEST FINISHES OF HIS CAREER.

VO: WHILE ONE FIRST TIMER VAULTED UP THE LEADERBOARD, ANOTHER FOUND HIMSELF 18 HOLES AWAY FROM A POTENTIAL PLAYERS TITLE...

ANNC: How about being in this situation, you're 24 years of age it is your first PLAYERS and you're in this final pairing//

VO: THORBJORNSSEN BEGAN THE DAY 1-UNDER THROUGH THREE, BUT AS HE GOT TO HOLE FOUR, SAWGRASS BEGAN TO SHOW ITS TEETH...

ANNC: Oh woah, no! Compounding the problem here at the fourth.

ANNC: Oh man has it come unraveled here. // This is as shocking as it gets//

VO: AFTER A QUADROUPLE BOGEY ON THE FOURTH, THORBJORNSSEN FOUND HIMSELF OUT OF CONTENTION – AS HIS GROUP MADE THE TURN, HIS PLAYING PARTNER, ABERG, SUFFERED THE SAME FATE...

ANNC: Very high, he doesn't like it has he lost it right? Oh, well right, not close at all.

ANNC: This is a big hook. Two holes in a row, Aberg in the water!

Aberg: It got away from me quick there. poor swings. // tried to press a little bit on 12, hitting driver, where sometimes you can play 3-wood a little short of that bunker. Yeah, obviously disappointed // overall, I still felt like I saw some nice things in my game this week.

VO: WITH THE FINAL GROUP NOW OUT OF CONTENTION, THE CHASERS BEGAN TO PUT THEIR FOOT ON THE GAS.

ANNC: This guy is on a heater early, three in the first four holes.

ANNC: Cameron young to get it to 10-under// he's been excellent on the greens this week. Again!

ANNC: And Xander's got hopes! What a finish by Schauffele.

VO: WITH HIS BIRDIE ON THE 72ND HOLE XANDER SCHAUFFELE CLAIMED THE CLUBHOUSE LEAD AT ELEVEN UNDER...

Xander: When you're in those later groups, it's playing a little bit harder. It's a little crispier. The wind is up. But you kind of know what you need to do to earn it around this property just happy to have stuck in it.

ANNC: Bobby Mac's not done! What birdie out of that bunker.

Macintyre: //coming into that back nine, middle of that back nine I really thought I was in with a shout. The way I'm playing, driving it beautifully, putting unbelievable// just disappointed with the bogeys on the back nine to finish, but yeah, I gave it a shot.

VO: AFTER AN EARLY BIRDIE ON THE BACK NINE, YOUNG WAS NOW WITHIN ONE SHOT OF LEAD. HE REMAINED UNPHASED AS HIS JOURNEY TO GET TO THIS POINT WAS ONE OF TRUE PERSISTENCE

Cam Young Journey

YOUNG: I'd be lying if I said it was so easy to just watch with other people win. It's not fun being that close that often and not having won. All in all, I think it's a great thing. It proves that I can at least put myself there. And I think overall it's a good thing, but definitely a little frustrating not to have won one yet.

ANNC: And a 68 for Cameron Young – kind of a – if he stays in second, it'll be his fifth runner up of the year.

ANNC: Just what a tremendous rookie season it's been for the long hitting Cameron Young.

WEBB SIMPSON: Cam, from one deacon to another, Just want to say congrats on Rookie of the Year. Super proud of you.

CAMERON YOUNG: That's very special. I know we had a very strong rookie class and I know it's voted by, by my peers. So it's, you know, a huge honor to, to be thought of in that way and just to, to kind of finish the year that way.

CAMERON YOUNG: I think for the most part, I played some good golf and got beat. A bunch of those weeks, I was close, but hopefully I'll be back there again soon.

ANNC: On the subject of Ryder Cup, too, a lot of his points were gained from the PGA Championship last year. So, this year hasn't added to that tally that much. So he's in the hot seat for a potential pick.

ANNC: Cam Young is gonna have to wait another week for that elusive first victory. It's just a matter of time until he does find himself in that winner's circle.

ANNC: Beautiful shot in there for Cam Young. Gonna get back to 20-under par. Take a five-shot lead to the last.

ANNC: Good playing. Really good playing. 65 today for Cameron Young.

REPORTER: Does it feel like you got a monkey on your back that you're trying to get off this week with finally getting that win?

CAMERON YOUNG: Not really. If you'd asked me two years ago, I'd probably say yes. You know, I've played some good golf on Sunday in really all those cases. So, that's all I'm trying to do tomorrow.

REPORTER: You mentioned the Ryder Cup being goal, could you speak to why that such a goal this year and is it being in New York make it a little more special?

CAMERON YOUNG: For sure. Yeah, I think that that location is, first of all, one of my favorite golf courses in the world. I have a lot of good memories there playing New York State Open. Obviously, I'd love to make it. It hurt pretty bad to miss it a couple of years ago. I was ninth on the points list and didn't get picked, so I was a bit frustrated with that and, you know, set out the year to give our captain no choice. It would take some really good golf between now and then, but I if I'm in the question, I'd love to put myself there anyway.

ANNC: How about this!? Opens with bogey and then says don't worry about it. Birdie, birdie, birdie, birdie. And the lead has swelled to seven shots.

