

## *Northwest student takes boys second-round lead*



Jordan Hoffman carded seven birdies and three bogeys to fire a four-under-par 66 at Z Boaz Golf Course on Tuesday (July 17) to move into sole possession of the Fort Worth Boys City Junior Golf Championship after two rounds. His 140 total is ahead of Cody Patrick, who fired a 65 to move into second.

The leaders move to Split Rail Links & Golf Club for the third round before finishing Thursday at Shady Oaks Country Club.

Hoffman, a 16-year-old Northwest High School student, is two ahead of Patrick, who carded the day's best score with his 5-under 65. Patrick, a 17-year-old Brewer High School student, said he had six birdies as he rallied from an opening 77 at Meadowbrook. Patrick said his driver wasn't working very good but he had little problem with the greens, which stumped one of the first-round leaders, Mitchell McLeroy.

Jordan Hoffman jumped into a two-shot lead after shooting a four-under-par 66 at Z Boaz Golf Course on Tuesday.

McLeroy, who opened with a 71 but followed with a 79 at Z Boaz, said the greens were bumpy and slow and confounded him. "I think I three-putted four times," he said. "But tomorrow's going to be a different day. I've played Split Rail before and it's really fun."

The other first-round leader, Gregory Yates of Mansfield followed with a 72 and is tied at 143. Defending champion Austin Berkovsky shot a 73 after opening with a 76 and is nine back in his quest to become the first to win three consecutive titles.

Patrick agreed the greens were a little slow, but "they were rolling good." He said his longest birdie putt was about 15 feet, and he helped save his round by salvaging par on the fourth hole (his final hole) after "chunking" his second shot.

Mainly, Patrick said his driver was problematic and, "I was playing from a couple of fairways over a few times. But I had some good up-and-downs."

One of the competitors tied at 143 is Shane McDonald, who rallied with a 66 after an opening 77. He said he adjusted to the slower greens by not playing as much break as he did at Meadowbrook. "I just played everything inside the hole and it went a lot better," he said after carding six birdies.

His best par save was on No. 2 (his 16th hole) when he sank a 15-foot putt.

"Even yesterday (Monday), I never felt like I was out of it by any means."

In fact, 13 are within seven shots of the lead. Berkovsky came back from that deficit after the first round last year to win.