



Blessings Golf Club, Fayetteville, Arkansas
Par 72, 7550 yards

MATCH PLAY RECAP – TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2019

TEXAS AND STANFORD TO PLAY FOR 2019 NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S GOLF NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Match Play Final Will Start at 6:45 a.m. Due to Threat of Inclement Weather

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. – Fifth-seeded Texas and sixth-seeded Stanford won their semifinal matches Tuesday afternoon and will play for the 2019 NCAA Division I Men's Golf National Championship at Blessings Golf Club (par 72, 7,550-yards). The Championship is set for Wednesday and the start has been moved to 6:45 a.m. due to the threat of inclement weather.

The Longhorns upset defending national champion and top-seeded Oklahoma State, 3-2, with the deciding point coming on the 19th hole. The Cardinal, playing first in the semifinals, upset second-seeded Vanderbilt, 3-2, after a 24-foot birdie putt on the 18th green by freshman Daulet Tuleubayev.

GOLF Channel will have live coverage from the Blessings beginning with Morning Drive from 6 to 7:30 a.m. CT, followed by live championship coverage from 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. or conclusion of the match.

The first semifinal match out was #2 Vanderbilt versus #6 Stanford. The Cardinal got on the board first with wins from Isaiah Salinda (3&2) and Brandon Wu (4&3). John Augenstein cut the Commodore deficit in half with a 2-UP win.

The clinching point for Stanford came down to the 18th hole. Tuleubayev, up 1 through 17 holes, drained a 24-foot birdie putt to secure a 1-Up win. The fifth match between the two programs was conceded to Vanderbilt to provide the 3-2 final in Stanford's favor.

"I felt like I was in aggressive mode the whole day and playing smart," said Tuleubayev. "I started doing the math in my head about the shots I needed to make and lost focus. On a course like this it's easy to make bogeys, it can just punch you. I really had to pull together the last hole and make two good shots. I normally don't get that emotional out there. And I think it's something that's different about playing on a college golf team. As you're walking down the stretch, you can see the other guys who are

there with you and putting their time into it. Finishing well for them makes it a lot more emotional than when it's just you."

In the later match, featuring #1 Oklahoma State and #5 Texas, the Longhorns grabbed the first two points as Cole Hammer and Pierceson Coody closed out their opponents early. Hammer birdied six of the first nine holes and held on to defeat 2019 NCAA individual medalist Matthew Wolff 4&3. Coody, up two, won holes 13, 14 and 15 for a 5&4 victory.

Oklahoma State got on the board when Viktor Hovland rallied for a 2&1 victory. Hovland won four straight holes to start the back nine to put himself in position to win. The Cowboys leveled the match at 2-2 thanks to a 4&2 decision by Austin Eckroat.

The last match on the course for the semifinal came down the anchor match between Oklahoma State's Zach Bauchou and Texas' Steven Chervony. At no point during the nail-bitter was a player up by more than one. Chervony was up one through 15 but Bauchou came back to win holes 16 (with a par) and 17 (with a birdie) to go up 1. Chervony squared the match after sinking a 20-foot birdie putt on 18 to force extra holes. Chervony won the match with a par on the 19th hole to move the Longhorns through to the final.

"I knew that the core of our team, Cole and the two Coody brothers, would probably play pretty well. It was an interesting match," said Texas head coach John Fields. "Spencer Soosman against Viktor Hovland. Spencer played really well. Viktor just played extraordinary golf, did some extraordinary things. Cole's victory over Matthew Wolff was outstanding and gave us an opportunity to get a point on the board. Pierceson did the same thing with Hayden Wood. He got a point on the board. Unfortunately Parker got beat. Then Steven righted the ship, got one up after 15 holes. Got kind of a tough break on 16. Ball got all the way down below the tree, ends up making bogey. Then gets another tough break on 17. But the resolve that he had to finish out on 18 with that putt, just give ourselves an opportunity to possibly advance playing in that playoff."

"I'm really excited for our guys," said Fields. "They played great golf today. Oklahoma State played great golf today. I don't think they would say they played poorly. Our guys played well. They played well. We came out on top this time."

Chervony, the lone senior on a young Texas team that features three freshmen, came through in the end.

"It's match play, anything could happen," said Chervony. "I didn't give up. I knew I could hit a good shot in there and just give myself a chance. I thought if I made birdie, there was a good chance he wasn't going to make birdie. That's what ended up happening."

