

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 9, 2019 CONTACT: Preston Smith, <u>prestonsmith@pgatourhq.com</u>, 706-844-2100

Second-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Vince India	64-65-129 (-13)
2	Scott Harrington	67-63—130 (-12)
3	Kristoffer Ventura	68-63—131 (-11)
	Robby Shelton	61-70—131 (-11)

India posts career-best 36-hole score to lead WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by KraftHeinz

NORTH PLAINS, Ore. — If history serves as any indicator, Vince India likely didn't arrive at this week's WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by KraftHeinz with champagne on ice.

Making his sixth tournament start, India comes off three missed cuts and a withdraw. His lone berth to the weekend at Pumpkin Ridge Golf Club's Witch Hollow course resulted in a T25 in 2016.

In 21 Korn Ferry Tour starts this season before this week, India has nine missed nine cuts and earned no top-15 finishes.

But, following a 7-under 64 in Thursday's first round, the 30-year-old Illinois native made six birdies and an unlikely eagle in the second round to post a 65 and claim a one-stroke lead at 13-under 129.

In his bid to earn a PGA TOUR card for next season, India is currently poised to move from No. 116 to 20th with a win.

"My low point over the past couple of years was probably when I tried to change swing instructors and tried to start from scratch instead of just figuring out what made me the golfer I was," India said. "I went back to what I was good at. I honestly think most pros go through this, but I went back to really trying not to overthink things."

At the par-5 11th hole, India put himself in position to where those counter-productive wheels in his head could have derailed him. But, staying true to the mental form he was after paid off.

"I hit a pretty average tee shot on No. 11, and it actually ended up on the back tee box on No. 10," India said. "It actually wasn't that far off from where I was aiming because it opens up the entire green. Then, I hit a 4-iron that skipped through the bunker and rolled to about 10 feet. I made it for eagle. That felt like a shot that probably shouldn't have happened, but it did."

Though his finishes haven't been reflective of the good place in which he finds his game to be, India feels it trending in the right direction.

"I think my game comes together when I start playing a lot of golf, and over the last month I've played a lot of golf in a row," he said. "You start to pick up on little tweaks and feel better about where the ball is going. Something has clicked recently to the point where I feel like I can make it from almost anywhere on the green. That frees me up and takes some pressure off of my iron play."

Highlighted by five consecutive birdies on Nos. 4-8, Eugene, Oregon native Scott Harrington posted a bogey-free 8-under 63 to move to 12-under 130 and within one stroke of the lead.

"On 12, I made about the fastest putt you can find on this course," Harrington said. "It was about 30 feet, downhill, and it just trickled in the edge. I'll remember that one for a while. I told my caddie after



that putt that it was the best putt I've hit all year. I could have hit it 10 feet past the hole or I could have left it five feet short. So, to make that was a huge bonus."

Harrington, who entered the week at No. 38 in The 25 after last week's T11 finish at the Ellie Mae Classic at TPC Stonebrae, is currently projected to move to No. 17.

A stronger game has certainly been pivotal to better numbers on his scorecards of late, but to Harrington, the real game-changer is a healthier wife.

Harrington's wife, Jenn, is in remission following a grueling battle against Hodgkin's lymphoma, which included over a year of chemotherapy and a bone marrow transplant.

"We've really been through a lot and I don't anything for granted anymore," Harrington said. "We all have bad days and get in ruts, but life came at us fast and it's really special to be here. To be playing well is also really special. I know Jenn is at home, probably following the scoring, so I'm excited to go in and get to talk to her."

Robby Shelton, who led after 18 holes with a 10-under 61, posted a 1-under 70 in the second round and is two strokes back at 11-under 131. Shelton is currently second in The 25, 232 points behind leader Xinjun Zhang.

FRIDAY NOTES:

* Friday's weather: Partly cloudy with a high of 78. Winds mostly light and variable with slight winds N/NW later in the day. Play was suspended due to lightning in the area from 12:09 p.m. until 1:50 p.m. One player, Andrew Novak, did not finish his second round due to darkness. He will finish his final hole on Saturday morning.

