

25ICUTROCK MASTER SCRIPT

COLD OPEN

ANNC: Not an easy shot here to get up and down. Goodness gracious. Jordan Spieth. How about that birdie the last because that was motoring. And he got the pond on the other side. Wow. To tie for the lead at 19 under. He's holed it.

CUT TITLES

WELCOME TO PGA TOUR THE CUT

JORDAN SPIETH REMINISCES JDC WIN

That year. I was just pleased to be getting starts. And the brilliant teenager from Dallas. Jordan space. I started with no status anywhere. And by the time the John Deere rolled around, I was just playing to play. There was nothing else really to try and play for other than trying to win. And so that was kind of my attitude as I went into the final round.

Oh goodness gracious. Jordan Spieth, that birdie at the last. And then I found myself in a playoff. I had never been in that position before. Tried to use my lack of nerves being 19 to just look at it as a cool opportunity. And I had dodged a couple bullets throughout the process and ended up on top, and it was just an incredible feeling.

He's got his first teenage winner in a PGA tour event since Ralph Goodall in 1931. I always had that belief and just all came so quickly. There's so many perks to winning on the PGA tour. And I started to recognize them that Sunday night. I look back even just six months before that. I would not have guessed that I'd have been in that situation, and it looked like a year before that. I might have laughed at you.

JOHN DEERE HOUSE

A NEW TRADITION HAS EMERGED RECENTLY AT THE JOHN DEERE CLASSIC, AS THE LAST THREE WINNERS HAVE ALL STAYED IN THE SAME HOUSE.

There's a group of six competing at the John Deere Classic who are all sharing a house this week. A good number of them at the top of the leaderboard. One of them might come away on top.

Fun is, you know, it kind of feels like college golf again where I love that team atmosphere, even though we're not playing on the same team. You're coming back to the house and everybody's pulling for each other. It's JT at the JD. JT Poston wins the John Deere Classic. I think those guys are already celebrating the tree house for the week, and they're going to have a head start on the on the celebrations, but hopefully we can catch up.

And Seth Straka wins the John Deere Classic with a final round 62 to keep it in the house. Do you really have to pay for the house now? Oh yeah. And yeah, they're not letting me off the hook there. And how much is that that house going to go for on Airbnb next year? Right. 2 to 2. I don't know.

I hope JT, went ahead and renewed before this this year. Davis Thompson is in that house. In fact, he's in SEPs trucker's room. Me and him may be fighting for that room next year. Davis. Thompson. Remember the name? His first career PGA tour win. That's kind of crazy, al JT and two years ago. And then, Sapp had that unbelievable final round last year.

And it was a really fun week. Do you want to win this tournament? You better find an invitation into that house.

LUCAS GLOVER WITB

A PAST CHAMPION OF THE JOHN DEERE CLASSIC IN 2021. LUCAS GLOVER LOOKS TO CONTINUE HIS STRONG SEASON WITH SOME RECENT CHANGES TO THE BAG.

. This is Lucas Glover. What's in the bag? Just started with the new TaylorMade.

Qi35. Liked it a lot. Drawls nicely, which is kind of what I'm looking for in a driver. Haven't had much luck finding any of the new ones that drop off. So this one kind of fit. Ping three and five woods. The new G4 40s. Always had good luck with the paying fairway woods. For whatever reason, I think because the flat.

I mean, I can hit down on them and they still go up in the air. Kind of old school love me, but, that's where it's at. And then I got two of the five, three and four irons about strikes on, three and five would go in and out, and then from five iron through pitching wedge.

Zevon's more of the traditional cavity back. 52, 56 and 60 are actually 52, 57 and 62 degrees. So five degrees of, separation between those, which has been good for me with gaps and numbers. And then, the lab has max really, really long heavy broomstick. That's what's in the bag.

BREAK

HISTORIC PIECE – DETROIT GC

. Today we're a Detroit golf club, home to the Rocket Classic.

This club has a storied past on the PGA tour. But what you might not know is it's also the scene. And one of the most unique eras of the Ryder Cup. When the 1939 Ryder Cup was canceled because of World War Two, U.S. team captain Walter Hagen kept the competition alive on home turf a different way. Here to tell us more about the challenge matches is past DC club president and current historian Keith, doesn't he?

Keith, how did all this unfold in 1939? Well, it started with, Walter Hagen picking his team in 1939 and for some reason, leaving off gene terrorism. So Gene Sarazen change. Changeable. Angry. I don't know, I probably would say, but he, he challenged Walter Agan to matches that he could get a team together to beat them because the Europeans couldn't come over with the war starting.

And in 1941, that came here to Detroit Golf Club. Bobby Jones was a captain. Walter Hagen was a captain of the Coopers team. And in that year, the challengers did win on both teams. There's actually six World Golf Hall of Famers from the Ryder Cup team and from the challenge team. So 12 people in total there in the, World Golf Hall of Fame.

