WEB.COM TOUR 2016 PLAYER OF THE YEAR



Wesley Bryan
David Brown
Bill Calfee
Stewart Moore

STEWART MOORE: Thank you for joining us here today for today's special Web.com Tour Player of the Year announcement. My name is Stewart Moore, director of communications at the PGA Tour.

Joining me up here on stage on the right is Web.com Tour president Bill Calfee; in the middle, PGA Tour member Wesley Brian; and to my immediate right, David Brown, Web.com chairman, CEO and president. At this time I'll turn it over to Mr. Bill Calfee.

BILL CALFEE: Thank you, Stewart. Exciting to be here again this year. We were here last year doing this, the same drill. We're going to make a nice announcement. I'm going to do that kind of at the end, but before I do that, I wanted to just say a few words.

This is a great story. Wesley, you have been known in the past as a trick-shot artist with your brother and struggling, I think, on mini-tours and you guys were doing trick shots just to make enough money to fund your mini-tour days.

Obviously you got your Web.com Tour card and certainly you're no longer known as a trick-shot artist, you're known as a damn fine golfer and PGA Tour member now.

You certainly had a wonderful year on the Web.com Tour last year. You won three events in Lafayette, Mexico and Kansas City, I believe. You had seven top-10s in the first 13 events. You got your PGA Tour card. You went out and played in a number of events, I think three out of four cuts you made. You led after 36 holes in -- refresh my memory.

WESLEY BRYAN: John Deere.

BILL CALFEE: Was it John Deere? I thought you led somewhere else as well. And you finished tied for eighth. So you really got off to a great start and you certainly, I think, demonstrated what we've been saying all along about the Web.com Tour. You have the game and now you're getting to show it.

We had a number of other wonderful things happen in '16. We had four players from the Web.com Tour graduated the year before had made it all the way through the FedExCup and into the TOUR Championship. We had 28 Web.com Tour graduates last year win on the PGA Tour. We had Patton Kizzire, who sat here last year as Player of the Year and he finished 82nd on the FedExCup. And I could go on and on about things about the

graduates and what impact the players are having, but we know you're having that impact as well and you're going to continue to have a very strong impact and I'm sure a great career. We've enjoyed seeing you, getting to know you, and I hate to say this, but we don't want to see you back on the Web.com and I'm sure we won't.

With that, it gives me great pleasure to formally announce you as the Player of the Year. Congratulations to you, Wesley, on a great year on the Web.com Tour.

WESLEY BRYAN: Thank you.

DAVID BROWN: Well, I just want to add my congratulations to Wesley and welcome everyone here. I think you can't imagine how gratifying it is for Web.com to be in a position to help young fellows like Wesley achieve their dream. And by the way, they're not all young, but they all have skill.

The day they have confidence, which we got to see that happen this past year with Wesley, they all of a sudden start winning. In his case he won three tournaments in the year and actually earned his card well before the rest of the crew, and had the grace and elegance to come to New York with us when he didn't need to. He could have gone on, but he came up to New York and helped us ring the NASDAQ bell. We worked him pretty hard, introduced him to about 20 different press conferences. It's part of the education and learning process that you learn on the Web.com Tour. It's what prepares guys like Wesley to be the stars of the future. So we're very proud of Wesley.

We're really gratified to be a part of the process, and a bonus for us, we have tournaments all over the country that make an impact and guys like Wesley, his wife Elizabeth, and others of our rising stars participate in these local communities and help make a positive impact that not only do we have fun at these tournaments, we raise money and we help support these. So it's a double bonus for us.

And the final thing is Web.com, there are a couple of billion people in the world that hear our name now. It's a sleepy, small, little Jacksonville company that's on the world stage and it's guys like Wesley who have put us there, so we certainly appreciate that.

WESLEY BRYAN: Thank you, David.

Thank y'all for coming out. First off, I want to thank my Lord and Savior Jesus. I don't deserve any of this, never would have been able to see it coming, but he's just poured some grace on me this year and I'm appreciative for that.

Also, I'd like to thank my wife who's sitting back there for being the best support system I could have asked for this year. This was really our first year spending a lot of time apart while I was traveling and playing. She was in school and working to become a physician assistant, which she actually finished up just a couple months ago and is now working. So proud of her for that.

