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**First-Round Leaderboard**

| Pos. | Name           | Scores  |
|------|----------------|---------|
| 1    | Drew Weaver    | 65 (-6) |
| T2   | Brent Grant    | 66 (-5) |
| T2   | Max Greyserman | 66 (-5) |
| T4   | Four tied at   | 67 (-4) |

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

**Drew Weaver cards 65, earns first solo lead of career at WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by KraftHeinz**

**NORTH PLAINS, Oregon** – Competing in the third group of the day on a rainy morning at Pumpkin Ridge Golf Club, Drew Weaver opened with a 6-under 65 to take the solo lead at the WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by KraftHeinz. Weaver punctuated his round on the Witch Hollow course with an impressive up and down from the greenside bunker at the par-5 18<sup>th</sup> to take a one-stroke lead and tie his lowest round of the year.

“It’s good to get off to a nice start; I’ve really struggled with that the past month or so,” said Weaver, who has missed his last three cuts. “When you come out of the gate cold, that makes the second round hard and you’re fighting uphill to make the cut...I can’t control what anybody else does but I’m really happy with the way I played today.”

Weaver, a 33-year-old Virginia Tech alum, carded seven birdies against a lone bogey on Thursday in a round reminiscent of his first round on the same course in 2017. At the 2017 WinCo Foods Portland Open, Weaver posted a first-round 63 to take a share of the lead but followed it up with a second-round 78 before eventually finishing T30.

“I think I missed a number of cuts in a row coming into that week [in 2017] and I’d missed three straight now,” reflected Weaver, who became the first American winner of The Amateur Championship in 29 years after winning the 2008 tournament. “You do your best to forget the bad play, but it can still be tough to get over sometimes.”

For Weaver, golf has been secondary on his mind a lot this year. In the last few months, the former Hokie has closed on a house, moved to North Carolina and had his first child with his wife Elizabeth.

“It’s been an amazing year; we had our first child, our son Bills was born five months ago, so that’s been life-changing and has changed my perspective on everything,” said Weaver. “Being a dad is amazing and watching my wife be such a great mother is inspiring. It makes it hard to leave, but I’m thankful to have a place to play and have an opportunity to do well each week out here.”

Despite his opening 63 in 2017, Weaver has missed the cut twice in three attempts on the Witch Hollow course, a course he calls “demanding, but not unfair.”

“I look at this golf course a lot like Muirfield Village,” remarked Weaver. “I’ve gotten the opportunity to play out there twice with the Memorial, and it’s a place where if you’re on, you can score well. But if you’re not then it’s going to show...If you hit good shots you are going to have opportunities to make birdies.”

Weaver, who has averaged a shade under 295 yards per drive this season, leads a pair of long-hitting players by one stroke. Brent Grant and Max Greyserman, who rank third and fourth, respectively, in driving distance on Tour, carded matching 5-under 66s on Thursday. Each averages more than 329 yards per drive. Greyserman went 5-under on the back nine (his first nine) before coasting in, while Grant used an eagle at the par-5 fourth as the catalyst for his round.

Second-round tee times will run from 7 a.m. to 2:26 p.m. on Friday.

#### **THURSDAY NOTES:**

- \* Thursday’s weather: Morning showers with a high of 73 degrees and wind NW at 6-12 mph.
- \* The top-five players on the Korn Ferry Tour points list at the conclusion of the WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by KraftHeinz will receive exemptions into the 2020 U.S. Open at Winged Foot. The top-five players on the points list entering the week, in order, were Davis Riley, Will Zalatoris, Taylor Pendrith, Dylan Wu and Mito Pereira. A U.S. Open berth would be the first for Pendrith and Wu, while Riley (2015), Zalatoris (2018) and Pereira (2019) would each be making their second start.
- \* Drew Weaver has twice held a share of the lead after a round on the Korn Ferry Tour, most recently at the 2020 Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at Baha Mar. The other occurrence came at the 2017 WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by KraftHeinz when he shot an opening-round 63 before going on to finish T30 after rounds of 78-68-68.
- \* Weaver entered the week 75<sup>th</sup> in the Korn Ferry Tour points standings and is projected to move to ninth with a win. Just three of 14 first-round leaders have gone on to win this season.
- \* In his rookie season on Tour, Hawaii native Brent Grant (-5, T2) ranks highly in several statistical categories including driving distance (third – 331.5 yards per drive), holes per eagle (third – 52.6) and birdie average (ninth – 4.5). Grant has notched five top-25s in 12 starts and entered the week 48<sup>th</sup> in the points standings.

- \* Max Greyserman (-5, T2) hit 17 of 18 greens on Thursday despite entering the round ranked 97<sup>th</sup> on Tour in Greens in Regulation at just 68.85 percent. The Duke University product has earned two top-25s in eight starts thus far and ranks 117<sup>th</sup> in the points standings.
- \* New Zealand native Steven Alker (-3, T7) aced the par-3 second hole (178 yards). The hole-in-one was the eighth ace in tournament history and the fifth that has come at the second hole. Alker also holed out from the bunker for birdie on No. 16.
- \* This week's purse is \$800,000 with \$144,000 going to the champion. The champion will also receive 550 Korn Ferry Tour points.
- \* The combined 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour schedule will conclude with 25 PGA TOUR cards awarded at the 2021 WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by KraftHeinz, with an additional 25 cards awarded at the conclusion of the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Finals.
- \* The par-3 fifth hole (185 yards) played as the hardest hole on Thursday with a scoring average of 3.404.
- \* The par-5 fourth hole (533 yards) played as the easiest hole on Thursday with a scoring average of 4.462.

|           | Front         | Back          | Total         | Cumulative |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|
| <b>R1</b> | <b>36.878</b> | <b>35.192</b> | <b>72.071</b> |            |

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