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Georgia Southern University

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Auburn Creates Logjam at the Top of Schenkel Leaderboard

The teams tee off at 8:30 a.m. in tomorrow’s final round.

Marc Gignac

Freshman Steven Fisk led the Eagles with a 67 today.

Men's Golf | 3/19/2016 5:24:00 PM

Story Links

Live scoring/results | Schenkel Program (PDF) | Rd. 3 Pairings

STATESBORO, Ga. – Michael Johnson fired a 65, and Auburn shot a 19-under-par 269 to move 11 spots up the leaderboard and tie for first in the second round of the 37th Annual Schenkel Invitational Saturday at Forest Heights Country Club.
The Tigers (-23) tied for the second-lowest team score in tournament history, which Auburn and Vanderbilt both shot in the 2015 Schenkel. Georgia State (-23) shot a 9-under 279 to move into the tie for first. Wake Forest (-22) and Vanderbilt are tied for third, and North Carolina (-17) is fifth. Kentucky (-16) shot an 11-under 277 to jump three spots into sixth, and a total of seven strokes separate the top six teams.

Johnson (-11) rolled in eight birdies on the day, including four in a row as he made the turn. He birdied three of his last four holes to move into first place on the individual leaderboard. Georgia State’s J.J. Grey (-10) kept pace with a 65 and is one stroke off the lead. He eagled the par-5 7th and added five more birdies on the day.

Stephen Stallings Jr. of Kentucky matched their 65s after posting five birdies and an eagle to shoot a 29 on the front nine. He parred holes 10-17 and birdied 18 to move up 44 spots into a tie for 21st. Wake Forest’s Davis Womble (-10), who shot a 64 yesterday, carded a 70 and is one stroke off the lead.

Georgia Southern (-11) shot a 3-under 285 and fell back to eighth place. The Eagles are two back of UAB (-13) and five behind Kentucky in sixth place. NC State (-9) is in ninth place, North Florida (-8) is in 10th and Iowa (-7) and College of Charleston are tied for 11th.

*Steven Fisk* led Georgia Southern with a 67, while *Henry Mabbett* and *Jonas Vaisanen* each carded a 72. *Jake Storey* shot a 74, and *Archer Price* posted a 75. *Cody O’Toole* led the Georgia Southern individuals with a 73, and *Andrew Klasing* shot a 75. *Crawford Simmons* carded a 78.

Annually one of the top collegiate golf tournaments in the country, this year's Schenkel Invitational field features eight teams ranked in the top-50 and 13 out of 14 ranked in the top-100.

**The story for Georgia Southern**

Fisk had a bogey-free round with five birdies, and the freshman birdied hole 18 to shoot 33 on the back nine. Vaisanen logged a birdie and a bogey on the front and posted nine straight pars on the back. Mabbett’s round was keyed by an eagle on the par-4 5th and a birdie on 18. Storey was second on the team with four birdies in his round. O’Toole was 1-under through 17 holes.

**Quotables from head coach** *Carter Collins*

**On Par-5 Holes**

"Hole 7 we’ve not played well, and we typically play that hole really well in qualifying so that’s been disappointing for us and held us back in the overall standings. We really took care of holes 9 and 12 today because there were tough flags out there today. Hole 18 we could have done better with, but we hit some wayward drives and did the best we could after that. We have to play 7 better if we want to compete in this tournament. It definitely is a hole that we should be taking advantage of, and it’s one that can help us
climb the leaderboard."

On the final round
"Coming out with reckless abandon and firing at every pin usually doesn't work out in this game. Letting the birdies come to them has been the main message, and we can do a better job of being a little more patient. The final round of the Schenkel is the coolest day of the year in college golf for us so I expect our focus to be high. If we play our best tomorrow, you never know what could happen. We just have to do our part and play well."

Next Up
The Eagles tee off hole 1 at 8:30 a.m. tomorrow at Forest Heights Country Club. Georgia Southern is paired with UAB and NC State.

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