So that's Bobby Jones. And Walter Hagen was president of the PGA at the time at the league with the Ryder Cup trophy, wondering probably who's going to get it. Obviously, you know, Walter felt pretty confident they were going to win. Bobby Jones Jr. Well, what stands out to you as, you know, the most impactful moment of everything that unfolded?

Just the players here and what they were willing to do for charity. I mean, way back when, I mean, to raise that money for the Red cross. Well, Keith, thank you so much for having us and for taking a walk down memory lane. Well thank you. History here at Detroit Golf Club. Thank you for coming to the golf. I appreciate it. All right

ROCKET WINNER RECAP

MORE HISTORY WAS MADE THIS WEEKEND AT DETROIT GOLF CLUB, WHERE 20-YEAR-OLD ALDRICH POTGIETER'S STRONG PLAY DOWN THE STRETCH GOT HIM A SPOT INTO A 3-MAN PLAYOFF FOR A CHANCE TO BECOME THE YOUNGEST SOUTH AFRICAN TO WIN ON THE PGA TOUR AS THE DRAMA UNFOLDED.

ANNC: And Kirk has missed it // So we're down to two in Detroit.

ANNC: Third playoff hole rolls on from Detroit Golf Club. Max Greyserman and Aldrich Potgieter. One of these men will win for the first time on the PGA TOUR.

ANNC: Potgieter has a putt to win. // Potgieter pours it in and he's got his first PGA TOUR victory!

SOT: Yeah, I think it's very different sleeping on a lead as well. // There's five or six guys who were right behind me two shots off the bat. // After that five or six holes when I lost the lead, I kind of figured, OK, we've got to change, we've got to play like we played the last three // Once I did that, it was kind of a big game changer.

ROCKET WINNER WALK

NATS: I'm so proud of you, good job.

NATS: This is the ball you gave him before. Thank you so much, congratulations.

NATS: Congratulations. It's a little bit lighter than your other one. I don't think so, I think it's heavier. It's heavy!

NATS: Come on. I don't know how to smile anymore.

NATS: You'll be a part of Detroit history forever, how much will Detroit be a part of you going forward?

SOTS: Yeah, it's been awesome, even playing in the pro-am, played with a couple of the guys who play for the Lions, so maybe I'm a Lions fan now. I need to find a pro team, so maybe it's going to be the Lions.

NATS: All right, thank you. Appreciate it, thanks for that.

NATS: You're just going right into a speech.

SOTS: Yeah, I mentioned to someone maybe I'm a Lions fan after this week, so ...

SOTS: Is that it? Yeah! No that was good, thank you.

FEDEXCUP STANDINGS

WITH THE VICTORY, ALDRICH POTGIETER MOVES UP TO THE 36TH IN THE FEDEXCUP STANDINGS, FIRMLY IN POSITION TO LOCK UP HIS FIRST FEDEXCUP PLAYOFFS APPEARANCE

JOE HOOKS – TOUR DEBUT

JOE HOOKS, WHO GREW UP PLAYING AT DETROIT GOLF CLUB, EARNED HIS SPOT INTO THE ROCKET CLASSIC BY WINNING THE JOHN SHIPPEN MEN'S INVITATIONAL PRESENTED BY ROCKET.

It's definitely still a home field vibe, and I feel like all these guys out here that are, where I want to be, I'm right with them now, and they're in my city and on my golf course.

So, let's see what we can do. Here's Joe Hooks, the 32 year old Detroit native making his PGA tour debut a beauty in their grew up just a couple of miles from here. He grew up playing this golf course on the way to work. His parents would drop him off in the morning, pick him up on the way home in the evenings.

If you want to stay up. All right there. Great. Start taking it all in stride, making the most out of it and doing as much as possible and playing as well as possible to continue to change

my family's life and, inspire the next generation. Hoping to finish strong in his hometown, **HOOKS WOULD ULTIMATELY MISS THE CUT, BUT FELT SUPPORT FROM THE LOCALS ALL WEEK.**

IN ADDITION TO MAKING HIS PGA TOUR DEBUT THIS WEEK, HOOKS ALSO THREW OUT THE FIRST PITCH AT THE DETROIT TIGERS GAME ON TUESDAY.

BREAK

SWING THEORY VIJAY SINGH

A PAST CHAMPION OF THE JOHN DEERE CLASSIC IN 2003. LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT VIJAY SINGH'S MECHANICS HE'S USED THROUGHOUT THE YEARS.

I've watched Vijay hit hundreds upon hundreds of balls, and every practice swing and every practice session involves two things a shaft lined up about like that's just off to his right as a reference for the shaft plane, and then a water bottle lined up right about there to ensure that he doesn't hit that. On the exit of the through swing, he traces the line that is right on the button, hips turning left shoulder moving down and away from the target.

