Hike!

April '00 Vol 2 No 6

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Hike!

The Australian Sled Dog Racing Magazine

Published Monthly

Advertising Rates (3 editions)

Full Page - $30 Half Page - $20 Business Card Size - $10 Back Page - $50

All Enquiries to:

✉ *Hike!*
PO Box 3084
CANBERRA, ACT, 2601
AUSTRALIA
http://members.dynamite.com.au/komidar/Index.html
☎ (02) 6286 1472 or 0409 286 146 🖷 (02) 6257 6022
komidar@dynamite.com.au or

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Sled Dogs Have a Lot of Heart, Literally

by Ned Rozell

I am indebted to Michael Herbst for bringing this article to my attention. This column is provided as a public service by the Geophysical Institute, University of Alaska Fairbanks, in cooperation with the UAF research community. Ned Rozell is a science writer at the institute.

When a long-distance musher says his favorite sled dog has a big heart, he might be describing more than the dog's loving disposition.

A team of five veterinarians from Alaska and around the country—including Jeanne Olson, a veterinarian who owns and operates Raven Veterinary Services in North Pole—found that sled dogs may develop an enlarged heart, just as human athletes sometimes do when they push themselves training for and anticipating in endurance events.

The study, which the vets volunteered their time to complete, compared 48 dogs that ran in the 1992 Yukon Quest International Sled Dog Race with two other groups of dogs. The Yukon Quest dogs had trained 2,000 to 3,100 miles before the race. Another group, called "lightly trained" dogs, ran from 200 to 500 miles during long-distance training. A third, the mongrels, had body types similar to the sled dogs but hadn't been on any endurance training runs.

By listening to the dogs' heart beats and analyzing electrocardiograph readings (the sharp peaks and valleys of a heartbeat represented on an oscilloscope), the veterinarians were able to tell if the dogs had heart growth associated with long-distance running.

They discovered that a correlation between the best sled dogs and large hearts seems to exist. However, a big heart may not always be a big asset. An enlarged heart also may be associated with Sudden Death Syndrome, a condition that causes a dog to drop dead in its tracks for no obvious reason.

Susan Butcher lost a dog to SDS on the 1994 Iditarod, the only dog to die on the whole race. One dog in the 1994 Copper Basin 300 also succumbed to SDS.

Pathologists haven't been able to make a connection between enlarged hearts and SDS, however, and Olson hopes that studies, such as one she will participate in this spring funded by the American Veterinary Medical Association, will provide some answers.

How does a heart grow in the first place? Olson said dogs, like people, may undergo a physiological adaptation to stress put on their hearts during training or races. In other words, the heart grows larger in response to the need to work harder, just as a weight lifter's arm grows larger as a reaction to pumping iron.

A dog's heart is similar to a human heart in that it has four main chambers: the right and left atriums and the right and left ventricles. The right atrium, on the upper right side of the heart, receives oxygen-starved blood from veins and passes it through a valve to the larger right ventricle, which functions as a pump. The right ventricle pumps blood through the pulmonary artery to the lungs, where wastes such as carbon dioxide are removed and the blood is recharged with oxygen.

The oxygen-rich blood enters the top of the heart at the left atrium. Then it moves on to the left ventricle, which is the pump responsible for delivering the performance-sustaining blood through arteries to the sled dog's muscles. The tissues absorb oxygen-rich blood and expel wastes into oxygen-depleted blood headed back through veins to the heart.

The left ventricle of the heart, the high-pressure pump that delivers oxygen-rich blood to the body, is the part of the heart that grows most noticeably in dogs with an enlarged heart, a condition known as Athletic Heart Syndrome.

In the study, 35 percent of Yukon Quest dogs had enlarged left ventricles, compared to 22 percent of the lightly trained dogs and seven percent (one dog) of the mongrels. Although an enlarged heart may someday be linked to SDS, Olson said heart growth is a normal, beneficial reaction to high-stress training, and it's possible that a larger heart is what separates the great dogs from the good ones.

You'll find this and other interesting articles at:
http://www.gi.alaska.edu/ScienceForum

10 Reasons Why Sled Dogs Don't Drive

Author Unknown

10. It takes too long to get somewhere when you have to stop the car at every tree
9. Have not yet invented 'squished cat' hood ornaments
8. There's never a fire hydrant when you need one on those long road trips
7. Why drive when you have a well-trained human chauffeur
6. They haven't invented a car where you can hang your head out the window and still reach the accelerator pedal
5. Can't get your learner's permit until you're 14! That's 98 in dog years!
4. Cats would just learn to use the pedestrian overpasses anyway.
3. They won't serve a dog at the Macdonalds 'drive-through'.
2. Saw that Herbie movie as a young pup and are still scared of cars
1. Could never ever live with the guilt of running over Uncle Rover while he was chasing the car!

