

COLD OPEN:

ANNC: 8 months after the regular season began // we have reached the end of the line. Final opportunity // for players to qualify for the FedExCup Playoffs.

LUDVIG SOT: The playoffs is the pinnacle of the PGA TOUR.

ANNC: 70 men will qualify for the first leg of the playoffs // in Memphis

ANNC: The heat is on again in Memphis and it is not just the weather.

ANNC: High stakes golf. We're gonna pare this field from 70 to 50, the pressure that's on these guys to move on to the BMW Championship...

ANNC: Caves Valley in Maryland // 50 players will qualify for that event

ANNC: Only 30 at the season ending TOUR Championship in Atlanta

SCOTT SOT: These few weeks can turn an average year into a really great year on TOUR.

ANNC: The end of the road for the FedEx Cup season. The race is on.

COLD OPEN:

WELCOME TO PGA TOUR, THE CUT.

HIDEKI 2024 WIN

SIX MONTHS AFTER BREAKING KJ CHOI'S RECORD FOR MOST WINS BY AN ASIAN BORN PLAYER, HIDEKI MATSUYAMA COLLECTED ANOTHER CAREER FIRST.

ANNC: Hideki Matsuyama pours in a birdie to make it official. He's got his first playoff win. It came with all sorts of drama.

MATSUYAMA SOT: Having a 5-shot lead, if I had lost the tournament, I think it would have been really damaging to myself. To convert the scenario into a victory was very positive.

PLAYING A PIVOTAL PART IN MATSUYAMA'S FIRST PLAYOFF VICTORY, WAS A NEW PUTTER IN THE BAG THAT WEEK - WHICH HELPED HIDEKI PICK UP 2 STROKES PER ROUND IN MEMPHIS ... RESULTING IN HIS 10TH CAREER VICTORY, WHICH REWROTE THE RECORD BOOKS ONCE AGAIN, CEMENTING HIS LEGACY ON THE PGA TOUR

MATSUYAMA SOT: Not only my golf swing, but also my life has changed gradually after being on TOUR for 10 years. In that sense, I'm satisfied with where I am right now. But, I

also want to continue pushing myself to work harder and do even more for another 10 or 20 years.

WHILE AN EQUIPMENT CHANGE LED TO MATSUYAMA'S WIN IN MEMPHIS, A PUTTER CHANGE FOR SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER IN EARLY 2024 HELPED HIM TO TAKE HOME HIS FIRST FEDEX CUP AND HAS CONTINUED TO PROPEL HIM EVER SINCE THAT VICTORY.

SCOTTIE PUTTER CHANGE:

ANNC: His putter is the star. If those stats start to pick up and that putting stays where it is, he's going to be a tough one to beat.

SCHEFFLER: I feel like my game has been trending in the right direction. I had some good starts recently. I had a good start at the Masters, solid start, and then I had a chance here in Houston. I had a decent week in Hilton Head. I didn't have a great Sunday, but overall I played some pretty solid golf.

ANNC: Scottie wins for the first time this year and it comes in the event he attended as a kid.

ANNC: Coming off the win at the PGA Championship last week at Quail Hollow, comes out and starts his round today, eagle, birdie. I mean, he is some phenomenon right now.

ANNC: He's the best iron player in the game. You could argue he's now the best driver of the ball in the game, and all of a sudden, he's putting the ball great. The best he's ever putted the ball.

ANNC: Right now, he's got everything in gear. He looks a lot like the player that we saw last year when he was winning seemingly every week.

SCHEFFLER: Golf's not like other sports where, like if we were playing football or basketball -- compared to basketball, like if I get the ball at the three-point line in basketball I can figure out a way to force my way to get there to the hoop and try and put up a layup. In golf, you can't do that. You can will yourself to hit and execute the right way, but you can't force the ball to go into the hole. It tests you each and every time you go out and play. I mean, it's really, like you're looking in the mirror each and every time you go out and play golf. It's as challenging mentally as it is physically.

ANNC: A guy whose season's been turned around by a putter change.

ANNC: When he putts well, he wins easily. When he putts average, he wins closely. And then when he doesn't putt well, he nearly wins.

