

## 26ICUT12 HERI Script

ANNC: And that man has the trophy for the second time. Congratulations to Rory McIlroy.

You can just hear the passion when Rory talks about his game. The game of golf, the passion. He has unbelievably high global ambassador of the game. His voice carries well throughout the entire world. And a worthy champion of this great championship.

### **RORY BECOMES JUST THE FOURTH BACK TO BACK CHAMPION AT THE MASTERS TOURNAMENT, VAULTING UP THE FEDEX CUP STANDINGS TO THE SEVENTH SPOT WITH A FINAL ROUND 71 TO WIN BY ONE**

He did not have it. Ball striking wise, especially off the tee. Just living in the trees at Augusta National. 90th out of 91 entrants through two rounds. And this guy had a six shot lead heading into the weekend. We've seen Rory is not great with big leads at this stage in his career, for whatever reason, that is.

But what a show he put on for us on Sunday. Once he got to a place where he was comfortable. Alex couple behind it, turned it in, kicked it into a new gear, found something with the driver and just figured. Figured it out and got it into the house for me. That's the most impressive thing about this win for Rory is he didn't.

He did not have his stuff. This was not a signature of Rory McIlroy out there. This was more like a Jordan Spieth, type of way to win a tournament if this thing goes nine more holes. Scott is wearing the green jacket. I think he's kicking himself a little bit. He ends up losing by one on the par fives on the back nine.

Rory six under for the week. Scotty one under or one over for the week. That tells the story right there. What do you think about Rosie? Well, I'm devastated for him, to be honest. My heart, my heart hurts for that guy. He's, He had it. He had this thing in the bag. Two shot lead making the turn at 45 years old Sunday, Augusta National.

A guy that's been in the spot plenty of times. The bridesmaid? Three times here. 12. A tough bogey, but for me, 13 was when it all came unglued. He rebounded nicely from those two bogeys. Absolutely flags it on 13 behind the pin. He knows that putts fast I guarantee you he was telling himself over that putt. This thing is lightning still hit it by the hole.

And when he missed the comebacker that was kind of ball game for me for him.

**NOTE HERE: ADD THIS QUICK VO TRANSITION LINE**

### **DESPITE THE LOSS, ROSE REMAINS A CLASS ACT**

Earlier this year you went viral. Luke Kerdineen, shared an email you sent him as a kid. Oh, yeah. Do you remember this? I mean, no, not really. I mean, I remember my website. I remember, you know, trolling, going through the mail here and there.

Me obviously. Yeah. But I, you know, I don't actually specifically remember the details. It's kind of crazy. But maybe back that most back in the day, maybe monthly go through to see what had come through. You know. See what. Yeah. See if it's anything interesting or, you know, stuff that kind of, you know, or just see if there's any mail actually whatsoever.

So I wouldn't say it was there wasn't like a, a massive inbox in there, but, but yeah, for you, it was a sweet story. I think personal experience of being with him for such a long time and being close to him for a long time, I think I've constantly learned from him. I think Justin continues to like, evolve and grow into the player he is now and the person he is now.

And like I say, the class that that is that he's always been. But I think it continues to get better and better at that. And I just know about spending a lot of time with him and being so close to him. I learned so much about how he goes about everything and how he is. A sweetie all right.

He loves you, honey. Your peers are described as a class act or someone who inspired that, or you wanted to kind of emulate by trying to be a class academically and in the. Yeah. I mean, it's obviously that's always heady praise and it's always something that you don't put yourself up there too much because the game's hard.

And at some point you're going to kind of go through something tough to deal with. I've always looked up to players that are able to try to be winners, but do it in the right way. Like Nick price has always been one of my ultimate role models on tour. You know, as a youngster, when I was probably 12, 13, 14, he, he was still in his prime, back into his prime.

But I could always sort of see that he kind of played with a lot of grit, like he was kind of a fiery player, a very competitive, but would give a big hug on the 18th green as well, you know, and he seemed to kind of have, you know, later in life, I've realized he seems to have the family stable and in check.

You know, he's got his priorities right, enjoys his life away from golf, fishing, whatever it might be. And yeah, so I think he still remains a great role model. Yeah. He's just always you

can feel his presence in the room. And I remember we sat right next to each other at one of these Ryder Cup dinners or leading up to Ryder Cup.

This was at Wentworth, and when we had a couple guest speakers that were just talking about what it what it is to play a team sport and just the culture and all that stuff. And, I just saw him. He kept pulling up his phone all the time and just writing in notes. Whenever the speaker said something that he resonated with, he would just open up his notebook on on his phone and just write it down.

And it wasn't like there was just 1 or 2, three sentences. I mean, it was a pretty comprehensive notebook. And to be 46 and be that into it and just that motivated, I thought was was really inspiring.