Now from here is where it is magical. Watch this back swing out of Vijay Singh. He turns, he turns. He continues to turn the arms race. How about that now as we transition him down. Remember, Vijay is trying to hit the ball from straight to run. So you'll see the knees lead. See that? Settle down. Watch how the arms fall down the body.

Look how this right elbow starts to find the right side. Things are but narrow. But watch how Vijay continues to just turn the body. The hips are turning out of the way. The right elbow and the right hip now are marrying up beautifully. That is fantastic stuff. Now he's coming in a little straighter. That club is now on more of a fade path, and he is right over the back of the golf ball.

But now watch this. Watch that right hand over there. He's trying to swing left. But can you see how the pinky finger is coming off the golf club. Look at that right wrist. Wow. It's really so much around there. It's almost like the club. It is accelerating past his hands. One more frame along that watch how that right wrist pops up even more.

And that pinky finger is off the club even more. In fact, upon closer inspection, you can see the palm of his right hand. That's who Vijay Singh is. He's not just a swinger of the club, he's a slinger of the club. And watch this now the golf ball is gone and he just continues to follow through, uninhibited all the way through, never holding back whatsoever.

CLANTON / THOR LOOKBACK

WITH PLENTY OF MOMENTUM COMING INTO THIS SEASON'S JOHN DEERE CLASSIC AFTER THEIR T2 FINISHES LAST YEAR, LET'S TAKE A LOOK BACK AT TWO OF THE PGA TOUR'S RISING STARS

the young Guns Clanton and Thorbjorn Singh. So impressive. Why are these young players able to make such an immediate impact? Realizing that, you know, it's possible to be out here and win one of the stars of the week, Luke Clanton.

What a week he is having Michael for Bjornsson coming out of PGA tour, you youth movement. They know what the possibilities are. I mean this is my third event as a pro. Played really well I think last year, 2223 one. So just knowing that the score itself is there. 13 birdie putt for Michael knocks it in. Look at that run to six straight birdies.

Luke Clanton continues to impress. This week is a great player I played with him at regionals. Outstanding ball striker. Great attitude. He played a great round of golf. You know we just wanted to finish up strong. So we came in and now we're playing solid in the last four holes. Last three holes was holes that I can get after an attack Clanton 16, was a pretty good birdie.

And in 17 that tee shot has been killing me all week. And if I get in the fairway was pretty cool. And the make birdie there, we knew, you know, we were kind of top five ish. Top six daddy. This boy can go all sorts of swagger that he does to the final hole. And Luke Clanton trying to finish with a birdie.

We get a nine iron about 25ft right at ten. And I looked at my card and said this thing is going in. I said, I'm not missing this putt for sure. How about this? How about it? What a breath of fresh air this young man has been the last couple of weeks. I could have jumped 12ft in the air if I really wanted to at that moment, but it's unreal to make a birdie in the last hole and do all that and seeing my close ball play, well, it was it was just awesome.

A majestic pitching wedge from the sand to wow, that's a great shot. Mark.

Yeah. Why not. Fantastic five for the Johnson, 22 years old. Luke Clanton 20 years old. And they're in a tie for second. Feel good. Played some good golf. Got really hot in the middle of the round and finished with a very nice birdie. I feel like I definitely left some shots out there too. So obviously feeling really good with where the game's at and there are still things I can improve on.

I mean, it just kind of proves again to me that I know I can win out here. I don't want to sound cocky or anything, but to me, I just kept wanting to prove myself that I can do it and to kind of have that experience to finish second in the PGA tour event was just unreal. I've never felt that kind of feeling in any kind of event.

And, you know, to lose by four shots and shoot 24 under, I was kind of like, jeez, these guys are really good. These kids are unbelievable.

MICHAEL LA SASSO SWING

Hi, I'm Michael Sasso. I'm a senior at Ole Miss. I just won the NCAA championship, but I'm here to walk you through my son.

I was a big baseball kid growing up, so I think it's kind of transition a little bit over from that. Kind of got into golf a little bit later. So kind of have refined it a little more like the more that I've played. Yeah. It's just something that's been like pretty athletic to me. And kind of always tried to feel it.

First ever swing coach I had, his name was Greg, Greg Stout of Wildwood. And then kind of in high school, I started to change to Chase Duncan. I've seen him for a while. They've never really matched with any of like, my mechanics. So it's just kind of like getting the angles right off from the back swing. And kind of just like little start skills for different events.

Start line. So there's some control. It's kind of been the biggest part of it. There's been a little bit of tweaks just to like how much length I have to get the shot. But besides that, it hasn't really been like much of a difference in technique. It's just kind of feels for each shots that I have on the course.