ANNC: The man is a machine! Scottie Scheffler the repeat champion at Jack's event. Just so impressive on such a hard golf course. Just one bogey the whole weekend. Win number 16. Keep the count going.

ANNC: Universally, players just praising Scottie at The Open Championship saying he's the best in the world. We're all chasing him and right now we can't catch him. The last time we heard anyone talk like that was during Tiger's hay day.

SCHEFFLER: I still feel like there's areas of my game that I can continue to improve without making drastic changes to the DNA of what I do.

WYNDHAM BUBBLE CONTENT:

IN THE FINAL EVENT OF THE REGULAR SEASON AT THE WYNDHAM CHAMPIONSHIP, THE COMPETITION TO FINISH INSIDE THE TOP 70 - AND QUALIFY FOR THE FEDEXCUP PLAYOFFS - CAN BE AS NERVEWRACKING AS THE FIGHT AT THE TOP OF THE LEADERBOARD ...

MARK HUBBARD: I'm so proud of myself. I played so well today. I really wasn't nervous until my putt on 18, and that was one of the better putts I had all day, so I did a good job of just kind

of staying with myself and not checking out leaderboards. Mostly because in my head, at the beginning of the day, I kind of thought I might need like a 59.

MARK HUBBARD: So it wasn't really much in my head. I was just trying to play as good as I could. But once I got to like 16,17, I took a peek just to see. And then I was like, okay, shoot, if I get one, maybe two more, we got a chance. But, yeah, it looks like I might come up once 1 or 2 short, but either way, you know, I made a lot of points for the fall. We'll see. Nothing I can do about it now.

ANNC: He knows it. You know it. He's got to have it to have any chance. And Schmidt knocks it dead center. Holy cow. He makes birdie at 18, and he drops back from 71st to 72nd.

ANNC: Oh, boy. Six feet for everything, oh no. Going to drop to 71st with this bogey here.

ANNC: 16, that put Matti Schmidt back in by the way.

DAVIS THOMPSON: It sucks but it is what it is. Just got to move on and, get ready for the fall.

ANNC: Played his way in. Nice jump. Heading to Memphis.

CHRIS KIRK: I was significantly more nervous today than I would have been in that same situation next to last group. Because I knew I was in great position to have a good week, but there's the pressure of that, and then also trying to get yourself in position to possibly make it to the BMW. So, didn't quite get as many points as I would like, but, you know, overall very happy with my game.

THERE WAS NOBODY HAPPIER WITH THEIR GAME AT THE WYNDHAM CHAMPIONSHIP THAN 2022 ROOKIE OF THE YEAR CAMERON YOUNG.

WYNDHAM WINNER RECAP

ANNC: Seven times a runner up in his PGA TOUR career.

YOUNG SOT: At times, it hurts to have played some really good golf and not had that happen, but in all those cases, there were really no times I had it in my hands and lost.

ANNC: Cameron Young says game on!

ANNC: In record fashion, Cameron Young wins the Wyndham Championship of 2025, his first victory on the PGA TOUR!

YOUNG SOT: I've been waiting for it for a while. I mean, I never thought I'd really be that emotional about it, but you know it's the end of my fourth season, I wasn't gonna let it get away from me today.

FEC STANDINGS

WITH HIS WIN AT THE WYNDHAM CHAMPIONSHIP, CAMERON YOUNG JUMPS 24 SPOTS IN THE FEDEXCUP STANDINGS, AND BECOMES THE 1000TH UNIQUE WINNER IN PGA TOUR HISTORY.

WINNER WALK

CAM YOUNG: Where do I go? Never done this before.

TOURNAMENT HOST: Congratulations. Really proud of you.

CAM YOUNG: Thank you.

RAI NATS: Well deserved.

CAM YOUNG: Well, I think I'm probably a better golfer than I was at any point. Any of those seconds. Just with that comes, you know, a week where things fall together. It's going to just be better than it would have been a couple of years ago. So, you know, a couple more years of experience out here. And that adds up to this instead of, you know, walking off disappointed.

