



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Third-Round Leaderboard

| Pos. | Name | Scores |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Conner Godsey | 75-63-65 – 203 (-13) |
| 2 | Martin Trainer | 67-70-68 – 205 (-11) |
| 3 | Scott Langley | 72-67-67 – 204 (-10) |
| | Sebastian Munoz | 64-72-70 – 204 (-10) |
| | Adam Long | 67-69-70 – 204 (-10) |

Conner Godsey battles to capture his first Web.com Tour lead at El Bosque Mexico Championship

LEON, GTO, Mexico – Friday was a big day for Alabama native Conner Godsey. After opening play at the Web.com Tour’s El Bosque Mexico Championship by Innova with a 3-over-par 75, Godsey bounced back with a second-round 9-under 63, his lowest round in seven starts on Tour. The performance was enough to move Godsey inside of the cutline and into contention heading into moving day. The 25-year-old entered Saturday confident and ready to continue the fight, posting a bogey-free 7-under 65 to take his first Web.com Tour lead. Sitting two strokes behind Godsey is sponsors exemption Martin Trainer.

Godsey came out of the gate charging, carding birdies on his opening two holes before paring Nos. 3 – 6. The Jacksonville Beach, Florida, resident then picked up an eagle on the par-5 eighth, his first of the week. On the back nine, Godsey picked up another birdie (No. 12) and another eagle (No. 16) to extend his lead to two strokes, tying the largest 54-hole lead in tournament history.

The turnaround made by Godsey between the first and second rounds in Leon may be shocking to some, but for Godsey it’s not a surprise – it’s exactly where he thought he would be.

“I’m feeling good,” Godsey remarked about his place on the leaderboard. “The first round, I didn’t really play that bad, I just had a quadruple-bogey on No. 1. I felt like I kept it together other than that one hole. Then yesterday I came out and played some good golf. I just tried to control what I could control, and I did the same thing out there today. It seems to be working.”

Godsey is in his rookie season on the Web.com Tour after finishing T16 at the 2017 Web.com Tour Qualifying Tournament to earn guaranteed starts for the 2018 season. He’s made the cut in three of four events, with his best finish coming at the Club Colombia Championship (T39). Prior to this season, Godsey had played in two events on Tour, missing the cut in both.

Though Godsey may be new to success on the Web.com Tour, he’s experienced it in the sport before. The former University of Montevallo standout spent 2017 competing on the PGA TOUR Latinoamérica circuit, picking up two top-25 finishes in eight starts, including a T4 at the Flor de Cana Open.

Despite his previous success, sitting alone atop the leaderboard heading into Sunday in just his seventh Tour event is still a major milestone for Godsey.

“It’s great to know that you can play out here and compete,” Godsey said after his round. “That gives me confidence.”

Two back of Godsey sits Paris native Martin Trainer. Trainer, who earned a spot in this week's field via a sponsors exemption, carded a 4-under 68 to move into solo-second, the best 54-hole position he's held on Tour. The University of Southern California alum carded six birdies and an eagle on the day before ending the round with a bogey-double bogey finish.

Trainer held conditional status on the Web.com Tour in 2017, making seven starts over the course of the season. The 26-year-old struggled come tournament time, however, making only one cut and withdrawing from his final event of the season, the Knoxville Open. When Trainer made the weekend, however, he flourished, picking up a T16 at the Ellie Mae Classic at TPC Stonebrae.

Trainer has spent three seasons competing on PGA TOUR Latinoamérica, finishing at a career-high No. 6 on the Order of Merit in 2016. The former Pac-10 title winner recorded eight top-25 finishes that season, including a win at the Mazatlan Open.

SATURDAY NOTES:

* Saturday weather: Sunny, High: 85, Winds: W/NW 6-12 mph.

* This week's purse is \$650,000, with \$117,000 going to the champion.

* This week's field features four past champions – Matt Atkins (2017), Wes Roach (2015), Carlos Ortiz (2014) and Michael Putnam (2013). All four players successfully made the cut. Carlos Ortiz enters Sunday as the sole past champion inside the top 10 (T9).

* The 54-hole leader/co-leader has gone on to win the El Bosque Mexico Championship five times: 2008 (Jarrod Lyle), 2009 (Troy Merritt), 2012 (Lee Williams), 2015 (Wes Roach) and 2017 (Matt Atkins).

* The largest 54-hole lead on the Web.com Tour this season is three strokes, which occurred at the Club Colombia Championship (Ben Taylor). The largest 54-hole lead in tournament history is two strokes, occurring in 2016 with Brad Fritsch.

* Brad Fritsch set the 54-hole tournament record in 2016, when he posted rounds of 66-65-69 to enter Sunday at 16-under 200. The lowest first 54 score in 2018 belongs to Ben Taylor, who sat at 12-under 201 after three rounds at the Club Colombia Championship.

* Michael Putnam currently holds the record for the largest come-from-behind victory in tournament history, overcoming a four-stroke deficit to claim the title in 2013. Seven players enter Sunday within four shots of the lead.

* Erik Barnes carded three eagles during the third round in Leon (No. 1, 4, 10). It was the first time since the 2015 Rex Hospital Open that a player recorded a three-eagle round (Steve Marino).

* The largest come-from-behind victory on the Web.com Tour in 2018 occurred at the Panama Championship when Scott Langley made up a four-stroke deficit to take home his first win on Tour.

* The tournament champion has come from the final group on Sunday twice this season (Sungjae Im, The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic; Ben Taylor, Club Colombia Championship). The other winners have either been in the second-to-last group (Adam Svensson, The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic) or the fourth-to-last (Scott Langley, Panama Championship).

* International players have claimed the trophy in Leon twice in tournament history (Jarrod Lyle, Australia; Carlos Ortiz, Mexico). Entering Sunday, four international players sit inside of the top 10.

* Canada native Stuart MacDonald made the biggest leap on moving day, jumping up 34 spots to T30 with a third-round 4-under 68. This week is the first cut MacDonald has made in four prior starts on Tour.

* In four events this season, only once has there been a tie atop the leaderboard heading into the final round. Sungjae Im, Willy Wilcox and Carlos Ortiz shared the lead after 54 holes at The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay.

* The first four events of the 2018 season have all been won by first-time Tour winners. Should another first-time winner capture the title this week in Mexico, it would be the first time the season opened with five-consecutive first-time winners since 2002.

* El Bosque CC scoring averages:

| | Front (36) | Back (36) | Total (72) |
|----|------------|-----------|------------|
| R1 | 36.294 | 35.818 | 72.112 |
| R2 | 35.852 | 36.282 | 72.134 |
| R3 | 36.053 | 35.853 | 71.907 |

* NEXT WEEK: The Web.com Tour takes one week off before traveling to Le Triomphe Golf and Country Club in Broussard, Louisiana, for the Chitimacha Louisiana Open presented by NACHER.

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