

Zachary Campbell leaps into lead with a 66



Zachary Campbell jumped into a seven-shot lead after the second round of the four-day FWJGA's City Boys Junior Golf Championship by firing a 4-under-par 66 on an overcast, breezy Tuesday morning at River Crest Country Club. After finishing the round, the 18-year-old from Fort Worth headed off to his job – a couple of hundred feet away from the 18th green, where he had polished off his round with a two-foot birdie putt.

"I'm the bag boy here, and I'll probably be working about five- to six hours. Then I'm going home and rest," said Campbell, who attended Arlington Heights High School. Before he went to work, though, Campbell said the breeze, probably reaching at least 23 mph, actually made the course somewhat easier because it was helping on some of the harder holes.



"There were a lot of birdies out there. You just had to find them," said Campbell, who is bound for Houston Baptist. He found five of them and carded one bogey because of a three-putt on the 400-yard 11th hole. Campbell felt, though, as if he should have bagged at least another four or so birdies. About a month ago, he found plenty of them as he carded a 62 on the 6,383-yard course.

Zachary Campbell lines up a two-foot birdie putt on No. 18 and sinks it to finish a round of 4-under 66.

Though he seemingly has a comfortable lead with his 139 36-hole total, Campbell believes Wednesday's third round is the key to winning. And he might have a point because the third-round leader the past three years has claimed the title. He shot a 73 the first day at Riverside Golf Club, a course that played, he said, probably three to four shots harder because of high breezes.

Campbell's closest pursuer is Jackson Markham, a 17-year-old from Westlake. Markham, who has earned TAPPS 4A All-District, All-Region and All-State honors while playing for Grapevine Faith Christian School, has put together back-to-back 73s for a 146. He's followed by Shepherd Branch, 15, of Grapevine and first-round leader Brendan Powers at 148. Branch was the Newcomer of the Year on the Flower Mound High School golf team. He also matched his first-day score with a 74 for a 148. Powers, who opened with a 69 at Rockwood, slipped to a 79 at River Crest. "It was tough wind conditions and I didn't hit the ball very well today," Powers said. "I tripled 17 when I hit it over the green from a bunker and then three-putted." A stroke behind them are Nicholas Narcisse, 17, of Arlington, who had the day's second lowest score of 72, and Zachary Cole, 17, of Fort Worth, who carded a 76 at River Crest.

Most golfers said the breezes made some of the holes easier, the wind also affected putting as the ball could be blown off line on the speedy greens.

And now they'll be going to Shady Oaks Country Club, where the greens are noted for their speed and

undulations. But Campbell hopes to continue his good run this summer, where he was 14th at the Texas State Amateur, fourth in the Texas-Oklahoma Junior and fourth in last week's Junior Byron Nelson, when he was in the final pairing but "I had an awful last day."

Division I players at River Crest was split into the Championship and First flights as they head for Shady Oaks. The Division II players from Ridglea was divided into the Second and Third flights and will play at Mira Vista Country Club. Play will begin at each course at 8 a.m.

Single-elimination match play resumes Wednesday at Sycamore Creek G.C. in the 11-13 age division. The five flights have been pared to four golfers and the final two will be decided for Thursday's final round over the nine-hole course.

In the 8-hole 8-10 division at River's Edge, Steven Sugess, almost two months from his eighth birthday, shot a 26 to pull into a three-shot lead in the Championship Flight over first-round leader Wyatt Woolard, 10, who added a 30 to his opening 31. Mark Neeley, 8, added a 31 to his opening 40 and his 71 is leading Chase Johnson, 8, by 10 shots in the First Flight. They'll continue stroke play Wednesday.