

Mocs Take Lead At SoCon Championships

Written by Phil Perry
Tuesday, 23 April 2013 07:14

Chattanooga senior Steven Fox shot a 1-under 71 Monday to move atop the individual leaderboard, while the Mocs shot 2-over 290 as a team to assume the top spot at the 2013 Southern Conference Men's Golf Championship at the Daniel Island Club's Ralston Creek Course.

Fox, the reigning U.S. Amateur champion who played in the Masters last week, entered the day one stroke back of Davidson's Todd Eckstein, and the duo, playing in the final threesome of the day, went toe-to-toe for much of the afternoon. After both of them cruised through the front nine – Fox at 3-under and Eckstein at 2-under – Fox played the back nine at 2-over and Eckstein played it at 4-over to put some distance between the two.

Fox ended the day at 1-under 143 for the tournament, while Eckstein finished at 1-over 145, two shots back. College of Charleston freshman Josh Lorenzetti had the low round of the day, a 3-under 69, to vault from 11th place and into a tie for second with Eckstein.

As a team, the Mocs have four individuals in the top 10, with Davis Bunn (77-72=149) tied for eighth at 5-over and Chris Robb (74-76=150) tied for 10th at 6-over. Chattanooga is at 12-over 588 (298-290) entering Tuesday's final round.

Davidson, which entered play Monday with a one-shot lead over the Mocs, now trails Chattanooga by three strokes despite having three individuals of its own in the top 10. The Wildcats are at 15-over 591 (297-294).

Richard Fountain shot an even-par 72 Monday to move into a tie for fourth at 3-over 147, while John Skeadas jumped seven spots into a tie for sixth with a 1-under 71 for a two-day total of 148.

After wind gusts around 25 mph for much of Sunday, the calmer weather Monday was reflected in the scores, as each team dropped at least three strokes from its first round. Three teams shaved at least 20 strokes off their opening rounds, with Wofford improving 27 strokes on day two of the tournament.

Chattanooga and Davidson are followed by College of Charleston in third place at 600 (309-291), nine shots back of the Wildcats and 12 in arrears of the Mocs. Appalachian State follows in fourth (305-298=603), with Elon in fifth (312-295=607) and Georgia Southern in sixth (315-293=608). Samford follows in seventh at 612 (314-298) and UNCG is in eighth at 613 (315-298).

Spartan freshman Taylor Coalson, who entered play Monday tied for second with Fox, turned in a 3-over 75 to sit in a tie for fourth at 147 after 36 holes.

Western Carolina is ninth in the team standings (324-304=628), followed by Furman (320-309=629) and Wofford (332-305=637).

Tuesday's final round will see teams teeing off on Nos. 1 and 10. The first tee times are off No. 1 at 9 a.m., while the first to go off No. 10 will be at 9:20. Leaders Chattanooga, Davidson and College of Charleston will go off No. 1 at 9:50 a.m.

The tournament winner will earn the SoCon's automatic bid to the NCAA regionals, as will the top individual. Live stats can be found at www.golfstatresults.com and will be updated every three holes.

**2013 Southern Conference Men's Golf Championship
Daniel Island Club, Ralston Creek Course**

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Daniel Island, S.C.

Top 10 individuals

	Rd 1	Rd 2	Total
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1. Steven Fox, Chattanooga	72	71	143
T2. Josh Lorenzetti, College of Charleston	76	69	145
T2. Todd Eckstein, Davidson	71	74	145
T4. Taylor Coalson, UNCG	72	75	147
T4. Richard Fountain, Davidson	75	72	147
T6. John Skeadas, Davidson	77	71	148

T6. Casey Komline, Appalachian State 73 75 148

T8. Davis Bunn, Chattanooga	77	72	149
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T8. Josh Nichols, Appalachian State 77 72 149

T10. Alex Ellis, College of Charleston	79	71	150
T10. Casey O'Toole, Samford	78	72	150
T10. Jack Adkins, Elon	77	73	150
T10. Zach Hughes, Samford	75	75	150
T10. Chris Robb, Chattanooga	74	76	150

Team standings

	Rd 1	Rd 2	Total
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1. Chattanooga	298	290	588
2. Davidson	297	294	591
3. College of Charleston	309	291	600
4. Appalachian State	305	298	603
5. Elon	312	295	607
6. Georgia Southern	315	293	608
7. Samford	314	298	612
8. UNCG	315	298	613
9. Western Carolina	324	304	628
10. Furman	320	309	629
11. Wofford	332	305	637