And JJ Spohn is going to have his second Valero Texas Open title. JJ spot a winner again winning two weeks ago.

### **JJ SPAUN CAPTURES HIS THIRD PGA TOUR VICTORY FOLLOWING UP HIS MAJOR WIN AT LAST YEAR'S U.S. OPEN.**

It's heavy. I know from last time taking a lot of breaks in between. Yeah, and over your head. Do you know how heavy this is when you hold this, your work life and your.

Otherwise, you want him nowhere. Me? Why would you hold it? It's his birthday. Yeah. You're right. This is him. I told you. Oh, yeah. Oh, great. Yeah. So is it heavier than remember? Yeah, yeah. I think I'm just getting older. Things are a lot harder these days. All right. Hey, kids. Hey! Whoa! Look at this bad boy. Oh.

How was it for you? Yeah, this is mine. I want it. It's you. Dad. I get to keep it. Do you wind up with you? Yeah. Nah, I'm glad you mentioned it. Thank you guys. Why? Because I'm Santa. You know what? Let me do one more. Emerson. All right.

Come on. Let's take a picture. That's a picture. Okay. Did you take a knee? Yeah. All right. Because,

**NOTE HERE: ADD VO LINE AT END OF SPAUN WINNER WALK**

**DESPITE MISSING THE CUT AT THE MASTERS, JJ HEADS TO HARBOUR TOWN THIS WEEK**

**LET'S TEE IT UP FOR THE FOURTH SIGNATURE EVENT OF THE SEASON, THE RBC HERITAGE.**

**THE REIGNING CHAMPION AT HARBOR TOWN, IS JUSTIN THOMAS. HE OPENED WITH A 61 LAST YEAR AND WAS ALMOST WIRE TO WIRE. HE SUNK A BIRDIE PUTT ON THE FIRST HOLE TO BEAT ANDREW NOVAK IN A PLAYOFF.**

**IT WAS HIS THIRD TOP TEN FINISH IN SEVEN STARTS HERE.**

**THE CHAMPION BEFORE THOMAS WAS SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER IN 2024. IT WAS A THREE SHOT VICTORY IN ONE OF HIS FIVE CAREER SIGNATURE EVENT WINS IN THREE STARTS AT HARBOUR TOWN. HE HAS FINISHED TIED FOR 11TH FIRST AND TIED FOR EIGHTH. AND EACH OF HIS 12 ROUNDS HAVE BEEN BELOW PAR.**

**AND BEFORE SCHEFFLER WON THIS EVENT IN 2024, IT WAS MATT FITZPATRICK IN 2023. HE BEAT THE DEFENDING CHAMPION JORDAN SPIETH IN A PLAYOFF ON THE THIRD EXTRA HOLE FOR HIS SECOND PGA TOUR VICTORY.**

**IT WAS HIS MOST RECENT UNTIL HE WON AT VALSPAR LAST MONTH**

**MAKING THE CUT LAST WEEK IN AUGUSTA. ALEX NOREN FINISHED T30 AND SHOWS US SOME OF HIS KEY DRILLS HE WORKS ON.**

I'm Alex Noren and this is just a drill and I'm going to show you what I do to keep my swing in check. This course at target line. Then a snake here. And a stick above it like a hand. A little bit more than a hand. And I angle this lower stick. And this shaft angle. And then I set up my horse along this try to hit this stick and the back swing, swing up and then hit this swing in the downswing.

It just makes me feel like I am in this little room here. I know kind of where everything is, where everything should be. If I step out of it, then I kind of inside this room still in my mind how I should hit it. If I don't do this, my aiming gets a little off my path, gets a little off.

The tendency is to almost hit this in the backswing, and then I come down in this way. So it's pretty much the opposite, where I try to.

I just try to keep it and feel it here and end up like that. Feels like a pretty nice swing. So I don't hit in this station. Then I go, then I go up to here maybe and hit some balls after that.

Here's the impact. And here is the set up. So just up here coming down on this, just feeling like this. I have one leg for one stick in the center of my chest. Try to turn it up onto it so the shoulders are matching. So the shoulders are my left shoulder hits that my right shoulder has that just also not be too much behind it.

I swing up to yeah, that's in the center. That's in the center. And then have a way. Throughout the years I've had many different pre-shot routines. The one I had maybe the last two years I've been more to get the knees kind of in front of the ball. So just quickly trying to get the knees to actually be aiming left of the ball.

So then when I hit, I try to mimic that.

**VO ADD HERE DURING TITLE INTRO**

## **RYAN GERARD'S JOURNEY TO AUGUSTA AS A FIRST TIMER, WAS QUITE UNIQUE**

The story kind of, you know, embodies that question. Like how far would you go to play a gangster? For me, the answer is like, I go anywhere I go across the world to to try and figure that out.

