



**LONGHORNS AND RAZORBACKS TAKE FIRST ROUND LEAD AT  
DIVISION I WOMEN'S GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS  
BIANCA PAGDANGANAN LEADS INDIVIDUALS**

FAYETTEVILLE, Arkansas – Texas and Arkansas each carded a 302 to lead the field by two strokes after the first round of the NCAA Division I Women's Golf Championships, hosted by the University of Arkansas at Blessings Golf Club (par 73 – 6,397 yards). Arizona's Bianca Pagdanganan leads the individuals by three strokes with a 4-under-par round of 69.

Texas was the clubhouse leader and was led by Emilee Hoffman (T-2nd at -1) and Agatha Laisne (T-13th).

"I'm happy with our team's start today," said Texas head coach Ryan Murphy. "We survived a little bit better than everyone else out there."

The Razorbacks, playing in the final group, made a late charge to tie the Longhorns as Maria Fassi (T-2nd at -1) birdied holes 16 and 18 while Kaylee Benton (T-5th at +1) birdied 18.

"I thought everyone was a little nervous out of the gate," said Shauna Taylor, Arkansas' head coach. "We haven't played at home since 2012, and it was a very difficult day out there but I'm super proud of our group. I think we finished incredibly strong and put us in a good position. We want to represent Razorback nation well and have fun doing it, and we have a special group out there. We're just going to take it day by day and shot by shot."

Texas and Arkansas lead a tightly packed field with Stanford and Arizona coming in tied for third at 304, followed by Duke (305), Southern California (306), Wake Forest (309), Arizona State (310), Washington (311) and Purdue (312). Only eight strokes separate 10th from 17th place.

Pagdanganan's round of 69 included three birdies and a bogey on each nine to record her 4-under round.

"I guess my ball striking was pretty solid today," Pagdanganan said. "I hit a lot of fairways too, which is pretty important for this course. These greens are very tough, so you just have to stay patient and give yourself opportunities."

Pagdanganan leads a trio of players at 1-under including teammate Haley Moore, Hoffman of Texas and Fassi of Arkansas.

The second round of the championships at Blessings Golf Club will tee off 15 minutes earlier tomorrow at 7 a.m. CT, with Southern California, Texas and Duke on No. 1 and Arizona, Kent State and Wake Forest on No. 10.



## 2019 NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

### Second Round

Blessings Golf Club, Fayetteville, Arkansas  
Sunday, May 19, Par 73, 6,397 yards

### FIRST ROUND QUOTES

**Ryan Murphy, Texas head coach**  
**Team Leader Through Round One**

I'm happy with our team's start today. We survived a little bit better than everyone else out there.

**Shauna Taylor, Arkansas head coach**  
**Team Co-Leader Through Round One**

*On today's finish...*

I thought everyone was a little nervous out of the gate, we haven't played at home since 2012, and it was a very difficult day out there but I'm super proud of our group. I think we finished incredibly strong and put us in a good position. We want to represent Razorback nation well and have fun doing it, and we have a special group out there. We're just going to take it day by day and shot by shot.

*On Kaylee Benton and Maria Fassi...*

They're the foundation of our team and we lean on them a lot. They've gotten smarter over the years and they've pretty much seen it all so they know how to play and not panic if they make mistakes. They're two fantastic players.

*On things she's never seen at Blessings...*

I told the girls to practice on nine. In my whole career, I've only seen one ball over the green and we had three on the back fringe today. The hole location for 11, we played it out to the left and used the slope to go back to the hole. Just crazy stuff like that.

*On momentum for the coming days...*

You can't win it on the first day, but you can lose it on the first day. All we can do is put ourselves in contention to win, worry about Arkansas, and play our game. We have a fantastic game plan and know the course pretty well, which we can't take for granted. There's a quick turnaround so we just have to take it day by day.

**Bianca Pagdanganan, Arizona**  
**Round 1 Leader (-4)**

*On avoiding the dangers...*

I guess my ball striking was pretty solid today. I hit a lot of fairways too, which is pretty important for this course. These greens are very tough so you just have to stay patient and give yourself opportunities.

*On the practice round...*

I felt iffy over the past two days and I was a bit nervous coming into today. But my warm-up this morning gave me more confidence, and I played pretty well today.

*On moving forward...*

We just have to stick to our game plan. There's obviously going to be some things we need to work on, but we just have to remain patient and work hard.

**Emilee Hoffman, Texas**

**T-2nd (-1)**

*On the course today...*

It was really tough out there today. I think the key was staying patient, and if you got in a tough spot just taking your medicine and punching it back to the fairway to eliminate the big number. It's a difficult course so you can get a big number pretty quickly.

*On her round today...*

I thought I did really well today. I made a lot of 10 and 15 footers from par, so that helped keep my round together.

*On the rest of the championships...*

Every day is a new day so tomorrow I won't be thinking about today's round, but it will still give me a little confidence. I just have to take it one shot at a time.

**Maria Fassi, Arkansas**

**T-2nd (-1)**

*On today's conditions...*

Today was tough. I don't think we've had rounds lately with the amount of wind we had today. There were some really tough holes that we haven't seen in a while, but we're ready.

*On today's round...*

I didn't play the way I would have liked through five and seven, but I think overall it was a pretty nice round. I hit a lot of pars and I tried to play smart but be aggressive when I could. I knew coming down the stretch that I would have some birdie opportunities and was able to make two birdies in the last three holes so I'm excited with that finish and the momentum going into tomorrow.

*On the team's performance...*

We just have to keep playing Arkansas golf. I know that what we have is going to be good enough to get us to match play, so I'm excited to see that we're tied for first. There's a lot of teams that are playing close to us, so we just need to focus on ourselves. I know it's going to be a great day tomorrow.

**Haley Moore, Arizona**

**T-2nd (-1)**

*On the course...*

The course was pretty tough today, especially the front nine. It was very windy so I just had to stay patient and just try to keep making par. Birdies will come so even if you do bogey it isn't the end of the world.

*On the positives from today...*

I tried to stay as patient as possible. If I got into trouble I tried to get up and down; there were birdie holes out there, especially if it was downwind, so I tried to stay steady and minimize any damage.

*On the rest of the championships...*

I know there are some holes where they could move the tees up or back so we'll have to figure that out. But overall, my ball striking was good so I just need to keep that up and keep fighting.