And my parents for always supporting me. Over there, my dad, teaching me the game of golf. It's awesome just to finally achieve a dream and a goal that I've had, really been working on since I was five or six years old. It took me a little longer than I had hoped to make it out here, but I'm just extremely grateful to them.

Mr. Brown and Mr. Calfee over here that gave me the opportunity. Without sponsors like Web.com, obviously it doesn't give us a place to play. So very appreciative for what you've done with this tour and preparing us for the PGA Tour, which I feel like it has. I'm glad that I had to go through a system that rewards an entire year's worth of play instead of just one week like the Q-School offered. So grateful that you've given us the opportunity to experience an entire year, a season-long event to get a PGA Tour card.

Man, I had a lot of fun out on the Web.com Tour this year, but hopefully I don't see you guys anytime soon. So thank y'all so much for everything and look forward to having a good year on the PGA Tour.

Q. Wesley, what's the best way that the Web.com or the best things about the Web.com Tour that get you ready for this stage?

WESLEY BRYAN: I would say really just learning how to travel. Beginning of the year it was a pain going back and forth from South America, going through customs and all that stuff. But looking back at it now, it's a huge blessing, the preparation that it gives you having to travel from different city to different city and be ready to go when Thursday morning comes. I would say that's probably the biggest way that it prepared me.

Q. Wesley, was there a point this season when you may not have won yet but that you kind of knew all the stuff you had been working on mentally and physically, practice, preparation, was clicking and that you were on the verge of something? When did you start feeling confident that this might turn into this kind of year?

WESLEY BRYAN: Right after Q-School. I had just finished in the top-10 there and knew that I pretty much had a full card locked up through three reshuffles, I think. And I got in contention in week one in Panama and that was kind of the validation that hey, if I play really good golf, that I can compete even on this level.

So after having minimal to no success out on the mini-tours to be able to get myself put in contention week one was huge for my confidence.

Q. You said it took you a little bit longer to get there than you thought. What do you think clicked on the Web.com this year that you were able just not to come out and play well you really be dominant?

WESLEY BRYAN: I think just dumbing the game down to get the ball in the fairway, get it on the green, get it in the hole. I felt like it was just a really difficult game when you let your

mind get in the way, so just dumbing it down.

Q. Wesley, kind of going off a question from a minute ago, when you start one in Panama and then missed the cut in next week in Columbia, if I'm not mistaken you had five or six weeks off before the next Web.com event?

WESLEY BRYAN: Yeah. That was awesome. Missing the cut and be able to experience what that felt like. After the first week I was like, man, finish in the top-10, this is going to be easy, and then getting humbled that week.

Honestly, I felt like I played really good and missed the cut. I was like, well, dadgum, all these guys must be a little better than I thought after week one.

Then had five weeks off to work on it, and I've always liked taking time off. I feel like my game can stay sharp even after three, four, five weeks off at a time. So I got to playing really good the week before I headed down to Louisiana and luckily was able to get myself in contention again and the ball just kind of rolled the right way for me that last round.

Q. Secondly, what's your best mini-tour story?

WESLEY BRYAN: Best mini-tour story. It's not really a mini-tour story, but I had just gotten through local U.S. Open qualifying.

Q. What year are we in?

WESLEY BRYAN: This was my first year out of school. Me and my buddy just got in the car and drove up to Maryland for sectionals. Actually, I was just telling this story last night. We got to this Red Roof Inn and found it because I think it was like \$29 a night. Yeah, you get what you pay for.

We ended up barricading the door, putting the extra mattress up against the window so nobody could see in. Then at about 3:00 in the morning, a few hours from my tee time, someone's trying to beat down the door is what it seemed like. Yeah, that's probably the best story got.

Q. How'd sectionals go that day?

WESLEY BRYAN: Actually, it went really well. I tripled my second hole of the day and I ended up missing getting in the U.S. Open by two shots. It got off to a rough start, but all in all, a pretty good day.

Q. Wesley, at what point did you go from sort of grinding, sort of making ends meet, funding your travel and things like that to being able to focus on golf and having the financial part out of your mind?

WESLEY BRYAN: I think after I won in Louisiana I knew that I could cover my travel expenses for a year. I knew that I was on a really good path to the PGA Tour, I just needed a couple solid finishes. I knew I still had a lot of events left, so after week three I kind of was in a good position, really freed up.

Q. Wesley, how did the attention that you got from your trick-shot videos, how did that help prepare you for the attention that you get with all of your wins on the Web.com and now out here on the PGA Tour?