There's Ryan Girard, who went all the way to Mauritius the last week of the calendar year with World Golf Ranking points, and got in the top 50. It's representative of my style. I'm willing to put in the extra effort. I didn't get here just because of talent alone. I got here because I put in a lot of hours.

You kind of started in the fall. I was trying to play good enough to maintain that top 50. I was hovering in those high 40 numbers, and unfortunately, Miss Scott at RSM was kind of looking at that Friday night and stumbled on this tournament that was in Mauritius in December. I wasn't entirely sure what to expect, but I did hear that it was a nice place.

Recruited a buddy of mine, JP, who carries on the Korn Ferry Tour to come work for the week. What's the longest trip you had taken a head of? Flying to Mauritius. Oh, gosh. Lanta to Japan. That was a long flight. I remember looking on this, the flight tracker, on the second lap, and we were passing by Dubai, and we started another 8 hours or 9 hours to go.

So it was interesting. When I got there, it felt like another small island country that, you know, was pretty civilized, like it felt kind of like a Puerto Rico or a Nassau in the Bahamas. The golf courses in a really nice area. There was a lot of things there that made me feel pretty comfortable. That flight's a long time to think about pressure.

I think it's hard not to think about what could be the outcome, but the whole vibe that we brought to that mission was were there to do a job. It's like any other job, like we have one goal and we're going to get it done.

I went there thinking I needed a T 15 and I needed two, eight, four. So I kind of got out there. I was like, all right, well, we got to play really well now. Once you get on that golf course, that instinct just kind of takes over. You're not thinking about pressure. Doesn't need to be perfect. It just needs to be solid and there's no pressure and and failing because it wasn't something that you were there with the expectation that, yeah, this is going to go super smoothly here.

It looked like a high chance I mean this one sideways like a great shot. But that's a little bit of genius right there. Towards the end of the fourth round you're tightening up a little bit, trying to make sure that you're preserving what you've built by all the good play. You don't want to make one stupid mistake at the end and be a hero and completely ruin the whole reason why you went there.

He needs to get up and down from here at the last to send it to extra holes. Oh, he's got such a good strike on it. It's going to fizzle. It's going to force, like, shape up. He makes a goal to get the last. It's a fantastic up and down. Oh go get him. Wow. How do you like that?

The first feeling was disappointment as a competitor you hate losing. But I had a really good buddy there and JP too, like, hey dude, we did it. This is the reason why you went. And it wasn't something that you would have scoffed at at the beginning of the week. He's become a really feel good story out here on the PGA tour.

And the way he's playing right now, it doesn't look like he's going away anytime soon. You learn a lot when you win, but you also learn a lot when you fall short. But you still play well because you see how your body reacts. But learning to win is an important skill, and it's one

thing that you kind of have to develop, because if you don't feel comfortable in those situations, play on Sundays like it's going to be difficult to get over the hump.

Gerrard has his breakthrough at the Barracuda. His first win on the PGA tour concludes our tournaments there. I learned a lot from being in that situation, so hopefully next time I'm not flying halfway across the world just to qualify for the Masters. But next time I have a chance to kind of win a tournament, a playoff, you know, there's things that I can do better.

I have a lot of great people around me that were supportive, not only that journey to go all the way across the world, but in everyday life too.

**GERARD'S FIRST APPEARANCE RESULTED IN A T38, HIGHLIGHTED BY A STELLAR 4 UNDER THIRD ROUND PERFORMANCE, HE'LL LOOK AHEAD TO RBC HERITAGE THIS WEEK, WHERE HE FINISHED TOP 30 LAST YEAR**

That's pretty good right there. You can bottle that one up right there. I take her every day. Every night, and I want to hit home. It has the budget, but I don't. I hit it like a quail in a dove. That was my quail. Shot of her weekly. Here's another player who I expect to win out here. Such a wonderful swinger of the golf club.

He's a flusher. Has been since his PGA tour winning days. I started in 87, 88 going into high school. Our golf coach at the high school was the one who taught me really how to play the game, and he just made it simple. Left arm stiff. You can make it all the way back until you feel it cocking your left shoulder here under your chin.

And that's as far as you're going to go back and then just fire away at it. All I know is I sit in there. I aim a little left. McClure face is still open, and I like to hit a draw with my six iron down. And in my long irons I try to hit him kind of straight in the face.

But weekly is trying to reach this par five and 248 yards. This is why we like having these par fives. So. Oh, know that not go down. Wow. When is the front shot or something. It's like you know I really gotta focus on hitting this. Good shot. I'll pick a dimple in the ball and then I just focus on like, just firing it into that dimple.

You're hitting the inside trying to hit a draw. You want to hit the inside of that now. You know, trying to hit a fade. I'm trying to hit a little more of the outside of that ball. And holding it off with my hand.

