



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Contact: Preston Smith**  
**(706) 844-2100**

### **Third-Round Leaderboard**

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Scott Pinckney	66-70-63-199 (-14)
	Roberto Diaz	68-66-65-199 (-14)
	Sangmoon Bae	65-67-67-199 (-14)
4	Max Homa	68-66-66-200 (-13)
5	Kyle Jones	68-69-64-201 (-12)

### **Scott Pinckney, Roberto Diaz and Sangmoon Bae lead at Albertsons Boise Open presented by Kraft Nabisco**

BOISE, Idaho – On an overcast day that at one point saw an 11-way tie for first, Scott Pinckney, Robert Diaz and Sangmoon Bae topped the pack to lead after the third round at the Albertsons Boise Open presented by Kraft Nabisco. Pinckney, Diaz and Bae posted 14-under 199s after 54 holes at Hillcrest Country Club.

Pinckney birdied five of his last seven holes Saturday – including a 12-footer for birdie on No. 18 – to grab the low round of the day at 8-under 63. His 63 marks the lowest round this week.

“It was awesome [to finish with a birdie],” Pinckney said. “It was nice to get it up on that top shelf [on 18]. It was a quick putt so I just wanted to get the right speed and it happened to go in for a nice finish.”

The 29-year-old missed the majority of the 2017 season with a dehydrated disc in his back. He returned to the Web.com Tour for the 2018 season where he has posted three top-10s, including a runner-up at the Wichita Open Supporting Wichita’s Youth.

“It was hard sleeping; I couldn’t bend down [in 2017],” Pinckney said. “When I had to sneeze, I tried to find something to brace myself. It just was not fun...My confidence was hanging by a thread, but I knew I had the game to compete on the PGA TOUR and out here so I just kept grinding and kept working hard. I focused so much on my health and body that it’s starting to pay off.”

Pinckney, an Arizona State University alum, expressed excitement at the chance to return to the PGA TOUR on Sunday. Pinckney played on TOUR in 2015 and 2016 after graduating from the Web.com Tour in 2014. During his time on TOUR, he earned three top-10 finishes including a career-best runner-up finish at the 2015 AT&T Byron Nelson.

“It’s going to be fun tomorrow,” Pinckney said. “I’m putting well so it’s just one shot at a time and just go out and enjoy myself. If anything happens and I don’t get my card back, then I’ve got five months to get even more healthy and then a full year out here on the Web.com Tour. I can’t hurt my position, so I’m just going to go out and have fun.”

Diaz birdied Nos. 15, 16 and 17 to regain a share of the lead down the stretch. He followed that up by sinking a 25-footer for par on No. 18 to finish at 14-under.

“The last putt was very important,” Diaz said. “Obviously every shot counts out here and more towards the 25 at the end, but I think that last putt made me more calm looking towards tomorrow. It’s going to be a grind and I know it’s going to be a challenge. This course holds a lot of birdies and I think it’s going to be a shootout tomorrow.”

Diaz, a University of South Carolina Aiken alum, competed on the Web.com Tour from 2014-17 before earning the 25<sup>th</sup> and final PGA TOUR card of the Regular Season last year at the WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by Kraft-Heinz. He has mainly competed on the PGA TOUR in 2018 before returning for the Web.com Tour Finals to try and regain PGA TOUR status for next season.

“It would mean the world to win tomorrow,” Diaz said. “I’ve played this Tour for four years and then one year on the PGA TOUR, and I’ve lost in one playoff [on the Web.com Tour]. Obviously [not having] that win still bites me a little bit...The goal coming into the Finals was to give me four chances to lock my card up,” Diaz said. “Obviously having a chance to win changes a little bit of the perspective tomorrow, but the goal is still to get into the top 25 [on the Finals money list] towards the end.”

After sharing the lead through 36 holes, Bae endured an up-and-down front nine before ramping it up down the stretch. The South Korean native played his final six holes in 5-under – including an eagle at No. 16 – to surge up the leaderboard.

“I hit a 120% drive that hole [No. 16] and then I hit a perfect 5-iron on my second shot,” Bae said. “Then I hit a pretty solid, probably 5-foot putt. Those were pretty awesome three shots there.”

Bae competed on the PGA TOUR during the 2017-18 season after two years of mandatory military service in South Korea. At \$38,156, Bae sits 12th on the Finals money list and is the closest player who has yet to earn TOUR status for the 2018-19 season. The top-11 earners have all locked up their PGA TOUR cards in the first two Finals events. The 32-year-old is a two-time PGA TOUR champion.

