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Third-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Ryan Ruffels	66-70-65 – 201 (-12)
2	Stephen Franken	66-71-66 – 203 (-10)
T3	Michael Miller	70-66-68 – 204 (-9)
T3	Rico Hoey	69-67-68 – 204 (-9)
T3	Cameron Young	67-68-69 – 204 (-9)

[Full Leaderboard](#) | [Tee Times](#)

**Ryan Ruffels takes third-round lead at
Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna**

OMAHA, Nebraska – Ryan Ruffels used a bogey-free, 6-under 65 on Saturday to claim the third-round lead at the Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna at 12-under 201. Stephen Franken sits alone in second two strokes off the pace at 10-under 203.

Ruffels began the day in a tie for fourth but used a hot start on Saturday to ascend the leaderboard. After a birdie on the par-4 first, Ruffels carded his second eagle of the week at the par-5 fourth to move to 9-under. The 22-year-old added birdies on Nos. 7 and 9 to reach 5-under on the round and 11-under for the tournament.

On the back nine, Ruffels tallied one birdie and eight pars to reach 12-under for the week and earn a two-stroke lead heading into Sunday.

“It was solid, it played a little easier today and I was able to take advantage,” Ruffels said. “I’ve been putting it quite nice and my iron play has been pretty good. The last couple of days, the driving hasn’t been as good as I would’ve liked. I’m playing the course smart and doing what I need to do.”

Ruffels earned Korn Ferry Tour status after a T21 finish at the Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament’s Final Stage last December. In his rookie season, the Australian has made nine cuts in 12 starts and entered the week ranked 54th in The 25. Despite having three top-25s on the season, Ruffels is still in search of a strong Sunday finish, and now has his first Korn Ferry Tour title in his sights.

“Yeah, it’s going to be fun,” he said of Sunday’s final round. “It’ll be a great challenge and I’m really looking forward to it. It’s what we play for. I’m really excited to see what I can do under the pump.”

Franken, who held a share of the first-round lead, tallied three birdies against two bogeys on his first 11 holes on Saturday. After pars on Nos. 12-14, the 23-year-old caught fire with an eagle-birdie-birdie stretch on Nos. 15, 16 and 17.

After a difficult up-and-down on the par-4 18th, Franken reached 10-under for the week and moved into solo-second heading into the final round.

Franken, also in his rookie season on Tour, has made seven cuts in 12 starts this season. He earned his only top-25 of the season with a T17 result at the TPC Colorado Championship at Heron Lakes. Entering this week, the North Carolina State University product ranked 127th on the points list.

“I haven’t been in contention in a while. At Q-School, I was kind of there,” Franken said. “I’m excited being in contention. I’m just going to go out and have fun and enjoy it. I know that’s probably the best way to do it, and I’m just excited for the opportunity.”

Michael Miller, Rico Hoey and Cameron Young sit in a tie for third at 9-under 204.

Final-round tee times will run from approximately 6:49 a.m. – 12:25 p.m. with players teeing off No. 1.

SATURDAY NOTES:

- * Saturday’s weather: Partly cloudy with a high of 81. Wind W/NW at 6-15 mph.
- * This week’s purse is \$600,000 with \$108,000 going to the champion. The winner will also receive 500 Korn Ferry Tour points.
- * This marks the first time that Ryan Ruffels has led/co-led after the third round on the Korn Ferry Tour.
- * After three rounds, Ruffels ranks T3 in putts per green in regulation with 67 putts on 40 greens.
- * Ruffels looks to join David Kocher (El Bosque Mexico Championship by INNOVA) as the second rookie to win on Tour this season.
- * Ruffels had the low round of the day with a 6-under 65 on Saturday.
- * Five of the 13 54-hole leaders/co-leaders have gone on to win this season. David Lipsky last accomplished the feat after converting the 54-hole lead into a victory at the TPC San Antonio Challenge at the Canyons.
- * Through three rounds, Stephen Franken ranks third in driving accuracy, having hit 32 of 42 fairways.
- * Omaha’s Alex Schaake sits T47 at 1-under 212 after three rounds. Schaake is competing this week as an amateur after earning a sponsor’s exemption through a local qualifier.

* Brandon Crick (T9, -7) eagled both par-5s on his front nine on Saturday. The University of Nebraska product previously worked at The Club at Indian Creek.

* Chase Koepka sits T34 at 3-under 210 after three rounds. This marked the first time Koepka has made the cut on the Korn Ferry Tour.

* The par-4 11th hole (533 yards) ranked as the toughest hole on Saturday with a scoring average of 4.348.

* The par-5 fourth hole (576 yards) ranked as the easiest hole on Saturday with a scoring average of 4.522.

*** The Club at Indian Creek Scoring Average**

	Front	Back	Total	Cumulative
R1	36.831	35.097	71.929	
R2	36.230	35.230	71.461	71.695
R3	35.928	34.826	70.754	71.381

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