Klingbeil wins Knik showdown

Huntington finishes with strong showing

KNIK — Knik musher Andy Klingbeil captured the Knik Championship Dog Race over this past weekend. Klingbeil who finished second in Saturday's 15½-mile heat, vaulted in the lead for the two-day race with a strong time in Sunday's final heat.

Carl Huntington, the only musher ever to win the Alaska Triple Crown (Iditarod, North American, Fur Rondezvous) won the first heat with a time of 50:11, Klingbell finished second at 50:18. Two other mushers were within a minute of Huntington after the first day. The mushers were former North American champ Harold Greenway at 50:44 and Charlie Stevens who finished with a time of

50:58.

In Sunday's action Klingbell coasted through the first 11 miles of the second heat then noticed Greenway rapidly making up time behind him. Klingbell then pushed his dogs a little harder through the final 4 miles and gained enough time to capture the total elapsed time championship. Klingbell's time for

Sunday was 53:13 for a total time of 103:31, Huntington finished Sunday with a time of 54:07 for a final time of 104:18. Harold Greenway finished third in total atime at 106:20 while Charlie Stevens finished fourth

at 107:19.

Klingbell who is competing in his third year in the open class gives credit to Carl Huntington, George Attla and Bill Taylor all being former major race champions for providing advice during Klingbeil's racing career. He also congratulated the Aurora Dog Mushers Association for a well run race and a good trail.

Carl Huntington who is staying in the area training for the Fur Rondezvous has put together another championship caliber team.

Former Iditarod champ Emmit Peters captured the seven dog championship with a total time of 86:11, Ted Monroe finished second at 89:01 and Kathy Redington finished third at 89:39.

Open Class, Two Heat	c 1514mile
1. Andy Klingbeil	103:31
2. Carl Huntington	104:18
3. Harold Greenway	106:20
4. Charlie Stévens	107:19
5. Bob Loveless	107:35
6. Posty Posten	109:02
7. Jack Shulties	109:26
8. Vern Cherniski	116:17
9. Tim Redington	121:41
Greg Taylor	Scratch