

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 27, 2019

CONTACT: Sean Wildhack, [seanwildhack@pgatourhq.com](mailto:seanwildhack@pgatourhq.com), 315-243-2751

### First-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Robert Garrigus	64 (-7)
2	Justin Lower	65 (-6)
T3	Charlie Saxon	66 (-5)
T3	Daniel Summerhays	66 (-5)
T3	Matthew Campbell	66 (-5)

### Robert Garrigus takes first-round lead at Utah Championship presented by Zions Bank

**Farmington, Utah**— After missing the cut at last week's Wichita Open Supporting Wichita's Youth, Robert Garrigus carded an opening 7-under 64 to take the first-round lead at the Utah Championship presented by Zions Bank. With gusts reaching up to 32 miles per hour, the 41-year-old excelled at Oakridge Country Club, mixing eight birdies against a lone bogey.

Making his second Korn Ferry Tour start of the season, Garrigus displayed his short game proficiency on Thursday, getting up-and-down six of seven times. He only needed 23 putts in the opening round and credited his new putter for the stellar play.

"I switched to a Callaway Arm Lock," said Garrigus. "I had one last week, but I wasn't really comfortable with it. I'm really comfortable with this one and I'm looking forward to the next few days."

Playing the PGA TOUR on conditional status this season, Garrigus has made two of seven cuts, with his best finish a T20 at the Sanderson Farms Championship. He currently sits 222<sup>nd</sup> in the FedExCup standings and has not made a TOUR start since a missed cut at the Puerto Rico Open in February.

"I think I'm in the next five events on the PGA TOUR, which is really nice," commented Garrigus about his upcoming schedule. "I'm using this to get the rust off and now that I did this today, I'm trying to win. If I win this week, then I've got a decision to make."

The seasoned veteran earned his maiden PGA TOUR victory at the 2010 Children's Miracle Network Classic, where he rallied from a five-shot deficit for the win. Garrigus has yet to earn another victory since and is hoping to regain his TOUR card for the 2019-20 season.

"Today, I got the adrenaline going and I got that feeling again," Garrigus commented about his round. "As a professional golfer, it was really nice to get back into it and feel the nerves again. It felt amazing."

In his sixth appearance at the Utah Championship, local favorite Daniel Summerhays sits two shots off the lead. The Farmington native and resident returned to his old stomping grounds this week, carding a 5-under 66 at his home club.

“There’s something about being home,” said Summerhays. “You know where the hole locations can get dicey, you know where you need to leave it. I feel like I did a really good job of that today.”

Summerhays is back at the same course where he won the Utah State Amateur Championship 19 years ago. Fueled by the cheers of his hometown fans, he carded his fourth career 66 at this event, tying his lowest round at the Utah Championship.

“I know I’m not supposed to play for anybody else but me, but everyone who was out there, those 75-80 people watching, they’re all a part of me,” the 35-year-old said. “It was a really neat experience to play one of my best rounds of the year in front of all the people that I love.”

Daniel’s nephew, Preston Summerhays, is also in the field after being awarded a sponsor exemption. The 16-year-old carded an opening-round 2-over 73 and sits T104.

#### **THURSDAY NOTES:**

- \* Thursday's weather: Mostly sunny and windy, high of 89, winds S/SW 14-25 mph with gusts up to 32 mph.
- \* This week's purse is \$725,000, with \$130,500 going to the champion. The winner will also receive 500 Korn Ferry Tour points.
- \* Thirty-eight Korn Ferry Tour winners are in the field this week, combining for 56 victories.
- \* Robert Garrigus holds the first-round lead for the first time in 79 starts on the Korn Ferry Tour. The 41-year-old is in search of his first Korn Ferry Tour title.
- \* Garrigus’ best finish on the Korn Ferry Tour came at the 2005 BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by SYNEX Corporation where he finished solo-fourth.
- \* Justin Lower (-6, second) matched his lowest opening round on the Korn Ferry Tour with a 65. Lower has four top-25s so far this season and is currently ranked 27<sup>th</sup> in The 25.
- \* Lower, Charlie Saxon (-5, T3) and Luke Guthrie (-4, T6) each fired bogey-free rounds on Thursday.
- \* Local favorite Daniel Summerhays sits two strokes off the lead at 5-under after an opening round 66. Summerhays grew up in Farmington, Utah, and played at Oakridge Country Club as a junior golfer.
- \* Amateur Preston Summerhays (+2, T104), the nephew of Daniel, opened with a first-round 73. Last year, Summerhays became the youngest player in state history to win the Utah State Amateur Championship at the age of 15.
- \* In just his third Korn Ferry Tour start, Matthew Campbell sits T3 after an opening-round 66. Campbell made his first career start earlier this season at the Lincoln Land Championship presented by LRS, eventually finishing T11.

- \* Utah native Zac Blair sits T15 after a first-round 69. Blair won the Utah State Amateur Championship in 2009.
- \* Chase Hana (+1, T77) recorded an ace on the 184-yard par-3 fourth using an 8-iron.
- \* Steven Kupcho and Kyle Westmoreland lead all Monday qualifiers at T15 after posting an opening-rounds of 2-under 69.
- \* The par-4 10<sup>th</sup> hole (517 yards) ranked as the toughest hole on the course on Thursday with a scoring average of 4.455.
- \* The par-5 15<sup>th</sup> hole (547 yards) ranked as the easiest hole on Thursday. The hole played to an average of 4.344 and yielded eight eagles and 90 birdies.

\*Oakridge Country Club Scoring Average:

	<b>Front</b>	<b>Back</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
<b>R1</b>	<b>36.442</b>	<b>35.221</b>	<b>71.662</b>	

*For highlights from today's round, or any 2019 event visit <http://bit.ly/kornferry2019video>*

*For the latest information and updates on the Korn Ferry Tour visit [www.pgatourmedia.com](http://www.pgatourmedia.com)*

*Scores available at [www.pgatour.com](http://www.pgatour.com) or on the Associated Press wire*

*Follow the Korn Ferry Tour on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/kornferrytour> on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/kornferrytour/](http://www.facebook.com/kornferrytour/) and on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/kornferrytour/?hl=en>*