Herzog wins Invitational

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Finishes with 182, one stroke ahead of Dave Heisler and Jimmy Fromm at 183

By Jeremy Behnke Journal Sports Editor

NEW ULM - A year ago at the New Ulm Invitational, Jon Herzog was flipping hamburgers and was unable to play at the annual golf event because of a sore back.

One year later, Herzog was not only back at the Invitational, but he was celebrating his firstever win in the event. He finished with a final score of 182, one stroke ahead of Dave Heisler and Jimmy Fromm, who both shot a 183.

Three-time defending champion Johnny Larson finished tied for fourth with a 186.

Herzog, of course, knew he was one of the contenders heading into the final round of nine. He was tied for the lead after the first round of completion Saturday, fighting the rain throughout the day. He finished with a 72 on the first day.

On Sunday's competition, Herzog shot a 73, then shot a 37 over the final nine holes to win the tournament.

As a golfer at Minnesota State University, Mankato, Herzog was ready for the tough two-day competition. However, he was a little nervous on the last nine holes.



Staff photo by Steve Muscatello Jon Herzog chips onto the 18th green at the New Ulm Country Club during the 50th annual New Ulm Invitational Sunday. Herzog won the championship flight by one stroke.For more photos of this event, go to cu.nujournal.com

"I'm pretty used to the competitiveness with school golf and everything," he said. "But there are some nerves going on throughout the first few holes, definitely."

Heisler missed a 4-foot putt at the end that would have sent the tourney into a playoff between Heisler and Herzog.

"Honestly, I knew that Dave's 4-footer was to tie," Herzog said. "I was pretty surprised that he missed it. If it wasn't for that, we would've probably went to a playoff."

Tim Duren, Larson and Brian Reagan all finished with a score of 186 to tie for fourth.

Seven of the eight flights had first-time winners, including Herzog.

In the first flight, Andy Metzen won with a score of 153, winning a tie-breaker with John Enter. Todd McKeeth won the second flight with a score of 155 and Dave Schaetzke won the third flight with a score of 164.

Jerry Boddy claimed the fourth flight with a score of 164. Craig Spelbrink won the fifth flight with a score of 143. Chuck McCann won the Senior A flight (145). Tony Vibar won the Senior B flight with a score of 137.

Invitational Results

Championship flight: J. Herzog 182, J. Fromm 183, D. Heisler 183, T. Duren 186, J. Larson 186, B. Reagan 186, T. Hirth 193, T. Franzeen 198, J. Kautt 191, J. Wieland 204. Others: B. Patterson 159, K. Weiss 165, K. Walter 159, D. Prins 165, B. Applebaum 176.

First flight: A. Metzen 153, J. Enter 153, R. Paa 155, R. Jenken 160, A. Petiti 163, S. Paa 153, Fortwrengler 164, P. McCall 164, D. Anderson 159, N. Melville 169, D. Keinz 175, S. Doyle 181, J. Reagan 185.

Second flight: P. Johnson 170, T. McKeeth 155, J. Holm 166, M. Maloney 168, D. Bunkers 171, G. Schmitz 172, C. Gagner 167, S. Prunty 173, B. Messer 181, A. Bode 177, T. Schuetzle 181.

Third flight: C. Peters 165, K. Bain 168, D. Schaetzke 164, Helmstetter 167, M. Kasner 170, M. Ballard 179, D. Cross 168, E. Hayes 178, J. Hannegan 184, A. Ryan 182, J. Nichols 192, D. Furth 187.

Fourth flight: J. Boddy 164, J. Wesselmann 182, R. Andersen 170, T. Schultz 184, R. Schnobrich 185, T. Furth 189, E Newhouse 188, P. Schneider 189, J. Yorks 185, P. Eichten 187, K. Pryor 193

Fifth flight: C. Spelbrink 143, R. Geistfeld 153, B. Bain 155, T. Sowder 147, J. Weinberg 154, T. Andersen 155, M. Nichols 162, M. Yorks 162, Jim Schuetzle 164, M. Schuetzle 174, John Schuetzle 169.

Senior A: J. Risbrandt 151, M. Esboldt 157, T. Cossack 146, P. Gutterman 160, P. Sagedal 146, R. Morrison 15, C. McCann 145, C. Gerber 157, P. Pream 162, P. Zeller 159, H. Cook 154, J. Gibbons 157, M. Walters 176.

