

# Golf

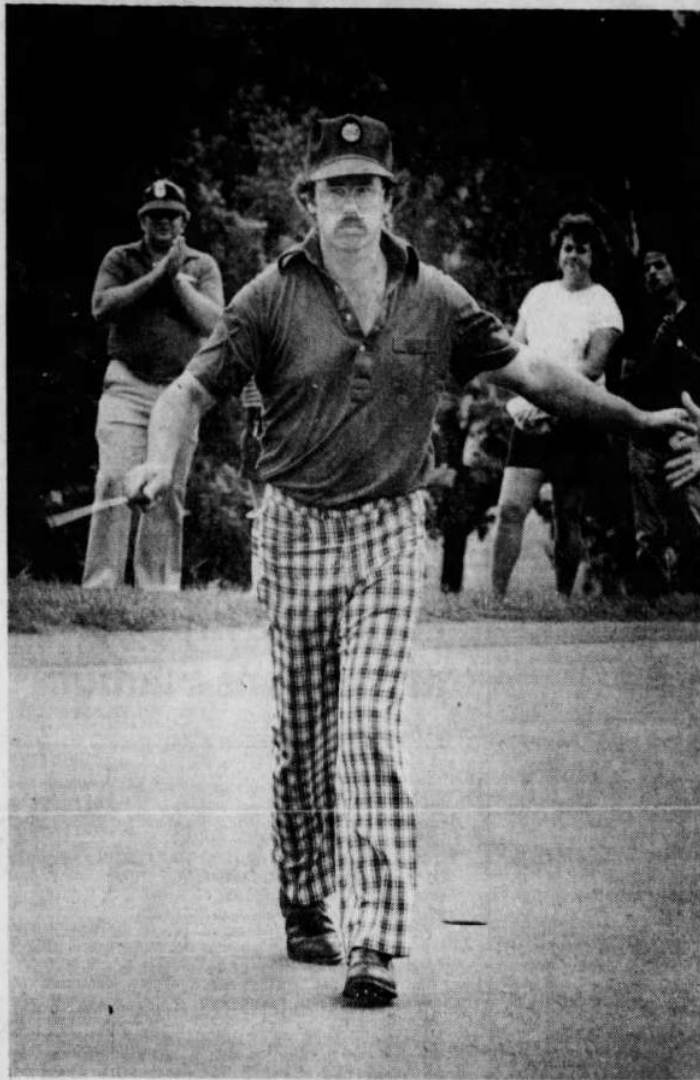
## Delaware Open

### Final round

*Jim Matthias, DuPont	70-75-75-220
Bucky Erhardt, Wilmington	73-77-72-222
Todd Anderson, Wilmington	71-78-73-222
*Larry Jones, Sussex	73-77-74-224
Chris Anderson, Wilmington	71-79-75-225
John Corzilius, Cavaliers	75-75-75-225
*Tim Foran, Wilmington	71-77-77-225
*Dave Schueck, DuPont	75-79-73-227
*Bill Hackett, Delcastle	76-74-78-228
*Mark Kenner, Wilmington	74-77-79-230
a/r-Mike Hall, Garrisons	74-82-75-231
Blaise Gioso, Cavaliers	74-77-80-231
Joe Kriznuski, Garrisons	74-81-77-232
*John Poole, Kennett	76-79-73-232
Davis Sezna, Chantilly	76-77-80-233
J.B. Whaley, Pike Creek	76-78-81-235
Tom Reilly, DuPont	76-82-78-236
Don Thompson, Kennett	78-77-81-236
Carl Everett, DuPont	77-84-76-237
Randy Mitchell, Wilmington	76-82-79-237
Pat Simmons, DuPont	75-80-83-238
Dave Ellsworth, DuPont	75-82-82-239
Ron Barrows, Rehoboth	79-82-79-240
Art Love, Chantilly	82-78-81-241
Bill Casto, Penn Oaks	78-80-83-241
George Hall, Garrisons	77-79-85-241
Ernie Peters, Penn Oaks	77-74-90-241
Bob Kauffield, DuPont	78-83-83-242
Curt Fromal, Penn Oaks	76-81-85-242
a/r-Greg Lynam, Greenhill	79-82-82-243
*Paul Thomas, Wilmington	77-81-85-243
Brad Hublein, DuPont	76-80-87-243
Bill Linn, Greenhill	78-83-83-244
Bob Murphy, Penn Oaks	78-81-85-244
Bob Cisowski, Delcastle	78-83-84-245
Lee Weber, Rehoboth	76-83-86-245
*Gary Rodgers, Kennett	76-85-85-246
Bob Hable, Pike Creek	77-84-86-247

\*Denotes professional

a/r-applicant for amateur reinstatement



Staff photo by Leo S. Matkins

Jim Matthias breathes a sigh of relief on the 18th green after winning the Delaware Open.

## Matthias keeps cool to win Delaware Open

By Tom Tomashek

Staff reporter

Jim Matthias took the early lead and for the next two days withstood the pressures of being the frontrunner to win the Delaware Open golf tournament.

It was not an easy victory for the 33-year-old DuPont Country Club assistant professional, who finished the 54-hole competition Wednesday with a 7-over-par 220 and a two-stroke lead over amateurs Bucky Erhardt and Todd Anderson.

If Matthias had been younger, however, he probably wouldn't have won the tournament at all. But he kept his cool and survived all challenges on Wilmington Country Club's South Course, including those of Erhardt and Anderson, both playing on their home course, and of Jeff Stoneberger, a 23-year-old amateur from Cavaliers C.C.

"I had a terrible temper, even when I turned pro in 1977," said Matthias after capping his first major victory with a 75. "Six years ago those two three-putts on the front side today would have killed me; it would have probably been the end of my round."

Matthias was referring to two of his three bogeys on the front nine, which left him in a tie with Anderson and within shooting range of Erhardt and Stoneberger.

But Matthias showed no anger, only an outward air of calm on the closing nine, where he shot a 1-over-par 37. Matthias opened the back side with a birdie, then after back-to-back bogeys, he parred the final six holes.

"I wasn't worried about the others," said Matthias, who took the lead for good when Anderson bogeyed ahead of him on the 14th hole. "I was worried about myself because for me I was having a poor putting round, and that is usually the strong part of my game."

Matthias had three three-putt greens overall,

the last coming from a long distance on the 12th green. But after all three, he maintained his cool.

"My temper used to cost me strokes, but I think playing with professionals in their tournaments on a regular basis showed me how to be successful out there," he said, nodding back at the golf course. "I found that you have to keep your peace of mind and just keep trying no matter how bad you're hitting the golf ball."

While Matthias was keeping his composure coming home, his challengers were doing their part to help make him a champion. Anderson, who shot a 1-under-par 34 on the front side to vault into contention, fell back out for good with bogeys on the 14th and 15th holes.

Erhardt moved into contention with par golf, but he couldn't get the birdie or two he needed down the stretch. The 43-year-old Wilmington-area businessman missed two six-foot putts on 14 and 16, then fell out of contention for good with a three-putt on 17.

"I putted super except on the final six holes," groused Erhardt, who missed an 18-inch par putt on 17 en route to a 72, still the low round of the day.

Stoneberger hung near the lead on the front nine and made a move on the opening three holes of the back side, but the 23-year-old ironworker played the final six holes in 2-over-par.

For Matthias, the victory couldn't have been any more gratifying.

"I wanted to win the Open and I wanted to win it here because I think it's such a good test of golf," said Matthias, who had not played in the 54-hole event since 1977. "I love playing this golf course when it's tough. I wish I could do a little better, maybe one day I will."

But then no one came close to overwhelming