Kind of was a meet head in high school a little bit and got pretty big and like the whole gym working out system kind of over time, like I always got to enjoy. Didn't like this. I'm probably a little bit overboard, but enough. You know, I've kind of always had issues with my shorts, like sitting pretty well. I ended up taking it to a tailor and I think she went like a little overboard.

Oh, but it was kind of just something that stuck. I started to play pretty good golf with it, you know, I kind of got the legs to show it off, so figured why not let them show stuff?

DAVID FORD – GET TO KNOW

ANOTHER YOUNG STAR ON THE RISE IS DAVID FORD, WHO WAS NUMBER ONE IN THE PGA TOUR UNIVERSITY CLASS OF 2025 AND SECURED PGA TOUR MEMBERSHIP THROUGH THE 2026 SEASON.

I think my process got a lot better over the summer and because, you know, he brought me into his office and, he's just like, we're going to sit here. We're going to go through your day.

He's told me very plainly, like being a college athlete is one of the easiest, easiest things you're going to have. In life is only going to get harder conversations like that. And especially that one at the end of last spring, about about a year ago, has really it's really contributed to, to my growth as a person and a golfer.

I know I need to take care of my body. I know I need to like, invest in relationships around me, and I know I need to practice this. Probably this time last year, I was, having conversations about redshirting and didn't know if I was going to be able to play pro or play my last year of college golf just because my body wasn't functioning well.

There were definitely thoughts about, Will I have a job this time next year? Well, I want to have a job like, well, my body be healthy enough to be playing golf professionally. So yeah, to see it all come together is really different than what I thought would have been 12 months ago. I didn't think I was going to be this good in college.

I thought I would have a great college career. I wanted to be the best player in college golf, but winning seven times is, something that you don't really think about when you're out there playing week to week. One reason is I just hate losing, so I know how hard it is for me to be limited by my body, or limited by something that I could have controlled.

When I'm walking down the fairway and shooting 76 and, losing a golf tournament, like, that's not where I want to be. I like to have fun on the golf course. And, I don't really want it to turn into something that's super binding and super stressful. And yeah, no matter where I'm at, whether it's a Ryder Cup or a random uni, like, I want it to be fun.

We all know that we can play. I think all the young guys know that they have the talent, and you watch any of them hit a golf ball. I mean, Luke Clayton, Dunlap, Ludwig, they all stripe it, they can all putt it. So it's just about like sticking to that and having confidence in your process being good.

Yeah, I'm excited to just keep building on that. And if I stick to that and hopefully I can have a long career.

TV TIMES

DAVID FORD WILL LOOK TO MAKE HIS MARK THIS WEEK AS HE MAKES HIS TOURNAMENT DEBUT AT THE JOHN DEERE CLASSIC

FORE THINGS TO KNOW

AS THE JOHN DEERE CLASSIC KICKS OFF, HERE ARE FOUR THINGS TO KNOW THIS WEEK BEFORE TOURNAMENT PLAY BEGINS. PLAYERS AND THEIR FAMILIES PUT ON THEIR HARD HATS AND TEST OUT THE NEWEST EQUIPMENT DURING THE ANNUAL BIG DIG, THEY'LL GET BEHIND THE WHEEL OF A FULL LINEUP OF JOHN DEERE TRACTORS AND MACHINERY AS THEY UNWIND BEFORE THE COMPETITION BEGINS.

COMMUNITY MEANS SO MUCH HERE, AND TPC DEERE RUN IS STEEPED WITH HISTORY AS WELL. SO MUCH SO, THEY'VE NAMED EVERY HOLE AFTER HISTORIC MOMENTS IN THE AREA.

THE PAR 5 SECOND PLAYS AS THE EASIEST HOLE AT TPC DEERE RUN, IT'S A MUST MAKE BIRDIE FOR WINNERS WHO CONSISTENTLY DOMINATE THE FRONT NINE. OVER THE LAST EIGHT YEARS, WINNERS HAVE GAINED 60 PERCENT OF THEIR STROKES ON THE PAR 35 FRONT NINE. WITH 5 OF THE LAST 6 LEADING THE FIELD IN FRONT 9 SCORING AVERAGE.

WINNERS ARE ALSO GAINING STROKES ON THE GREENS. LAST SEASON, TPC DEERE RUN HAD THE 7TH EASIEST GREENS TO HIT IN REGULATION ON TOUR, SETTING UP PLENTY OF BIRDIE OPPORTUNITIES.

THE JOHN DEERE CLASSIC ALSO OWNS THE MOST FIRST TIME WINNERS ON THE PGA TOUR, WITH 24 PLAYERS CALLING THE JOHN DEERE CLASSIC HOME TO THEIR FIRST VICTORY. THE OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF THIS WEEK FOR ANOTHER RISING STAR TO JUMPSTART THEIR CAREER