REPORTER: We'll see you in Memphis. Congratulations. Cam Young, the winner of the Wyndham Championship, the 1,000th winner on the PGA tour.

ANNC: Ladies and gentlemen, let's hear it Our champion, Cameron Young.

CAM YOUNG: Thank you. Guys, I got to go take pictures, but I'll call when I can. I'm not good at this part. Is my dad somewhere, can I get one with him real quick? Lift it, man. There you go.

NATS: Go Deacs!

CAM YOUNG: Anywhere? Top left?

NATS: Go Deacs! Congratulations.

CAM YOUNG: Thank you. That looks like my ball.

CAM YOUNG: Get in there. Thanks. I'd like to put my foot up.

IAN BAKER – FINCH RETIREMENT

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Oh, that's a one! Thunderbear makes a one at the eighth!

JIM NANTZ: Welcome Ian Baker-Finch.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Thank you very much.

JIM NANTZ: Great to have you a part of the great team too.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Great to be here.

JIM NANTZ: 1991 British Open champion. Also, proud history on our network back in your competitive days.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Well CBS was always very good to me when I was out there playing years ago.

JIM NANTZ: His first win on American soil. First of great performances in the United States, 14 worldwide victories in his career.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Hale said, "Hey, Finchy, if you go three birdies in a row again today, I'm going to do the turkey all the way to the 16th." And I was like, yeah.

ANNC: Ian Baker-finch has done a little stripping act here.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: I thought, I'm not going down in there and getting, mud all over my trousers.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: I had this little hitch in my swing that when I got set to go, I always used to hitch my pants up. And I got down in there and I hitched my boxers up as I played the shot.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: I hit it out. It was not a bad shot, but I missed the putt and made bogey.

ANNC: The rules are you can't wear shorts, but it doesn't say you have to wear pants.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: For the next, 4 or 5 holes everyone in the gallery, especially the girls, they were all yelling out, hit it in the water, hit it in the water.

JIM NANTZ: Well, friends, it's going to be emotional and nostalgic. We conclude our season series at the Wyndham Championship, and we say goodbye to Ian Baker-Finch, our colleague, who announced earlier this week his retirement from the booth, effective after Greensboro.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: It's a one! Thunderbear makes a one at the eighth!

IAN BAKER-FINCH: We bring you live golf from all of these beautiful venues around the world. And, that's what I'll miss. I'll miss being in your homes every weekend.

JIM NANTZ: We're going to miss you big time, pal.

ANNC: Alright, Ian Baker-finch interview your man there Adam Scott.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Mate, unbelievable back there. I remember in Houston last year you had a similar long run. How are you feeling right now? Fantastic stuff.

ADAM SCOTT: Yeah, I dug it out of nowhere and I got away with one I think today.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Well, great decision coming back here to play at the Byron Nelson, congratulations on a great victory. Jimmy, back to you, mate.

ADAM SCOTT: Thanks, Finchy.

ANNC: Oh there's Finchy, chatting it up with Tiger a little bit. He'll be on the coverage later today for CBS.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Hello and welcome to the Travelers Championship. I'm Ian Baker-finch and alongside my old sparring partner and six time major champion, sir Nick Faldo. Who would ever thought that we'd be up here doing this?

IAN BAKER-FINCH: He's going to aim 15, 20ft right of the cup. Quick here down across the slope. Well, he's doing it in style, isn't he?

IAN BAKER-FINCH: That was a beautiful follow through. How bout this! Rory McIlroy on fire!

IAN BAKER-FINCH: When he putts well he wins easily. When he putts average he wins closely. And then when he doesn't putt well he nearly wins.

ANNC: That's exactly right.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: It's now been 30 years. I've been doing the television. I think Colt says it all the time, no one loves the game more than Finchy and I do. I really love it, and I love the team here. It's not just a team. It's not just a network. It's a family here at CBS. And I'll miss everybody. And I really will miss calling those moments to the fans at home, because the fans is what we're here for. We're here for you. We're here to entertain you.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: It's been a great run, though. I've had, and it's overwhelming.

