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### **Third-Round Leaderboard**

<b>Pos.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Scores</b>
1	Trevor Cone	64-63-66-193 (-17)
2	Sebastian Cappelen	64-66-64-194 (-16)
	Samuel Del Val	63-64-67-194 (-16)
	Josh Teater	64-62-68-194 (-16)
5	Adam Long	63-66-66-195 (-15)

### **Trevor Cone cards third-round 66 to take the lead at Web.com Tour's Ellie Mae Classic**

HAYWARD, California – For Virginia Tech alum Trevor Cone, the trajectory of 2018 was unclear to begin the year. With only conditional status on both the Web.com Tour and the Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada, he was unable to set a firm schedule for the year. Though he was able to get into a few events on the Web.com Tour, he struggled to make it to weekend play and earn additional starts. A T8 finish at the LECOM Health Challenge changed everything for the 25-year-old, who suddenly found himself getting starts in late-season events.

Now, just one month after his week in Western New York, Cone has positioned himself for yet another bump after shooting a third-round 4-under 66 at the Ellie Mae Classic to take the solo-lead heading into the final round. Sebastian Cappelen, Samuel Del Val and Josh Teater sit one back.

Cone opened tournament play in the Bay Area with rounds of 6-under 64 and 7-under 63, the two lowest rounds of his Tour career. After paring the first two holes Saturday, he picked up his first birdie of the round at the par-5 third. Cone picked up a second birdie on the next hole, before paring out the remainder of his front nine to make the turn in 2-under 33.

“Today was just staying patient,” he remarked when asked about the key to his success. “There was a little more wind than there was the past two days, so just staying patient and picking the pins, because the pins were a little difficult on the front side, I noticed, and just trying to stick with it and take the opportunities where you can.”

He would do the same on the back nine, picking up two birdies alongside seven pars, to finish the day with a bogey-free 4-under 66, moving to 17-under 193 through three rounds.

“Fortunately enough,” Cone continued on his round, “I made a couple on the back to make it a really solid round at 4-under. The putter wasn’t so hot today, but the past couple of days it’s what really got me into it. I had a bunch of looks yesterday and made most of them, so it made today a little easier. Hopefully tomorrow it can kick back up and keep it going.”

While his putting might have been lacking during the third round, the Charlotte, North Carolina, native’s driving was among the best of the field. He averages 333.7 yards off the tee this week, fourth in the field, and through three rounds he has hit 29 of 39 fairways, putting him at T15 against the rest of the field.

Cone entered the week at TPC Stonebrae 135<sup>th</sup> on the Regular Season money list, well outside of earning a Web.com Tour Finals berth. While several people may be playing with the pressure of being on the bubble this week, knowing

this is the penultimate event of the Regular Season, Cone says his position on the money list has allowed him to play with a sense of freedom others might not have.

“My expectations haven’t been too high,” the rookie said after his round Saturday, “I mean since I’ve only played, I think this is my eighth event, so I’m just really trying to take advantage of it this week... it’s like Ricky Bobby said, it’s either first or last the past couple of weeks. Maybe a second alone would do me good and get me into the Web.com Tour Finals, but tomorrow, now that I’m in the position I’m in, I’m just trying to capitalize on it.”

Cone will be playing alongside Cappelen in the final pairing tomorrow, a first for Cone since turning professional.

“I’ll be completely honest,” Cone revealed, “I’ve never been in this situation with this kind of competition, at least since college probably, but I know I can hold my own out here. I’m just going to go out there with no expectations and see where it takes me. Who knows.

“There’s no nerves. I mean, we’re past nerves, we do this every day. You’ve just got to roll with the punches and hopefully you’re hitting it well and putting it well and things are going your way.”

### **SATURDAY NOTES:**

\* Saturday weather: Mostly sunny, High of 80, Winds W/SW 6-12 mph, with gusts 15 mph.

\* This week’s purse is \$600,000, with \$108,000 going to the champion.

\* Five of eight 54-hole leaders/co-leaders have gone on to win the Ellie Mae Classic, with the most recent being Stephan Jaeger in 2016. Through twenty 72-hole events, five third-round leaders/co-leaders have converted their leads into victory, with the most recent being Martin Trainer at the Price Cutter Charity Championship presented by Dr Pepper.

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

\* The best come-from-behind win in tournament history currently sits at four strokes, with Daniel Chopra and Alex Aragon accomplishing the feat in 2011 and 2012, respectively. This season, the largest come-from-behind victory is six strokes, with Scott Langley and Cameron Davis each picking up their title after beginning the final round six strokes back of the lead.

\* Through 54 holes of play, there are three international-born players inside the top 10 on the leaderboard. Thus far in 2018, the Web.com Tour has had winners from seven different countries claim titles in the first 21 events: Argentina, Canada, England, Germany, Mexico, South Korea and the United States. Four international players have won the Ellie Mae Classic (Stephan Jaeger, Si Woo Kim, Daniel Chopra, Michael Sim).

\* Brian Richey made the biggest move on Moving Day, carding a third-round 7-under 63 to jump 30 spots on the leaderboard from T42 to 12<sup>th</sup> heading into Sunday.

\* TPC Stonebrae scoring average:

	<b>Front (36)</b>	<b>Back (35)</b>	<b>Total (70)</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
<b>R1</b>	34.390	34.766	69.156	
<b>R2</b>	34.221	34.195	68.416	68.792
<b>R3</b>	34.561	33.879	68.439	68.675

\* NEXT WEEK: The Web.com Tour travels up the west coast to Oregon for the WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by Kraft-Heinz, the final event of the Regular Season.

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

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