

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 24, 2012

KU Women's Golf in First Place Following Day One of Marilynn Smith Sunflower Invitational

LAWRENCE, Kan. – Kansas freshman Yupaporn Kawinpakorn shot a 73 in both rounds of the Marilynn Smith Sunflower Invitational to lead the KU Women's golf team to a first place score of 601 at the Alvamar Golf Course here Monday.

The Jayhawks shot a 303 in the morning round and a 298 in the afternoon, as play will continue with the final round Tuesday morning.

"I am very encouraged by what I've seen," Kansas head coach Erin O'Neil said. "We played better in the second round than in the first round, but overall we've improved from last season to this season. Our stroke average last year was a 310 and we've knocked down quite a bit off of that. Our mental attitudes were good—we made good choices out there."

Kawinpakorn, aka Mook, shot a 73 in both rounds to place her in second among individuals. Mook's place as a Jayhawk looks bright, as this is only the freshman's second collegiate debut.

"Mook is playing awesome," said O'Neil. "She has got a very solid golf swing and a great short game—she was a lot of fun to watch today."

Kansas Junior Thanuttra Boonraksasat and sophomore Gabby DiMarco also came out strong for the Jayhawks, both tying for fourth among individuals. Boonraksasat, aka Mook shot a 77 in the first round and 72 in the second, while DiMarco shot a 74 in the first round and a 75 in the second.

"I think we really kept our heads as a team, which is the most important thing especially when you're hosting a tournament like this," said O'Neil. "I think we did a good job of staying within ourselves and taking it one at a time."

KU junior Meghan Potee enters Tuesday's final round tied for 18th after shooting a 79-78 for a 157. Jayhawk senior Aurdrey Yowell is tied for 24th after carding an 81-78 for a 159.

The rest of the Jayhawks also made their mark today as some competed individually in their first collegiate tournament.

Sophomore Michelle Woods tied for 37th after shooting 82-80 for a 162. Freshman Ann Kathrin Wuensch tied for 46th after carding an 85-79 for a 164. Freshman Mackenzie Thayer placed 54th after carding 83 in rounds one and two for a 166 and freshman Carly Humes placed 73rd after carding a 96-91 for a 187.

"Everything looks good in terms of winning the tournament, but it's never done until the last putt falls on the 18th hole tomorrow," said O'Neil. "We're just going to stick to our game plan and stay in the present and take it one at a time and see what happens because there's still some good teams that could come back."

Kansas leads the 13-team field after day one with a score of 601. Arkansas State is 16 shots back and sits second with a 617. Arkansas State's Abigail Laker leads all individuals with a two-round score of 143 (74-69).

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Marilynn Smith Sunflower Invitational

Team

- 1 **Kansas University** 303-298—601
2. Arkansas State Univ. 315-302—617
3. Kansas State 305-314—619
4. Middle Tennessee St. 317-309—626
5. Illinois State Univ. 321-309—630

Individuals

1. Abigail Laker, Arkansas State – 74-69—143
2. Yupaporn Kawinpakorn, Kansas – 73-73—146
3. Amy Anderson, ND State – 75-72—147
4. T. Boonraksasat, Kansas – 77-72—149
4. Emelie Westrup, UALR – 74-75—149
4. Gabby DiMarco, Kansas – 74-75—149

Kansas Individuals

- 2.Yupaporn Kawinpakorn – 73-73—146
- T4. T. Boonraksasat – 77-72—149
- T4. Gabby DiMarco – 74-75—149
- T18. Meghan Potee – 79-78—157
- T24. Audrey Yowell – 81-78—159
- T37. Michelle Woods – 82-80—162
- T46. Ann Kathrin Wuensch – 85-79—164
54. Mackenzie Thayer – 83-83—166
73. Carly Humes – 96-91—187

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