Musher Profile - Wayne Baker

Are you a member of any club or team.

Yes I'm a member of RIDGE RUNNER'S SLED DOG CLUB which was formed two years ago.

When did you start mushing?

I started racing in 1996 but I ran my first Husky in harness in the 80's up in the Fall's Creek area before it became National Park area.

[*See Picture! Ed*]

How did you find out about mushing?

I was asked to come to a training run at Northern exposure and it has gone from there to being totally overrun by sled dog's.

How many and what type of dog's do you have?

As Di has already said in her Musher Profile, we have 11 dog's, 10 sibes and 1 Alaskan husky at the moment, with more to come.

What is your most memorable mushing incident?

It would have to be racing in and completing the B50 it was the best buzz I have had so far in mushing.

Scariest moment?

I have two that stand, one was about three year's ago Di and I were out on a night run with a few other people who had not been on the trail that we were running on, when I turned around to check that everyone was still there and they were. When I turned around the four dog's were gone, without giving Di any notice I was of the cart and running after the team, all I could hear was Di screaming abuse at me for leaving her on the cart which was speeding down the hill out of control, luckily it stopped against a tree. I was running after the team thinking all sorts of thought there was cow's and horse's close by, I came round a bend and saw the reflection of dog's eye's I new then that the dog's had stopped in a huge water hole and had tangled . All of the dog's were ok just very tired from running so fast.

The other scary run was a training run I did not want to go on because it had been raining all day. The track we were going to run on would be as slippery as dog s*** but I went any way because we had to train the team to run in any condition's. Well it was very, VERY wet and coming home down the last big hill I gave Di my glasses because I couldn't see through the mud on them anyway and proceeded down the hill anyway. Well I was able to see the whole team for about two seconds then all I could see was the blurry back ends of Di's dog's finn and joe, I told Di to hold on don't let go, after a lot of cursing we made it to the bottom in one piece and wonder back to the truck at a normal pace.

Stupidest Incident:

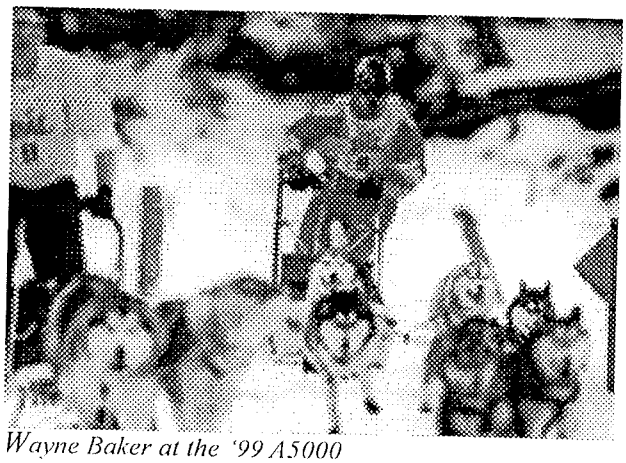
That would have to be racing at SOUTHERN X in my first year in four dog class racing with my heavy cart I now use for training, pushing it through the mud was a good lesson for me.

Funniest Incident:

Well that would have to be a huge snow ball fight at the snow a few years ago which involved me luring Marty Karow out to the door of his chalet while half the NSW crew and a few Queenslander's laid in waiting for him to come to the door and at the right moment I ducked and everyone opened fireon him .The next thing we see is Alf running out the door, while he was running he dived into the snow and came up throwing snow ball's in all direction's.

What turns you on about sleddog racing?

It would have to be seeing myself and my dog's working together to do our best what ever the outcome.



Wayne Baker at the '99 A5000

What are your personal goals in the sport?

My goals are to place well in all of my races and some day either race or handle in the states. Also to learn as much as I can about our great sport.

Advice for the unwary:

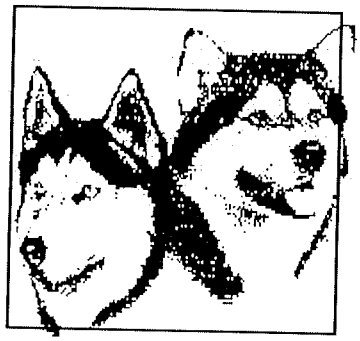
Look, listen and ask about things you don't understand. And once you have done that look at all of the info and use what relates to your needs.

A training tip:

If you crash don't let go of your team unless you will for certain injure yourself badly, I personally don't think that breaking bones to stop a team is worth the pain .The dogs will stop sooner or later.

