

First-Round Notes – Thursday, April 22, 2021

Course Setup: Par 71 / 6,987 yards

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First-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Anders Albertson	62 (-9)
2	Max Greyserman	63 (-8)
T3	Four tied	64 (-7)

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Anders Albertson leads after first round at Veritex Bank Championship

ARLINGTON, Texas – Anders Albertson posted a 9-under 62 on Thursday to take the first-round lead at the inaugural Veritex Bank Championship in Arlington, Texas. Albertson leads Max Greyserman by one stroke at Texas Rangers Golf Club entering the second round.

“I didn’t really think about a number [coming in],” said Albertson. “I played with Kris [Blanks] and Kevin [Dougherty] today and it’s a very fine line. If you get one foot off a slope and you slide down, you’re short-sided. Or if you catch the slope and come down you have a tap-in. It’s a very fine line between hitting a good shot and being in a very difficult position.”

Starting at the par-5 10th hole, Albertson made five birdies – countered by a lone bogey – to make the turn at 4-under. After a bogey at the first hole, Albertson made an ace at the par-3 second hole.

“Not too common...It was awesome,” laughed Albertson. “It was my second one ever and both have been in contention. Which is nice, I guess if you’re not going to have very many [aces], you better make them count.”

The Atlanta native tacked on two more birdies at the third and seventh holes before a closing eagle at the par-5 ninth to reach 9-under.

“There are a lot of different quadrants of the greens with the slopes here,” noted Albertson. “I think if you can hit some really good iron shots, you can have some good looks at birdie. We had a good plan coming in and I hit some good irons and fortunately I made those putts.”

Albertson entered the week 63rd in the Korn Ferry Tour points standings with four top-10s in 20 starts this year. He graduated to the PGA TOUR at the end of the 2018 season but returned to the Korn Ferry Tour at the start of 2020.

Coming off two top-10s in his last three starts, Max Greyserman carded an 8-under 63 to sit one shot back of Albertson.

“I feel like I’m playing solid this year,” said Greyserman, who lives in Boca Raton, Florida. “It was good to see Svenny [Adam Svensson] win in Georgia and Peter [Uihlein] win in Vegas, two guys that I’m friends with at home and two guys that I play with a lot. Just knowing that I can do it too, gaining some confidence, and if a bad shot happens just keep going.”

Four players are T3 after the first round at 7-under 64: Jonathan Randolph, Joey Garber, Theo Humphrey and Dan McCarthy.

Second-round tee times will run from 7:15 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. on Friday off of the first and 10th tees.

Thursday Notes

- Thursday’s weather: Cloudy with a high of 65 degrees and wind SE at 8-14 mph
- The Veritex Bank Championship is the sixth event of 2021 and the 29th of the 2020-21 combined season; Albertson would project to move inside the top-25 with a win; four of 28 first-round leaders/co-leaders have gone on to win this season
- Albertson’s 62 matches his career low round on the Korn Ferry Tour; he previously carded a 62 at the 2020 Memorial Health Championship, the 2018 Albertsons Boise Open and the 2016 Brasil Champions
- Dallas resident Theo Humphrey (-7, T3) leads the local contingent of players in the field, followed by Max McGreevy, Marty Dou and George Cunningham each at T7 (6-under)
- Competing as an amateur, former Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo eagled his first hole, the par-5 10th before going on to post a 6-under 77; Romo’s playing competitors, Jared du Toit and Sean Jacklin, each carded 5-under 66s; Jacklin is the son of two-time major champion Tony Jacklin
- Will Cannon (-6, T7) is seeking the second top-10 of his career and first since a T9 finish at the 2019 LECOM Health Challenge
- 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

First-Round Course Statistics

- Toughest Hole – Par-4 eighth (4.231)
- Easiest Hole – Par-5 ninth (4.218)
- Scoring Average (Front 9) – 34.321
- Scoring Average (Back 9) – 36.949
- Scoring Average (Total) – 69.269