Quarterfinal Match Results – Tuesday, May 28

(All Times Local CST):

MATCH 1: #2 Vanderbilt def. #7 Texas A&M, 3-2

MATCH 2: #6 Stanford def. #3 Wake Forest, 3-2

MATCH 3: #1 Oklahoma State def. #8 SMU, 4-1

MATCH 4: #5 Texas def. #4 Oklahoma, 3-2

Semifinal Matches – Tuesday, May 28

MATCH 5: Stanford def. Vanderbilt, 3-2
MATCH 6: Texas def. Oklahoma State, 3-2

Championship Final Match – Wednesday, May 29
6:45 a.m. – Texas vs. Stanford

GOLF Channel / NCAA Men's Golf Championships Wednesday programming schedule (all times Central)

6-7:30 a.m.	Morning Drive (Live)
7:30 -11:30 a.m.	NCAA Men's Golf Championships, Championship Match (Live)
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Golf Centrl (Live)
3-7 p.m.	NCAA Men's Golf Championships, Championship Match (Replay)

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SEMIFINAL QUOTES – STANFORD - MAY 28, 2019

Conrad Ray – Stanford head coach
Daulet Tuleubayev – Stanford Freshman
Rick Nixon – Moderator

CONRAD RAY: Yeah, excited about today. Just trying to process it all. A long 36 holes. Just to play a casual round and play 36 on this course let alone for the national championship is special. It's draining but exciting.

Happy about how our guys hung in there. We're excited to get a chance to play Texas. It's a team we've seen this year. A lot of respect for this team, the job Coach Fields does with those boys. It should be a great match.

RICK NIXON: Daulet, talk about the day, having to win two matches.

DAULET TULEUBAYEV: First match was tough. Cameron was playing fantastic golf. Coach Ray told me before the round just to play smart golf. He was playing flawless golf. I wasn't too upset about the loss.

Just happy the other guys on my team made it.

Obviously had a chip on my shoulder the second time around. Tried to bring it back as far as I could. It worked out in the end.

Q. Daulet, is this one of the craziest matches this afternoon, one that you've ever played in?

DAULET TULEUBAYEV: Oh, yeah, for sure. I haven't had a chance to play too many match play events in my career. We did some hole match play events against the guys, but obviously not the same high stakes as it was here.

I come in here, it was a fresh experience. I got away with a victory.

Q. Talk about 17 and 18, the range of emotions you went through.

DAULET TULEUBAYEV: I'm sure coach was more stressed than I was about the whole thing (laughter).

We had a funny line, trying to move some rocks around the ball, seeing if I could get up on the green. We were waiting to see what Vanderbilt was going to do. Obviously had a great shot on the green. Tried to go for broke. It worked out.

Obviously unlucky thing happened on 17 with my stroke, clipping the ball. I understand it's the rule, so... I'll be standing further away from the ball now.

18, thankfully I walked up to the tee a little upset, discouraged. Coach did a great job of coaching me through it, telling me it was a great opportunity to show off and show what I'm made of. Helped me hit two great shots.

CONRAD RAY: I mean, there was a lot of emotion there. I think I was really proud of how Daulet played 16. He was leaking a little oil. He 3-putted 14. Hit one in the weeds on 15. We won't talk about that (laughter).

On 16, hit it right in the middle of the green, had a great 2-putt for par. Steadied the ship a little bit.

Then on 17, Daulet followed the Vanderbilt guy into the hazard. That probably shouldn't have happened. We were looking probably a little aggressively on the line. But stuff happens. He hit a great shot to get out of the hazard.

18, Daulet has hit that tee ball all week. It was a tough tee shot. He was able to hit it right at the left bunker, rip it, hit it solid.

The 5-iron was probably top three of my career shots under the situation that I've seen. He was able to make the putt. That 5-iron was pretty special.

Q. Conrad, talk about tomorrow's match against Texas. What will be some of the keys for you?

CONRAD RAY: I think we're all kind of in survival mode with as much golf as we've played, short nights and everything. I think we'll rely on our fitness. The guys wonder why we're having a third workout on Fridays in January. Now is when it comes to fruition.

I think if we can just take good shots... Sometimes you get a little caught up in the drama of playing

another team, everything going on. I guess my message to my guys is going to be: Let's play some quality golf, hit the ball on the fairway, hit the ball on the green, see what happens.

SEMIFINAL QUOTES – TEXAS - MAY 28, 2019

John Fields – Texas head coach

Steven Chervony – Texas Senior

Rick Nixon – Moderator

RICK NIXON: Steven, take us through obviously a tremendous putt on 18 to get to the extra hole.

STEVEN CHERVONY: It's match play. Anything could happen. I didn't give up. I knew I could hit a good shot in there and just give myself a chance.

I thought if I made birdie, there was a good chance he wasn't going to make birdie. That's what ended up happening.