Wayne and team having fun after the racings done.

Over the Page: *Wayne Baker running Chuchkii Yukon Lad running on tracks below Falls Creek 1982. The sled was Wayne's father's original attempt at building a sled, it was built from 1/2 inch square box tube with runners made from 2 inch by 1/4 inch flat steel and it had no brakes. The lead was to slow Yukon down. If pulling back on the lead did not work the next move was to roll the sled which was used fairly often. Wayne also ran on trails around Mt Buller. Wayne purchased Yukon from Wendy Newton in 1981 after seeing an article on huskies in the Australasian Post in early 1981.*



Make a Date in South Australia 8th June 2000

The **SIBERIAN HUSKY & ALASKAN MALAMUTE** Club of South Australia is celebrating its **10TH ANNIVERSARY** on the 8th July 2000. The club was formed in August 1989 with approximately 30 members, today it is among the largest breed clubs in Australia with over 500 members, it is the most active sleddog racing club and it has the honour of hosting the country's most prestigious weightpull competition "The Tug-O-Ton". The SHAM club is going to celebrate its 10th birthday with a big spectacular extravaganza day of fun and activities for all Malamutes and Huskies The celebrations on the day will include:

- ☑ The SHAM championship Show.
- ☑ The SHAM Open Show.
- ☑ Sled Dog Sprint Racing for one & two dog teams.
- ☑ A full Weightpull Competition.
- ☑ Novice obedience.
- ☑ Freighting and Dog Back Packing involvement.

We secured an International Judge **Ms B PALMER** from the USA. The **SHAM** 10th ANNIVERSARY EXPO is an event not to be missed! It is unique, it is different, it is a full day of activities it is a great Dog's day out. It starts 8am Sat 8th July at S A Canine Association. Cromwell Rd Kilburn SA It is fully catered for and the SACA bar will be open, concluding with the presentations in the hall early evening. This is going to be followed by a SEMINAR with several interesting and informative speakers on Wednesday evening and a FUN-WEEKEND, again full of activities for everyone, at Mt Crawford forest.

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Is Your Dog Too Skinny or Too Fat?

Penny Nicol

Jamie Nelson once showed me an interesting measurement to determine if a dog has gone 'underweight'.

The loin, just behind the last rib and in front of the pelvis bones, can be grasped by the open hand and pressure exerted while feeling front to back along the loin and spine. (picture holding the loin like you would if your hand was around a coffee mug) If you can feel the 'wings' (the tips running along the bottom/sides of the spine) of the vertebrae with your hand while pressing moderately firmly, then the dog has gone underweight on you. On a dog with good weight, you shouldn't be able to feel the wings without really squeezing.

I like to see SOME ribs faintly, but hate to see the backbone. (I do have some dogs who show their backbone even in good weight, but that isn't the majority) I like to see alot of muscle in the shoulders and hip area.

To me a dog that is in good weight will have a smooth shiny coat, and when standing will look stripped down like a lightweight boxer, and when they move, you will see a faint suggestion of ribs. If a dog I have been putting weight on starts to 'roll' even slightly, it's too much. Show ring dogs, in my opinion, are OBESE.

If people tell me my dogs look too skinny, I always point out that they are not thin, they are in good shape, and that no dog could run sixty miles if they weren't in good condition physically.

You'll never convert everyone. I just always think of how awful (fat) my showdogs look in those old pictures I pull out now and again, and I feel comfortable knowing my racing dogs are healthy, and in their prime.

(I know, if I could just do the same for myself, I might get somewhere - ha ha.

Update on Aussie Musher Cliff French

Tim White

Cliff French was here for a couple of weeks, just left to go to Mexico for a month. He raced a team of my dogs in a 6 dog 40 mile race.

He was the oldest competitor at 63, the youngest was a kid from Duluth 12 years old who uses his dog team to deliver newspapers each morning on his route.

Tim White

Feeling the ends of the lateral spines, short loin or short ribs as described above is one of the best quick tests for overall body condition or fat that does not depend much on type. (Greyhound types, for example, are slow to put weight on and cover the hips but may be fat in thebrisket.) A supplementary test to confirm your impression is to pick the dog up in a normal standing position. An excessively lean dog will feel heavy in the front. A lean dog in good running condition will still have good weight in the rear end. At least this does work well for hound and Alaskan types because they should have solid muscle mass in their hind quarters.

I have had a few discussions with veterinarians and sometimes interested spectators who thought my dogs or a particular dog on my team was too thin, or too small. Ihave run marathons and competed in cross country skiing too, two sports in which I believe the best human racers have less than 6% body fat. I don't have a lot more than that covering my own ribs and I remember Frank Shorter in college who was a better runner than me and looked like the pictures of WWII concentration camp victims.