WESLEY BRYAN: I think it helped like with all the social media stuff. There's always going to be haters out there that post comments that they probably wouldn't say to your face. Just being able to hit them with a thumbs-up emoji or something like that whenever because there are going to be people that say negative things. If you miss a couple cuts in a row, you're probably going to get lit up in some message boards, but just being able to block out all that.

Q. One of the perks for being the money champion is THE PLAYERS, right? You get a spot in THE PLAYERS. Was that tournament on your radar? Have you ever played at the Stadium Course and just your general thoughts on that being part of the package.

WESLEY BRYAN: Yeah, I'm pretty dang excited about that one. Playing the 17th hole has been a dream of mine. Just the crowds and everything that's gone on, that's definitely the tournament that I wrote on my calendar first. I'm pumped up for that one.

Q. Kind of one of the defining moments of the season, that playoff in Kansas City where you were with Grayson and JT. I guess if Grayson had won that, maybe there could have been a path for him getting Player of the Year. I wonder if you could recollect a bit that playoff and kind of what your big overwhelming memories are from that Sunday and that birdie on the second playoff hole with that great mid iron in there.

WESLEY BRYAN: There was a few big moments from that Sunday. I mean, no one's going to really look back and go oh, that was a key moment, but on hole number 16 in regulation, they both hit driver. It's a really short par 4. They both hit drivers right up on the fringe and basically had just an easy little chip and a putt for birdie.

At the time I was 1 back and I had to make a decision whether I'm going to try and whale on a driver and get it up there close to the green or just do what I've been doing, hitting a 5- or 4-iron off the tee and trying to get a wedge close. I stuck to the game plan there and was able to hit a wedge up to three or four feet and birdie and keep pace with those guys going to the last two holes. That was kind of what I felt like was the defining moment.

And then the cherry on top was the 6-iron I hit in the playoff. Like I said on record before, that was the best shot I hit all year and it's probably going to be one of the best shots looking

back on my career whenever it's all said and done that that was probably one of the best shots.

Q. One other kind of recollection type of thing, I know it was about a year ago that you made it through second stage and you were kind of on the number going into the final round. What are your memories of that day? I know you were kind of -- could have gone either way going into the final round of second stage and that's such a big event.

WESLEY BRYAN: Yeah, second stage is no fun. There's nothing fun about Q-School. It's just you don't get a lot of reward for playing good and you get -- and just one mistake can cost you an entire year's worth of play. So not having to -- yeah, I don't ever want to go back to second stage of Q-School.

Q. Having spent time on both tours in the last 12 months, how would you describe the gap in talent between the PGA Tour and the Web.com?

WESLEY BRYAN: I mean, I don't think there's any gap honestly. The best players on the Web.com Tour, if you put their best game against the best in the world out here, I don't think you're going to get more than a shot or two difference. The shot or two's going to come if one of the top five players in the world gets really hot.

You can only play the game so well, make so little mistakes. I mean, if you're going to win, whether it's on the Web.com or out here, you have to make very few mistakes and you have to make a lot of birdies, and I think it's the same out there. There might be a small gap in the best players in the world, but I don't think it's too big.

Q. What are your goals for the year?

WESLEY BRYAN: I want to win. I want to win this week. I want to tee it up in the Masters. I want to see what a major feels like and I want to see what a major feels like on Sunday in contention, so those are kind of my goals.

Q. Beside your current caddie, you had a ton of caddies this year. What was your favorite caddie experience?

WESLEY BRYAN: Favorite. Well, actually, I had to resort to Instagram to find a caddie one week.

No, my favorite caddie experience, I would probably say in Louisiana being able to win with George on the bag. That was pretty special. And then when HashtagChad came out and caddied in Mexico, that was just fun. There's obviously some special moments we had, I mean, winning, but that was just kind of like just a fun four-day event and we happened to come out on top there.

Q. And then having an NFL kicker on the bag in match play?

WESLEY BRYAN: Yeah, Succup. He held me back on Friday and Saturday but he was able to pull it together on Sunday and we fired a good round to get back into the top-10. He's one of my best buds and we had a great few days in Nashville.

STEWART MOORE: This concludes the press conference. Wesley, congratulations. At this time in media dining we have a cocktail reception, hors d'oeuvres and a champagne toast. All media are welcome to attend.

WESLEY BRYAN: I forgot to thank you, Stewart.