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PNC Father Son Challenge – Preview

**Jack and GT Nicklaus**

Welcome back to the PNC Father Son Challenge, you’re third year together, you were toying with the idea of bringing back another family member, what got GT on the team again this year?

Jack: It was up to GT, he’s the only one of my grandkids that plays golf and he hadn’t played much golf so he had to convince me he was going to play golf again and so he’s been playing a bit so let’s come back and play. We’re looking forward to it.

How good is it to see a few new faces here this week?

Jack: It makes it tougher for us. We wish they’d all stay away.

You’re paired with Gary Player tomorrow, have you a friendly rivalry with him on the course?

Jack: Gary and I have played a lot of golf together, Gary still plays very well, he plays a lot better than I do. GT is going to have to carry me.

You’re 17 now GT, tell me about what you’re up to on and off the course.

GT: I took a little bit of a break from golf going in to summer but I’m getting back in to it, especially for this tournament, I’m working on trying to love it more, less grinding. Trying to think, I like the game, I love the game, I want to practice.

Are you still singing?

GT: Definitely. I am doing more of that now. I built a recording studio in my room and I’m working on recording a an album at the moment.

Do you think that’s had a positive effect on your game?

GT: Maybe in a mental aspect, I am not so adamant on the golf course as I know it isn’t my main thing anymore.

Who is your favourite artist?

GT: Tough one, I play a lot of original songs, a lot of country. All time is probably George Strait and perhaps at the moment, Luke Combs or Eric Church.

How does music translate to the game of golf for you?

GT: I’ve always said that music is a lot like golf, its an artistic sport, it’s like you’re painting a picture with the clubface.

Jack: I think golf and music are a great combo. I’m all for GT to practice music, it is a diversion away from golf. It’s something he enjoys, he’s very good at it, it gives him peace of mind, relaxation and golf will take the same in the opposite direction for him. GT writes most of his stuff and I’ve heard some of it, it pretty darn good.

How does this tournament compare to others you play?

Jack: It’s a real competition for us. It’s fun, you look at the field, this year is really strong, there’s a good mix too with a few younger professionals and some of the kids play really well, there’s a lot of pride in what they do. Even I worked on my game in the last month to try and get it in some semi decent shape.

This event is so family oriented, does that make this event different?

Jack: The other events we play are individual so yes but anytime you spend time with one of your kids or grandkids, you develop a bond and there wouldn’t be a golf tournament here if it wasn’t for the bond that is created between family through golf.

What music are you listening to, Jack?

Jack: I listen to his. I haven’t heard it all but I will sing along if I can. He sang one the other day called just be me. Incredible song.