WHILE THE CURTAINS CLOSE ON IAN BAKER-FINCH'S BROADCASTING CAREER, THE PGA TOUR SHOW GOES ON ... WHERE DANIEL BERGER ENTERS THE FEDEXCUP PLAYOFFS RANKED 30TH, AND JOINS MATT EVERY AHEAD OF MAKING THE TRIP TO MEMPHIS.

MATT EVERY: Daniel, thanks for coming in and hanging with us. Look. Two year hiatus a couple of years ago. Took some time off for a back injury. Played almost a full year last year on the tour. Didn't make the playoffs, but this year, a different story. We're knocking on the door, really, of the Tour Championship sitting right on the bubble. How would you assess your year so far?

DANIEL BERGER: Yeah, I'd say it's been a pretty successful year. Just, you know, qualifying for the elevated events, getting into all four majors, you know, last year I had pretty poor status. So just to be able to check some of those boxes and, have a chance to play against the best players in the world. That was my goal at the start of the year.

MATT EVERY: Well, I knew you were going to have a good year when I was down there in December, and you just couldn't wait to give me three a side came out of your mouth so fast and just mopped me up as well. It's good to see. Look, horses for courses, it's a real thing. But not everyone on the tour gets to go to a course where they've won twice for the first, FedEx playoff event. How are you going to draw on those past experiences as you embark on this year's playoff journey?

DANIEL BERGER: Well, you know, I think, the course sets up so great for me. It's a lot of, chippy drivers around the course. And obviously Bermuda is something that I'm familiar with, having grown up on that my entire career. I think one of the hardest things to do is to be able to chip out of Bermuda rough and Bermuda fairways, and I have 20 years experience doing that.

DANIEL BERGER: So I feel like that's kind of giving me a little bit of an edge, but I always think just good form is more important than the course you're playing on. As you know, when you're playing well, you could play well anywhere. It doesn't matter where it is. But, the last couple weeks I've had off have been nice to reset and kind of get back into it. And, I'm looking forward to a tournament that I haven't played in a couple of years.

MATT EVERY: You are at the door for East Lake right now, sitting right around that 30 number. If you could slide in, we got a change this year. There's no strokes. When the boys tee it up. First of all, what do you think of the change? And if you can slide in there, how do you like your chances of maybe competing there as well?

DANIEL BERGER: Well, East Lake is another place that I've played relatively well at and it's another course that's Bermuda. And, I think that plays to my benefit as well. But, I think it's really exciting, you know, to just take 30 guys and say, here you go, go play four rounds, and winner's going to make 30 million?

DANIEL BERGER: I mean, that's, we don't get a lot of opportunities in life like that. So I think the pressure is going to be huge. And obviously I need to play well the next couple weeks to lock that in. But, you know, it's crazy how quickly you can jump up the FedEx Cup with a good week in the playoffs. So looking forward to going to Memphis and seeing what I can do.

MATT EVERY: I love that. How much are you talking to Keegan Bradley these days?

DANIEL BERGER: I talk to him a lot. I think, every time I see him, I tell him the same thing, which is, I got to play well. And, and he knows that there's so many great players that are right there. And what I got going for me is, you know, past experience in Presidents Cups and Ryder Cups and, you know, him knowing me as a person, how fiery I am. But again, you know, I'm

think I'm 17th and 18th on the list. I think I really got to get inside that top ten to, to really lock myself in, you know. And that's not even a guaranteed lock.

XANDER EMBEDDED LEAD IN

COMING OFF OF THE BEST SEASON IN HIS CAREER, XANDER SCHAUFFELE'S 20-25 CAMPAIGN HAS BEEN A HARSH CONTRAST... MISSING 8 WEEKS EARLY IN THE SEASON DUE TO A RIB INJURY, THE TWO-TIME MAJOR CHAMPION ENTERS THE FEDEXCUP PLAYOFFS WITH THE LOWEST RANKING OF HIS CAREER AT THIS POINT IN A SEASON. BUT HE'S TRENDING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION AND FEELS CONFIDENT HEADING INTO THE FINAL THREE WEEKS OF THE PGA TOUR SEASON.

