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First-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
T1	Taylor Moore	63 (-7)
T1	Henrik Norlander	63 (-7)
T1	Michael Hebert	63 (-7)
T1	Will Cannon	63 (-7)
T5	Three players tied	64 (-6)

Four players share first-round lead at Wichita Open Supporting Wichita's Youth

WICHITA, Kan. – Taylor Moore, Henrik Norlander, Michael Hebert and Will Cannon posted matching 7-under 63s to take a share of the first-round lead at the Wichita Open Supporting Wichita's Youth. The four co-leaders were all bogey-free on Thursday at Crestview Country Club.

Carding seven birdies in the first round, Moore had success on the greens, needing just 25 putts en route to sharing the lead. The Texas native got up-and-down five of five times after hitting 13 of 18 greens in regulation to finish bogey free.

Moore initially made a name for himself on the Mackenzie Tour-PGA TOUR Canada in 2016, finishing third on the Order of Merit. He graduated with five top-10 finishes that season, including a victory at the Staal Foundation Open. The University of Arkansas product adjusted well to the Korn Ferry Tour, advancing to the Finals in his first two seasons.

Despite his competitive success on the course, Moore recently had a health scare, suffering a collapsed lung in early March. A trip to the hospital led to immediate surgery, forcing the 25-year-old to take a two-month break from golf. Thankfully, with medical care, Moore regained his health and returned to competitive golf at the 2019 REX Hospital Open with a new outlook on life.

"I'm recovering great," Moore commented. "I'm back out playing. I started back out in Raleigh not too long ago and I feel great overall. Just kind of a freak deal back in March, but I've had surgery, moved past it and I'm excited to get back out and playing."

Moore missed the cut in his competitive return in Raleigh, followed by another missed cut at the BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by SYNEX Corporation entering this week. Even through the disappointing finishes, the former Razorback decided to focus on the positives with a refreshed mindset.

“I’m just fortunate to play this game and do it as my job,” Moore added. “Definitely a new perspective, but also very excited to get back at it.”

Fueled by putting advice from a fellow Korn Ferry Tour player, Hebert recorded his lowest round of the season with a 7-under 63, beating his previous best of 68 by five strokes. The Auburn University alum co-leads for the first time after any round in his 101st start on Tour.

“I’ll give a shout-out to Drew Weaver,” Hebert said. “I saw him on the putting green yesterday and he thought my stroke was getting a bit quick. He said, ‘Why don’t you try to get a little more rhythm and more of a back stroke?’”

The tip worked, as Hebert only needed 27 putts in his opening round, including a few mid-range putts throughout the day.

Among the quartet of leaders, Norlander is seeking his second Korn Ferry Tour victory, following his maiden win at the 2015 Hotel Fitness Championship. Cannon is seeking his first top-10 finish on the Korn Ferry Tour after missing the first five cuts of his rookie season.

THURSDAY NOTES:

- * Thursday's weather: Sunny, high of 90, winds S 10-15 mph, with gusts up to 20 mph.
- * This week's purse is \$625,000, with \$112,500 going to the champion. The winner will also earn 500 points in the Korn Ferry Tour points system.
- * Fifty Korn Ferry Tour winners are in the field this week, combining for 70 victories.
- * Among the local players in the field, Chase Hanna and Rafael Becker lead the pack with a 1-under 69. Hanna was born in Kansas City and is making his third Korn Ferry Tour start of the year. Becker played at Wichita State University from 2009-13 and was named the 2012 Missouri Valley Golfer of the year.
- * Sebastian Cappelen (-4, T15) has finished inside the top 10 in four of his past five starts at this event, including a victory at the 2014 Wichita Open in his first career start. He leads the all-time Wichita Open money list with \$169,438 in career earnings.
- * Michael Gligic entered the week No. 8 on the Regular Season points list and is projected to need a finish of a two-way tie for 18th or better to lock up his TOUR card this week.
- * MJ Daffue currently leads the 12 Monday qualifiers in the field after posting an opening-round 5-under 65 to sit T8.
- * The par-4 sixth hole (495 yards) ranked as the toughest hole on the course on Thursday with a scoring average of 4.219
- * The par-5 14th hole (501 yards) ranked as the easiest hole on Thursday. The hole played to an average of 4.426 and yielded six eagles and 86 birdies

*Crestview Country Club Scoring Average:

Front	Back	Total	Cumulative
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R1

35.161

34.161

69.323

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

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