RICK NIXON: Take us through step by step the clinching hole.

STEVEN CHERVONY: We both hit great drives. I had a good number in there and hit a great pitching wedge probably about 15, 20 feet. I would have liked to have given it a little more gas, give it a chance, but I knew he had a tougher putt. He ended up 3-putting.

RICK NIXON: John, take us through this match. Great performances up and down your roster.

JOHN FIELDS: No question about it. I mean, I knew that the core of our team, Cole and the two Coody brothers, would probably play pretty well. It was an interesting match. Spencer Soosman against Viktor Hovland. Spencer played really well. Viktor just played extraordinary golf, did some extraordinary things.

Cole's victory over Matthew Wolff was outstanding and gave us an opportunity to get a point on the board. Pierceson did the same thing with Hayden Wood. He got a point on the board.

Unfortunately Parker got beat. Then Steven righted the ship, got one up after 15 holes. Got kind of a tough break on 16. Ball got all the way down below the tree, ends up making bogey. Then gets another tough break on 17.

But the resolve that he had to finish out on 18 with that putt, just give ourselves an opportunity to possibly advance playing in that playoff.

I'm really excited for our guys. They played great golf today. Oklahoma State played great golf today. I don't think they would say they played poorly. Our guys played well. They played well. We came out on top this time.

Q. John, a couple days ago you were being complimentary of Oklahoma State, saying maybe one of the best college teams ever assembled. You thought your team could have a say in who wins this

championship. What was the mindset you had to take into today to beat them?

JOHN FIELDS: Well, I mean, it's Big 12 Conference. Today we played Oklahoma in the morning, we played Oklahoma State in the afternoon.

Somebody asked me, How do you get your guys up for this? There's no trouble getting them up for those type of teams. Big 12 conference, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, two great programs, two programs that have won national championships in the last three years. We won one in 2012.

Big 12 conference is big. Our guys know that. We played Oklahoma and Oklahoma State in our Big 12 match play championship in the fall back-to-back on the final day. We weren't playing for the championship. Baylor ended up winning that. But we beat Oklahoma in the morning and we beat Oklahoma State in the afternoon.

Q. Looking at tomorrow against Stanford, what do you tell your guys tonight? You had these two big victories today. What do you tell your guys tonight hitting the reset button?

JOHN FIELDS: Well, we need to get some rest. I hear we're going to play at 6:40 in the morning. These guys are used to getting up early. We do that from time to time in qualifying.

They're excited. We need to get some food, get some rest, really calm down and start thinking about what we're going to do tomorrow. We can't do anything about what's happened now. All we need to do is just get some rest and get ready for it.

RICK NIXON: Steven, mentally and physically right now, a lot of golf in the last several days.

STEVEN CHERVONY: I'm a little jazzed up right now. I'll probably feel it here in a couple hours. It's a lot of golf. This is not an easy course to walk. We're tired, but everybody's tired. We're a great, mentally fit team. We're very confident about tomorrow.

Q. John, I know Texas historically isn't used to being the underdogs. With everything that Oklahoma State accomplished this year, how good does it feel to prove to everyone that they may have counted you out, but you had the last say?

JOHN FIELDS: Well, truth be known, I mean, people have been talking about Oklahoma State all year. Somebody asked me out on the range the other day if I thought that we had been overlooked. I thought this entire field has been overlooked this year. Really last year too.

Oklahoma State has been at the crux of all the media, and they've earned it. They have absolutely earned it. They've done a great job. Alan Bratton, Donnie Darr, that whole team. We have a lot of respect for them. This time we came out on top.

Somebody said something a little bit nasty about the Sooners. I said, No way, huh-uh. I mean, we have tremendous respect for Ryan Hybl, his team. We have tremendous respect for Oklahoma State, the storied history and tradition they have of winning.

This is just one of those days where we got the better of a really, really, really good team.

Q. John, you've had a lot of experience in match play over the years. What have you tried to relay to them this week on how long of a week and how difficult this is? What will you tell them about tomorrow?

JOHN FIELDS: Well, I've been blessed in terms of having some great players that have kind of helped me with match play, starting with Jordan Spieth and Beau Hossler, Gavin Hall, Scottie Scheffler. When you have United States junior champions on your team, guys that have won it multiple times, you're going to learn something from them. We had little things that we think about.

But the number one thing that Steven or any of our guys got to do, they got to play one shot at a time, they got to really, really be focused, understand that you're playing a really good player, and they can make a 30-footer, hit a wedge in the hole. Who knows. You got to be able to have the resolve to come back and keep going.

It makes me think about all the guys that I've coached. These guys, we've shared those stories. Hopefully those things have helped us get where we are today.