* When play was suspended for the day, the 36-hole cut was projected to fall at 4-under 138 with 67 professionals advancing to the weekend.

* Friday marks the third round that Vince India has led on Tour and the first this season. He most recently co-led after the first round of the 2018 BMW Charity Pro-Am but went on to miss the 54-hole cut. Only five of 23 champions this season have held the 36-hole lead and gone on to win.

* Vince India would need a win to secure his first PGA TOUR card, while Scott Harrington would likely need at minimum a solo-third finish to earn his card.

* Rafael Campos (T12, -8) carded a 6-under 65 on Friday to make the cut and lock up his first PGA TOUR card. Next year, Campos will become the first Puerto Rican member of the PGA TOUR since Chi Chi Rodriguez in 1985. Another Puerto Rican, David Jimenez, was a PGA TOUR member in the 1970s.

* Several recent champions on the Korn Ferry Tour are in contention. Kristoffer Ventura and Robby Shelton, who each have won twice on Tour this season, are T3 at 11-under. Mark Hubbard is T8 at 9-under.

* Chris Naegel (T5, -10) is making just his seventh start on Tour this season. The 36-year-old has Monday qualified into four events this season, and by finishing in the top-25 in two of them, earned two additional starts. He was one of the last players into this field, which takes the top-156 players in the standings entering the week. Naegel was 153rd entering the week.

* Nicolas Echavarria (-10, T5) entered the week 84th in the points standings, likely seeking to jump inside the top 75 to earn entry into the Korn Ferry Tour Finals. At T5 through 36 holes, he is currently projected to finish 58th in the standings.



* Since the movement to have all 50 PGA TOUR cards come from the Korn Ferry Tour in 2013, the most players to move in and out of The 25 in Portland stands at four (in 2013). Last year only one player moved into The 25, and in 2017, The 25 remained unchanged after the event for the first time. Through two rounds, two players are projected to jump inside The 25 (India & Harrington).

* The highest opening score through 36 holes by an eventual champion in this event was 4-under 138 by Brice Garnett in 2017, equal to this week's cutline.

Entered the Week	Player (Points)	Score/Position	Projected
21	Tim Wilkinson (775)	MC	23
22	Vincent Whaley (761)	MC	24
23	Tyler McCumber (741)	-5 (T39)	25
24	Chris Baker (718)	MC	26
25	Brett Coletta (713)	MC	27
26	Marty Dou (689)	MC	28
27	Joshua Creel (640)	MC	30
28	Brian Campbell (631)	MC	31
29	Dan McCarthy (631)	WD	32
30	Joseph Bramlett (609)	MC	33

* Bubble Watch: *The 25*

* Bubble Watch: The 75

Entered the Week	Player (Points)	Score/Position	Projected
71	Paul Haley II (347)	MC	75
72	Brad Hopfinger (338)	MC	77
73	Max Greyserman (337)	MC	78
74	Andres Gonzales (336)	MC	79
75	Greg Yates (334)	-8 (T12)	68
76	Grant Hirschman (333)	-4 (T53)	76
77	Callum Tarren (330)	MC	81
78	Erik Barnes (322)	-9 (T8)	65
79	Brian Richey (322)	MC	83
80	Michael Miller (322)	MC	84

* This week's purse is \$800,000, with \$144,000 going to the champion. The winner will also receive 600 Korn Ferry Tour points.



* Fifty-five Korn Ferry Tour winners are in the field this week, with a combined 82 victories between them. Six past PGA TOUR champions are in the field as well combining for 10 victories.

* The par-4 third hole (475 yards) ranked as the toughest hole on the course on Friday with a scoring average of 4.408.

* The par-5 fourth (533 yards) ranked as the easiest hole on Friday with an average of 4.428.

* Pumpkin Ridge – Witch Hollow Course Scoring Average:

	Front (36)	Back (35)	Total (71)	Cumulative
R1	35.684	33.600	69.284	
R2	36.036	33.947	69.984	69.634

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

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