

PARTIAL Second-Round Notes – Friday, July 16, 2021

Course Setup: Panther Creek Country Club – Par 71 / 7,228

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Second-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Erik Barnes	63-64—127 (-15)
T2	Jared Wolfe	68-61—129 (-13)
T2	Max Greyserman	67-62—129 (-13)

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- [Tournament Media Site](#) (interviews and other resources available for download)

Erik Barnes claims two-stroke lead in suspended second round at Memorial Health Championship presented by LRS

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. – Erik Barnes finished up his first round on Friday morning with a 63 and carried that momentum into his second round where he posted a 64 to reach 15-under. Barnes led by two when play was suspended due to darkness at 8:27 p.m. on Friday.

“Honestly it was tough because it rained for probably about 20 holes of the 36,” said Barnes, who only got his first eight holes of the tournament in on Thursday before having to play 28 holes on Friday. “But my irons were terrific. I didn’t miss a lot of greens but when I did I got the ball up and down. I made all of the putts I was supposed to make and it was fun.”

Barnes enjoyed nine birdies in his second round – including a stretch of six in seven holes from Nos. 10-16 – but double-bogeyed the par-3 17th to end his round on a sour note. He had reached 17-under prior to the double-bogey.

Barnes entered the week 43rd in the Korn Ferry Tour points standings. He has already locked up his Korn Ferry Tour status for next season by being locked into the top-75 but is looking to leap inside the top-25 in the next four events to earn his first PGA TOUR card.

“I put myself in a good position and I know a good week can vault me into that top-25 permanently,” said the 33-year-old. “I just want to keep doing what I’m doing honestly. If I put balls in the fairways I feel like I can make birdies.”

Barnes, a Marion, Indiana native, is accompanied by a large family contingent, including his parents who are watching him in person for the first time since the pandemic began.

“My wife and two kids and my parents are here which is fun,” said Barnes. “They battled through the elements with us to watch some golf. It’s fun to have them with me. My oldest is in school now so they can’t come a lot in the spring and fall.”

While Barnes holds a two-stroke advantage, Jared Wolfe proved to be the story on Friday with a flawless 10-under 61 to tie the course record and rise to T2.

“I set the alarm just in case we were going to play today but I didn’t think we would with the forecast calling for two inches of rain,” laughed Wolfe, a Murray State alum. “Obviously having two eagles, which, I hadn’t had many in 2021 after I think I may have led the Tour in 2020 with it.”

Perhaps Wolfe was inspired by the region, as he cited being a distant relative to Abraham Lincoln, who famously lived in the Illinois capitol of Springfield.

“So I’ve got some connection to Lincoln’s grandmother,” said Wolfe. “Lincoln’s grandmother’s first marriage before her husband died, I’m from that side of the family, the Sparrow side. Lincoln and I share the same grandmother, which is obviously where I get my good looks from, and my height...So it’s fifth cousin removed, whatever that means.”

Wolfe is tied with Duke University alumni Max Greyserman at 13-under.

The second round will resume at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday with the third round to immediately follow later that morning.

Second-Round Notes

- Friday’s weather: Cloudy with isolated showers, a high of 78 degrees and wind W at 5-10 mph
- The Memorial Health Championship presented by LRS is the 17th event of 2021 and the 40th (of 43) of the 2020-21 combined regular season; Erik Barnes projects to move inside the top-20 in the Korn Ferry Tour points standings with a win; just 11 of 39 second-round leaders/co-leaders have gone on to win this season
- Barnes’ 36-hole total of 127 is the lowest of his career, replacing his previous career-best of 129 (twice, most recently at 2021 Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics); 127 also ties the second-best opening 36-hole score of the season with eight other players, one stroke behind Stephan Jaeger’s 126 at the 2021 Visit Knoxville Open
- Jared Wolfe tied the course record with a 10-under 61; the course record was previously set by Chase Wright (R2/2018) and matched by Charlie Saxon (R1/2020); Saxon, who finished T7 at the tournament last year, sits T4
- The 61 sets a new career-low round for Wolfe, replacing a previous career-best of 63
- First-round leader Rick Lamb (-11, T6) carded a second-round 2-under 69
- Chicago product and former University of Illinois star Nick Hardy (-8) sits T31 at the midway point of the tournament
- This week’s purse is \$600,000 with \$108,000 going to the champion; the champion will also receive 500 Korn Ferry Tour points
- The combined 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour schedule will conclude with 25 PGA TOUR cards awarded in August at the 2021 Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna, with an additional 25 cards awarded at the conclusion of the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Finals