Senior B: M. Mondry 138, T. Vibar 137, Kumerfield 139, T. Pream 151, S. Crea 146, C. Paa 145, K. Rogers 147, K. Mondry 143, E. Walsh 159, E. Epke 177, J. Reagan 173.

Rain doesn't dampen Herzog's day

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By Michael Gassett — Journal Sports Writer

NEW ULM - The New Ulm Country Club was a rainy, soggy place Saturday for the first round of the 50th New Ulm Invitational.

But the inclement weather didn't seem to effect Johnny Herzog.

"I am pretty used to it with school golf and everything," said Herzog, who golfed collegiately at Minnesota State. "I played there for four years and we played in all kinds of nasty weather. I get used to it.

"I just bring a different mindset into this. It's the same for everyone, and I just keep my attitude positive. If I got that edge, then I am way ahead of everyone else because they are thinking it's so hard."

Maybe that added experience was the edge Herzog needed as he finished the first day tied on top of the leader board with a 72. Dave Heisler is the the co-leader. Tim Duren a shot back at 73 and three-time defending champ Johnny Larson is lurking two shots back at 74. Tyler Hirth is at 75, Jimmy Fromm sits with a 76 and Brian Regan is five shots back at 77.



Staff photo by Steve Muscatello Scott Paa putts on a the 18th hole at the New Ulm Country Club during the soggy opening day of the New Ulm Invitational Saturday. His caddy, Collin Huffman watches on. For more photos of this event, go to cu.nujournal.com

"I played very well. I hit a lot of good shots, I had great putts, and I threw in one triple in there. But other than that it was pretty good.," Herzog said. "You just got to hit the fairway and green and make par. Par is a good score in nasty weather and take the birdies when they get there."

With a heavy rain throughout the morning the start of the invitational was pushed back with a shot gun start at 1 p.m.

Herzog, for one, wasn't too surprised that they let the tournament continue.

"Typically we won't play if it is lightning and thundering out," Herzog said. "But other than that we will play."

Now Herzog has to try and stay on top in today's final.

"I am just going to try and go out and hit some birdies," he said. "I hope to be under par. A 69 or 70 would be good for me and the last nine, whatever happens, happens."

First Day Results

Championship flight: B. Applebaum 89, T. Duren 73, T. Franzen 78, J. Fromm 76, J. Herzog 72, D. Heisler 72, T. Hirth 75, J. Kautt 80, J. Larson 74, B. Patterson 79, D. Prins 84, B. Regan 77, K. Walter 83, K. Weiss 83, J. Wieland 81.

First Flight: D. Anderson 83, Doyle 92, Enter 76, R. Fortwengler 82, Jenkins 78, Keinz 86, McCall 83, Melville 85, Metzen 76, R. Paa 78, S Pettit 81, Regan 95.

Second Flight: A. Bode 93, Bunkers 86, Gagner 87, Holm 79, P. Johnson 76, Maloney 82, McKeet 78, Messer 92, Prunty 90, Schmitz 86, Schmitz

Third Flight: Bain 81, Ballard 85, Cross 88, Doyle 92, Furth 95, Hannegan 92, Hansen 92, Helmsetter 84, Kasner 84, Nicols 94, Peters 81, R Schuetzle 82.

Fourth Flight: Downs 87, Green 101, Schneider 96, Schultz 95, Wessleman 84, Yorks 97, Newhouse 95, Pryor 102, Schnobrich 94, Eichten sen 87, Furth 95.

Fifth Flight: Andersen 80, Bain 76, Fromm 77, Galvin 80, J. Schuetzle 91, J. Schuetzle 91, M. Schuetzle 91, Sowder 76, Spellbrink 75, Weir Yorks 82, Nicols 81.

Senior Championship: Anderson 80, Craig 100, Helland 89, Henning 78, Paulson 96, Roegins 92, Rysavy 85, Schmidt 91, Schmitz 77, Whit Yorks 103.

Senior A: Cook 94, Cosack 73, Esboldt 73, Gerber 75, Gibbons 84, Gutterman 73, Hamilton 82, McCann 74, Morrison 74, Preen 81, Risbrut 73, Schmitz 101, Walters 88, Zeller 81.

Senior B: Aulert 89, Coplin 75, Crea 70, Epke 88, Farrell 80, Kumberfeldt 69, Leitner 81, Mondry 74, Mondry 66, Paa 72, Prean 70, Regan 79, Stickney 81, Vibar 99, Walsh 82.