WEBB SIMPSON: Man, I'm so happy for him because you know, assuming he gets the job done, he's one of those players ... he's unique in the sense everyone knew how good he was. He has a very high ceiling.

ANNC: In record fashion, Cameron Young wins the Wyndham Championship of 2025! His first victory on the PGA TOUR after seven second-place finishes. I don't know if there were any demons after all those second-place finishes, but they've been exorcized here at Sedgefield Country Club this week.

CAMERON YOUNG: Where do I go? I've never done this before.

VO: THANKS TO HIS FIRST CAREER WIN, YOUNG MADE THE U.S. RYDER CUP TEAM WHERE HE PROVED HE HAD WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IT DONE DOWN THE STRETCH – MUCH LIKE HE HOPED TO DO AT TPC SAWGRASS...

[Round 4 Conclusion](#)

ANNC: //If he makes it, he's going to have his first taste at the top. And this putting stroke by Cam Young is just as solid as it gets, used to be his weakness//

VO: AFTER YOUNG GRABBED A SHARE OF THE LEAD THE ENGLISHMAN QUICKLY ANSWERED BACK WITH A BIRDIE OF HIS OWN.

ANNC: This man takes control again...

VO: NOW, YOUNG ARRIVED TO 17 DOWN BY ONE IN SEARCH OF A PIVOTAL BIRDIE...

ANNC: //Great bounce and the roll!

ANNC: Yes, he did! //Maybe the putt of his life right here. //

VO: FOR THE THIRD STRAIGHT DAY YOUNG BIRDIED 17. NOW – TIED WITH FITZPATRICK – HE STEPPED ON 18 NEEDING THE BEST DRIVE OF HIS LIFE. THE SAME DRIVE THAT FOUND THE WATER 24 HOURS PRIOR..

Young : My thought process over that ball is// I'm going to hit the best shot of my life right here. I don't know if I can think of one that's better.

ANNC: Cameron Young steps up there and pipes it// the longest drive of the day by almost 20 yards...

VO: AFTER FITZPATRICK'S DRIVE FOUND THE PINE STRAW, HE WAS FORCED TO LAYUP AND NOW NEEDED PAR TO FORCE A PLAYOFF

ANNC: //eight feet four inches to tie Young // Misses it!

Fitzpatrick: I think the big thing is I believe in my own ability. Just felt like I did a ton of really good stuff. It's obviously frustrating not to come away with a little bit better. //

ANNC: It took him 94 tournaments to breakthrough//and now hes got the crown jewel of the PGA TOUR, Young is a PLAYERS champion!

Young: The stadium atmosphere out there is unbelievable // there's nowhere to hide, and I feel like I stepped up really well and hit a bunch of good shots those last couple holes, so I'm very proud of that.

Young: //I've dreamed of having that moment with them for a long time// To get to see them// give my boys a hug, see my wife, see my little girl, that's something I'll remember for a long time

VO: WHILE A HOST OF INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS ROUNDED OUT THE TOP 5, MATT FITZPATRICK WOULD USE HIS SOLO SECOND AS A BUILDING BLOCK FOR THE REST OF HIS 2026 SEASON...

VO: WITH HIS SECOND CAREER WIN CAMERON YOUNG CLIMBED TO NUMBER 4 IN THE WORLD.

[Cam Young Mic'd Up – Winner Walk](#)

Young: Nice F***** work You want to get that tee shot? I don't want to try it again either. Someone said they put the house on it. What house? You know, in a lot of my high finishes on the PGA tour I've been beaten. Today I feel like it was a great mental test. Just how much can you linger?

Lerner: Sleepy Hollow's finest. That's right. Way to go. Come on. Thank you for coming.

Young: You know, having birdie at 17 and then sitting there with a chance to win, you know, right there in my hands on 18, I felt like my goal was to end it right there.

SOT: Want us to grab you a beer?

Young: No, I'm good thank you. I got a 4.5 hour drive. My father's been my coach my whole life. So to get to live out some of these moments with him is incredibly special. you know, my thought was, hey, let's, let's hit the best shot of your life. And, I think I did, in the back of my mind was like, what if I don't keep my card? And I had to qualify for the U.S. open last year, which was, painful and to be where I am now, I'm incredibly grateful for that.

Nats: I gave your mom a big hug. Yeah. Tears.

Young: I haven't even seen them. I literally shook my dad's hand and ran away. Yeah, thank you.

Young: I made it.

Rolapp: Cam! You hold up, okay?

Young: Yeah, I'm good. This is different. That's pretty cool. There's another guy up there. I can't remember who it was. Hear there. Wow, this is pretty cool. That's ridiculous. As far back as 74. That was fast. Wow. Is it painted there? I didn't even know this room was here to be.

Rolapp: Really? Is that right?

Young: I did not know. I've never looked this way, and now I do.

Rolapp: Now this is where you get to come.

Young: No, they have no idea. They don't care one bit. Thank you so much. Appreciate it. Thank you. Appreciate it. Means a lot. This is a comfy chair.

Young: To have now put my name on two different tournaments and a big one like the PLAYERS, it's incredibly special and I'm hoping I can continue that throughout the season...
