

## Cayeux gets in the groove at Africa Open

A mere three days after he cruised to victory in the Nashua Masters, Marc Cayeux paved the way to his 10th Sunshine Tour title with a share of the lead after the first round of the inaugural Africa Open at the Fish River Sun Country Club.

The burly Zimbabwean fired a one-bogey seven-under-par 65 in sweeping rain and gusty winds to match early leader Jake Roos, who posted a flawless round in the morning. The leading pair hold a two-shot cushion over five players, including Grant Muller, Deane Pappas, Jaco Ahlers, Brett Liddle and Desvonde Botes, who are tied at five-under.

Botes rattled off nine birdies (three each over the opening holes of each nine) and held the outright lead at eight-under, but lost the advantage with a seven at the last.

Bloemfontein's Jbe' Kruger shot a flawless 68 to share eighth with Patrick O'Brien and Shaun Norris.

"I said on Sunday that I was going to celebrate my win, drive down here and take it easy this week. Funny how things don't always go your way," laughed Cayeux. "I'm glad I could carry the form to the Fish River; this is a tough layout and it demands concentration and planning. But I think, having not put myself under pressure, it kind of flowed for me today."

Flowed, indeed. After a brace of birdies at 11 and 12, he erased a bogey-5 at the 13th with another set at the 17th and 18th holes to turn in three-under. He collected four more birdies coming home. "I don't really enjoy playing in the wind; where I come from in Zimbabwe, we don't know wind," explained Cayeux pulled off some remarkable shots in the swirling winds, including a brilliantly shaped 5-iron that flew with a perfect draw to 8-feet for birdie at the 161m par-3 eighth.

"But we did practice the most imaginative shots, under trees and over trees, as youngsters, always trying to outdo each other. That's what I enjoyed the most today, I guess, imaging the shots and executing them with commitment."

Roos, who tied for 14th at the Joburg Open and posted top-30 finishes at the Dimension Data Pro-Am and Nashua Masters, said the course suits his game and eye. "I wasn't bothered by the rain, although it did make the course play a little longer. I am really satisfied that I managed to get around the course with no bogeys; that's really critical on this layout."

The Eastern Cape contingent delivered a mixed result with Ulrich van den Berg returning two-under 70 and Titch Moore signing for a 71. Graeme Whale opened his tally with a 75, while local headpro Wellington Sonanze was pretty solid over the front nine with two bogeys, but came home in 42 for an 80 and James Kamte lost his cool and any chance of mounting a challenge on day one. The winner of the Dimension Data at Sun City last month, Kamte was expected to be a serious contender in this R1,2-million tournament. He turned in four-under and parred the first four holes, but after a tee shot that split the fifth fairway, Kamte pulled his approach into the bushes and sent his provisional the same way. The 25-year-old professional from St Francis Links walked away with a frustrated three-over eight and dropped two more shots when he missed par-putts at the sixth and eighth holes.