“It has been a while [since leading], throughout my military service and this year,” Bae said. “I am really happy to see my name on the leaderboard.”

Max Homa birdied two of his last three to climb to solo fourth at 13-under 200, while Kyle Jones posted a 7-under 64 to round out the top five at 12-under 201 entering the final round.

### **SATURDAY NOTES:**

\* Saturday weather: Partly sunny, High of 78, Winds NW 6-12 mph, with gusts up to 18 mph.

\* This week’s purse is \$1,000,000, with \$180,000 going to the champion.

\* This week marks the penultimate event of the Web.com Tour Finals, a four-event series that concludes at the Web.com Tour Championship in Atlantic Beach, Florida, Sept. 20-23. Twenty-five PGA TOUR cards were awarded following the WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by Kraft-Heinz. An additional 25 cards are up for grabs during the four Finals events, as well as positioning for all 50 cards.

\* Since the tournament moved to a four-round event in 1996, eleven 54-hole leaders/co-leaders have been able to convert their lead into a victory, with the most recent being Michael Thompson in 2016. Through twenty-four 72-hole events this year, nine third-round leaders have captured a title at the end of the week, with the most recent being Kramer Hickok at the DAP Championship presented by NewBrick.

\* Shawn Stefani and Tyrone Van Aswegen made the biggest jumps on Moving Day, each posting third-round 64s to move up 34 spots from T60 to T23 and from T48 to T11, respectively, heading into the final round.

\* Willy Wilcox opened play with back-to-back eagles on Nos. 2 and 3 en route to a third-round 6-under 65. It was the first time back-to-back eagles have been carded in competition since Rick Lamb accomplished the feat during the second round of this year’s Savannah Golf Championship in March.

\* The winning score has varied over the past 29 iterations of this tournament. In 2017, Chesson Hadley won at 16-under 268, the highest winning score in relation to par since 2009. In 2015, Martin Piller set the tournament record at 28-under 256.

\* The best come-from-behind victory in tournament history occurred in 2017, when Chesson Hadley overcame a five-stroke deficit to take home the title. Twenty-eight players sit within five of the leaders heading into the final round.

\* Through 25 events this season, the largest come-from-behind victory sits at six strokes, having occurred at both the Panama Championship (Scott Langley) and the Nashville Golf Open Benefitting the Snedeker Foundation (Cameron Davis).

\* Heading into the final round, there are five international players inside the top 10 on the leaderboard. Thus far in 2018, the Web.com Tour has had winners from ten different countries claim titles in the first 25 events: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Canada, England, France, Germany, Mexico, South Korea and the United States.

\* The Web.com Tour has produced 20 first-time winners this year. With 18 holes left to play at Hillcrest CC, there are currently seven players inside the top 10 looking for their first Tour title.

\* Co-leader Díaz spent several seasons competing on PGA TOUR Latinoamérica, where he amassed five top-25 finishes in 23 starts, including a career-best T2 at the 2014 TransAmerican Power Products CRV Open.

\* John Chin leads the contingency of Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada alums in this week's field, entering Sunday T6. Chin has made 12 career starts on the Mackenzie Tour, picking up two top-10 finishes, including a career-best solo-fourth at the 2016 GolfBC Championship.

\* While it is difficult to estimate exactly how much money is needed to finish in the top 25 of the Finals money list and collect one of the remaining 25 PGA TOUR cards handed out at the conclusion of the Web.com Tour Championship, below is how much money the 25th man on the money list earned in each of the past two four:

2013 Bobby Gates	\$33,650.00
2014 Eric Axley	\$36,311.66
2015 Rob Oppenheim	\$32,206.00
2016 Cody Gribble/Kelly Kraft	\$35,125.00#
2017 Seamus Power	\$40,625.00
# - denotes three events played (Web.com Tour Championship was cancelled)	

\* Hillcrest Country Club scoring average:

	<b>Front (36)</b>	<b>Back (35)</b>	<b>Total (71)</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
<b>R1</b>	35.795	34.500	70.295	
<b>R2</b>	35.515	34.392	69.908	70.102
<b>R3</b>	34.701	33.740	68.442	69.548

\* NEXT WEEK: The Web.com Tour Finals concludes at the season-ending Web.com Tour Championship contested at Atlantic Beach Country Club in Atlantic Beach, Florida.

***For highlights from today's round, or any 2018 event visit <http://bit.ly/webcomtour2018>***

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