XANDER EMBEDDED

XANDER: It's been a unique year, to say the least. / had some cameras on me from / my offseason leading into this year – through injury. – Had to come back, get back on the horse, and try and claw my way back into this Fedex Cup. So, it's nice to be back at home. / and, you know, kind of reset a little.

XANDER: Home is an important place to me. / So I definitely try to use, home time to, to reset and recharge the batteries.

XANDER: A lot of sleep, / Go to the beach / as long as a breeze is up.

XANDER: nothing more relaxing to me than hearing waves crash on shore. The breeze is always really nice.

XANDER: Water is pretty clear. Pretty windy right now, so it's a little on the choppy side. / I'm sure it's, very nice and warm.

XANDER: I don't want to get to hippie dippy here, but, you know, something about, / recharging your batteries, / sort of the grounding experience, something about just being away from a lot of people / it makes me relaxed, to say the least.

XANDER: I definitely think being relaxed is an important thing / If you're trying to reflect.

XANDER: I feel like I've done a little bit more reflection this year, just through injury and trying to really process what happened. But something I said last offseason was when you get close to the top, it's easy to forget how you got there.

XANDER: And then here I am now, fighting for my life to try and make it, back to East Lake, so, it's a little bit of appreciation along the way with sort of remembering all the small little things you do every day to, to play at a high level.

ANNC I'm not worried about Xander one bit it is coming // he missed the early part of the season, / starting to get a little bit better now / he marches to the beat of his own drum too / he is just an elite golfer and lives his life.

XANDER: I feel like if I look back on last year, I was training a lot more, throughout the season this year, for obvious reasons, slowed that down just a little bit. So I picked that back up, which has been probably good for my confidence, feeling like, you know what? I was, man of the past.

XANDER: Usually when I'm working out. I mean, hip hop's, favorite classic rock hits nicely. Metal, even not Viktor Hovland metal, but a little softer than that.

XANDER: Bike's easy. / if you're going to be a runner, you got to have really good form / So I'm not a professional runner, so I don't run. Unless I have to or I'm being chased.

XANDER: for golf, usually just, a warm up of some sort with some light band work is maybe lightweights is enough to get sort of activated to go. / I don't think I'm advanced enough yet to do a full strength set before I go. Go hit the links.

XANDER: It comes easy to me just because I know it's important for my work. So I don't know if I'd be the person to want to wake up at 6 a.m. every day to go work out. Probably not if I'm being completely honest, but knowing how important it is / definitely motivated to /give // it // everything that I have.

AUSTIN: Fitness plays a huge role / towards the end of the year it's usually very hot. And you got places like Memphis, / if you're not physically fit, your mental fortitude is going to kind of diminish as well because your body just can't take it.

XANDER: You can be / the most in-shape person and walk around Memphis and feel like you're going to die. So, there's a lot of things that go into, you know, hydrating correctly leading into that week, sleeping enough, trying to cool your core temperature down.

AUSTIN: He's probably in the best shape he's been in. You know, he's lifting a lot more weight now and hitting it a lot further.

AUSTIN: He focuses very hard in the gym and on his mind. So it's going to play a big role coming down the stretch.

XANDER: Performing at a high level is the main goal. I think winning is a result and / I'd say this year's been a mixed bag, but the last few starts, I definitely felt like I was starting to perform at a much higher level.

ANNC: Still waiting to see the best of Schauffele that we saw in 2024 but he is nudging along.

XANDER: I definitely do feel like the / confidence is slowly starting to rise and the game is starting to come around, to a better place than, you know, previous episodes.

ANNC: Xander is starting to turn it up, / I think good things are coming up here pretty soon for Xander he might be a guy you want to pay attention to.

XANDER: I feel like / I played well in Memphis last year. I played well, you know, a different course, but I played well at the BMW last year as well.

XANDER: Mentally it is exhausting, you know, playing and in Memphis and then, you know, we're in Maryland where it's, warm as well. And then if you, earn your way to East lake it's also warm in Atlanta.

ANNC: Xander is just an outstanding electric player when it comes to the Tour Championships

XANDER: there's four X points in the playoffs. And, / as long as you play well in that first one and that second one. / you might just see yourself, at East Lake so, / a lot to play for.