That's pretty good right there. You can bottle that one up right there. I take your everyday, which that's about a 70% swing to send. By which about how I play golf. Anyway.

I just don't want to feel like I got to over swing everything because I feel like my getting over swinging. Two things are going to happen. I'm going to have to get going too fast. And then my hands are back here and I'm hitting the hand right here like an elephant's butt. Or I guess, just swinging too fast from up arm outrunning my hips.

And then, no, you don't hit me a giraffe, but overhand left. So it's better just to sit there and just say, all right, look, I got 155. Yes, I can hit a nine iron in there to that. Like we got firm greens. I can land at 150 to 151, or I can take my eight iron out, choke down on a little bit and have a smooth and control swing.

Just hit it in there every now and I want to hit them. It has the budget but I don't. I hit it like a quail in a dove. Like I'll tell Cody that's. I mean I've been fired. Isn't in there like a coyote is going to just take off and you just get to a certain height and his flatten out, and then he'll say something like, show me a crow or something.

I'm like, all right, what if I hit a crow is going to fly like me at that mud ball?

That was my point. You see, I you see that swing low. That way hit when I hit one normal. Now I'm going to hit this one up there with the buzzards and I'm going to go higher.

But when I hit it I don't know where to go and why I don't. That's why I don't eat a high. Because I don't know where you're going. And they say, you know how balls don't curve and curve for me? They curve out of the curve in water. The curve in the other bunkers.

**WHILE TWO TIME RBC HERITAGE WINNER BOO WEEKLY WILL COMPETE IN HIS FIRST PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS MAJOR OF THE SEASON, THE TOUR CONTINUES ON TO HILTON HEAD ISLAND FOR THE NEXT SIGNATURE EVENT**

**EACH WEEK ON TOUR THE BEST IN THE WORLD LOOK TO SEPARATE FROM THE PACK AND EMERGE VICTORIOUS, AND ONE HOLE CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE.**

**THE 561 YARD, PAR FIVE FIFTH IS A SCORING HOLE FOR EVERYBODY. IN THE 43 EDITIONS OF THIS TOURNAMENT, SINCE IT MOVED TO APRIL IN 1983 THIS HOLE HAS BEEN ONE OF THE TWO EASIEST HOLES 42 TIMES, BUT THE EVENTUAL CHAMPIONS TAKE PARTICULAR ADVANTAGE.**

**OVER THAT TIME, THE FIELD AVERAGES A SCORE OF 4.66, BUT THE CHAMPIONS GO EVEN LOWER, AT A SPARKLING 4.32. THAT STROKE DIFFERENTIAL BETWEEN THE FIELD AND THE WINNERS IS THE LARGEST OF ANY HOLE ON THE COURSE.**

Oh, this is exquisite, guys, look at this.

Wow. Spectacular.

**AND IF YOU DON'T SCORE ON THIS HOLE, WELL, YOU'VE LIKELY WON'T WIN. SINCE 2010, THERE HAVE BEEN 64 ROUNDS AT THIS EVENT, AND THE FIELD HAS BOGEYED THE HOLE JUST OVER 7% OF THE TIME. CONTRAST THAT WITH THE WINNERS, WHO HAVE JUST TWO BOGEYS ON THE FIFTH HOLE IN THOSE 64 ROUNDS.**

**IN FACT, DIAL IT BACK TO 1990 AND THERE HAVE BEEN 144 ROUNDS IN THIS TOURNAMENT.**

**THE EVENTUAL WINNERS HAVE BOGEYED THE FIFTH HOLE JUST THREE TIMES. FOR CONTEXT, THEY'VE EAGLED THE HOLE THREE TIMES IN THE FINAL ROUND ALONE.**

That was that would be an eagle. That's an eagle just in front of the green at the fifth.

**BUT ENOUGH ABOUT THE ENTIRE FIELD. WHAT ABOUT THOSE THAT CAME UP JUST SHORT?**

**IN FIVE OF THE LAST SEVEN YEARS, IF A PLAYER WHO DID NOT WIN HAD PLAYED THE FIFTH HOLE AS WELL AS THE CHAMPION, THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN A DIFFERENT WINNER OF THE EVENT.**

**TO FURTHER ILLUSTRATE THE DIFFERENCE THE FIFTH HOLE PROVIDES, THIS EVENT HAS BEEN DECIDED IN A PLAYOFF THREE TIMES IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS. IN THOSE THREE YEARS, THE WINNER HAS PLAYED THE HOLE 12 TIMES AND THEY'RE 12 UNDER PAR.**

**IT WAS NINE UNDER FOR THE PLAYOFF LOSERS, THREE RUNNERS UP, THREE TOTAL SHOTS WORSE. AND THAT'S HOW YOU KNOW IT'S THE CHAMPIONS HOLE.**