

## Peters continues fast start on QC Amateur Tour

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The rest of the field at the Quad-City Amateur golf tournament may be in trouble this weekend.

Ben Peters, winner of the first event on the Quad City Amateur Tour two weeks ago, started off with a solid 2-under 70 in the three-day QC Am at Emeis Golf Course on Friday for a one-stroke lead over Ryan Schlueter and former St. Ambrose All-American Dusty Drenth.

Ryan VandeRostyne was another shot back in solo fourth ahead of Marcus Gillmor and Kevin Lloyd, in with 73s. A group of seven -- defending Am champ Matt Solis, Sean Cary, Dean Cavanaugh, Kee-Socrates Fryxell, Joe Irwin, Peter Strothkamp and Josh Nelson, another SAU All-American -- were in at 74.

But Peters isn't about to take the title and you can bet the others aren't ready to give it to him with 36 holes still left to play.

"There's lots of chances for others to win," said Peters, shrugging off talk of shutting out the field. "You can't win it on the first day, but can muck it up pretty well."

Peters sure didn't mess up his chances to keep another foreboding streak alive. He is a two-time QC Am event champ, winning in 2007 and 2009. See the pattern there?

"I know my way around Emeis, and I seem to get around better every other year," said Peters, who carded five birdies, a bogey and an ugly double on No. 11 in his 2-under Friday round. "I don't know what that stems from, maybe my level of expectation."

Or maybe last year's third-place QC Am finisher (two shots back) is just trying to make up for a winless 2010 season on the Quad City Amateur Tour that still ended with him as the summer series Player of the Year.

"Going last year without winning was a struggle at times," said Peters, who has won two of the last three Player of the Year honors on Tour. "Winning a couple of weeks ago (at the Glynn's Creek Am) was good."

And got him on a roll that might make him tough top beat.

The championship flight players began the 54-hole QCAM Tour "major" event on Friday. The rest of the field -- open flight and women -- begin their 36-hole foray today at Emeis. The finals are scheduled for Sunday.