



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

DAY TWO RECAP – SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2019

OKLAHOMA STATE'S MATTHEW WOLFF TIES BLESSINGS COURSE RECORD AS COWBOYS WIDEN LEAD AT 2019 NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. – A pair of Oklahoma State golfers headlined day two of the 2019 NCAA Division I Men's Golf Championship Saturday at Blessings Golf Club. Austin Eckroat fired his second-consecutive 3-under-par 69 for a 6-under total to take a one shot lead over teammate Matthew Wolff and California's Collin Morikawa.

Behind the sterling play of Eckroat and Wolff, defending national champion Oklahoma State continued its dominance in the 30-team field with a 12-under 276 in round two to stretch its advantage to 12 strokes over second place Stanford.

Tying the course record, Wolff fired a tournament-low 6-under 66 and sits one shot back of his Cowboy running mate through 36 holes. The sophomore became just the third person to post a 66 at Blessings Golf Club, joining current Arkansas golfers Mason Overstreet and Tyson Reeder, who achieved the mark in qualifying play. Wolff shot up 19 spots on the leaderboard, riding four birdies on the front nine and three more on the back.

"I was incredibly pleased with how I played today, I didn't have my best round yesterday, but I just hung in there and figured some things out," Wolff said. "I was able to minimize some mistakes and close some things out. It's nice to go out there and post a low score to help out my team. I didn't know I tied the record, so it just shows how hard the course is. Hopefully I can break it by the end of the week."

Jacob Solomon, of Auburn, posted a 3-under 69 positioning him in a tie for fourth place at 4-under-par with Isaiah Salinda from Stanford who carded a 2-under 70 on Saturday. Luke Schniederjans of Georgia Tech shot the second best round of the day firing a 5-under par 67.

Oklahoma State carried a one-shot lead into the second round and was one of the first teams to tee off this morning at 6:50 a.m. The Cowboys took advantage of the cooler, still conditions in the first part of the round to extend the lead.

"We had a really good round today," said Oklahoma State head coach Alan Bratton. "This is why you play hard all year so you can earn a top seed and get an early tee time. We were out here at 7 a.m., with little to no wind which is a huge advantage out here. This is already a tough course and the wind makes

it harder. We took advantage of the lack of wind on the front nine and got some momentum. Our goal is to try to get to know the course better so we'll get back to it tomorrow and just be ourselves."

Stanford remains in second place after posting a 1-under-par team total for round two. Texas A&M vaulted two spots up the leaderboard and sits in third place after also shooting a 1-under-par team total in the second round. Auburn is 10-over-par for the tournament and positioned in fourth place followed closely by Texas, just two shots behind at 12-over-par.

The 2019 NCAA Division I Men's Golf championship resumes tomorrow morning at 6:50 a.m. at Blessings Golf Club. The field will be trimmed to the top 15 teams and top nine individuals not on an advancing team after tomorrow's round. On Monday, May 27, an individual champion will be crowned and the top eight teams remaining will advance to the quarterfinals and semifinals match-play format on Tuesday, May 28, followed by the match-play finals on Wednesday, May 29.

###



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

DAY TWO QUOTES – OKLAHOMA STATE - MAY 25, 2019

MATTHEW WOLFF, OKLAHOMA STATE

On tying the course record...

It's awesome. I didn't have my best round yesterday but I just hung in there and figured some things out. I was able to minimize some mistakes and close some things out. It's nice to go out there and post a low score to help out my team. I didn't know that I tied the record, so it just shows how hard the course is. Hopefully I can break it by the end of the week.

On yesterday's turning point...

I think it was the back nine. I didn't have a great start to the round, but once I got on the back nine I kind of settled down and told myself that once I get some chances I'll end up making some birdies.

On carrying the momentum to today...

I pride my game on consistency, and for the most part this year I've been pretty consistent. After the past few months I've been fairly confident so coming here I just tried to get back to the basics.

On staying mentally sharp...

There's still a lot of time left. I think the biggest thing is having experience on the course, so playing four rounds will help us if we make it to match play. We're going to try to conserve our energy and only practice a little bit, but I think that being on the course is the most beneficial thing.

On the lower second round scores...

I think the bulk of the higher ranked teams were teeing off this morning and the pins were set up in a some more favorable positions. I played the first six or seven holes without anything wind, and it rained a little last night so the grass was a little softer than yesterday. All those factors together and the fact that there were guys who shot under yesterday gave you confidence that it could be done.

OKLAHOMA STATE HEAD COACH ALAN BRATTON

(Oklahoma State team leader at 10-under-par)

On today's round...

We had a really good round today. This is why you play hard all year so you can earn a top seed and get an early tee time. We were out here at 7 a.m. with little to no wind, which is a huge advantage out here. This is already a tough course and the wind makes it harder. We took advantage of the lack of wind on the front nine and got some momentum. Our goal is to try to get to know the course better so we'll get back to it tomorrow and just be ourselves.

On takeaways from the first round...

Any golf course that you play, you get to know it better as you go. On this course, there's a lot of places on the green that you get more comfortable with the sightlines as you go along. That helps you, but you still have to execute shots. It doesn't matter how well you know the course, you have to execute.

On Matthew Wolff tying the course record...

He played well today. I'm really proud of what he did. He was four over par yesterday through the first nine holes, but since then he's gone nine under. It's a good lesson for anyone out there playing golf to remember you can't put too much importance on any one shot.

AUSTIN ECKROAT, OKLAHOMA STATE

(Individual leader at 6-under-par)

On the course...

It played pretty similar to yesterday. This morning there wasn't as much wind as there was yesterday, but then it picked up as we got later into the day.

On how yesterday helped him play today...

I think yesterday's round helped me today for sure. I did the same things I did in the first round, like making putts, so it helped me shoot low.

On tomorrow's round...

I hope I'll better my score tomorrow. If I keep ending the way I have been and get some putts to fall I'll shoot low again.