Typically many wild animals have about the same range of 4-8% body fat when they are in good health. What can you say to people in a society where a large share of the medical problems are related to poor diet, excess fat consumption, and sedentary lives when they object to happy animals being exercised, fed well and kept in good healthy physical condition?

The best I can think of is to offer to pull up my shirt and show them how prominent my own ribs are. Do they accept their own pathological condition as normal or desirable?

When I have organized clinics to show people how to train their dogs to work and have fun in harness, the biggest problem with the average pet dogs I see is that they are 10% or more overweight.

It is embarrassing to have to answer the implied accusation of abusing your dog by starving him or her, but apparently not an embarrassment to answer to overfeeding although no less harmful. Offering to pull up my shirt (rarely) shows I am not embarrassed and usually shifts the embarrassment to the other person without getting belligerent.It works very well because it turns the tables on the critics. If someone accuses me of running starved dogs, I am embarrassed. If I offer to take off my shirt they are embarrassed. Fair play...

Thought for the Month

I spilled spot remover on my dog. He's gone now.

Steve Wright.

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A CITY JAUNT WITH A DOG SCOOTER

Daphne Lewis

Rottweilers are big black dogs with red margins. Rubromarginata is the name of my rottweiler. He is called Rubro or Ruby or Rubes for short.

Saturday night after work, Rubro and I drive to the "Sit and Spin Laundromat" in downtown Seattle. Washers take 25 minutes so usually Ruby and I go for a half hour scooter ride while the washers wash. A half hour is a short run for a dog in condition, but I make up for its brevity by longer runs in the country on Sunday mornings.

As soon as the washers are loaded, I hitch Rubro to my Jones Sports Scooter from Australia. Rubro trots north on 4th Avenue towards Seattle Center with me riding the scooter. We cross intersections with traffic lights. Usually we wait for the Walk signal but not if there are no cars. Rubro is trained to stay to the right side of the sidewalk. When we catch up to pedestrians, I say "Pass haw". Rubro veers left and passes on their left side. I bought cat bells for his harness so pedestrians can hear him coming.

Once my new harness arrives I will attach the bells to it. Right now with no bells and Rubro's silent trot, we have to be careful not to surprise people and scare them as we go by.

When we arrive at the Center, the Space Needle hovers overhead, a huge shadowed disk. Last spring Rubro and I came to Seattle Center a few times. When Rubro saw the Space Needle he was frightened, kept looking up, began to pant and pulled much faster than usual. After that he stared at the Needle when driving by in the car on Highway 99. He studied the Space Needle. From his studies he determined that incomprehensible though it may be, the monster in the sky does not fall on him and does not attack him or chase him.

Seattle Center has a new amusement area with various rides, ferris wheels and merry-go-rounds overhung by the Space Needle. Each ride has music and flashing lights. Rubro is apprehensive. I decide not to enter the Amusement Area. We skirt it instead and I allow Rubro to slow down and look around. I should walk him slowly through the ride area and let him get used to flashing lights, loud music and mechanical horses that raise and lower, but I am greedy for a ride on the scooter and we will be back next Saturday.

Tonight I don't want to train, just run and relax. We proceed away from the Space Needle to the International Fountain. The International Fountain is a hemisphere set down in a wide concrete pit. Music plays and the water shoots out of various nozzles in the hemisphere in pace with the music. The effect is mesmerizing and people stand around the edge of the pit watching the shooting jets of water and listening to the music. There is a plaza surrounding the pit with benches and other people sit there and watch the fountain and listen.

My slow Rubro is trotting well, even fast. He trots faster after a 10 minute warm up. He is faster at the end of a run than at the beginning, even one that is two or three hours long. I am proud of Ruby tonight. I hope people notice us. Maybe we look good with the fountain. It is a beautiful evening and couples are out and about. We trot around the fountain. My scooter glides along...bliss.

Ruby is looking at the watershooting up. I am enjoying the artistry of the water and the music. I decide to go into the fountain following the ramp that circles down into the fountain, around it and back up. I say, "Ruby, haw". Rubro turns left and enters the fountain pit. We go down the spiral ramp. At the lowest portion of the ramp the water is spraying over the ramp. I don't feel like working on fears tonight whether of Space Needles or spraying water. "Rubro. Haw come!". We do a left about turn and trot back up the ramp. I am out for a pleasure ride, not a training run and driving through the spraying water looked like it could have been frightening.

Rubro and I trot out of the fountain and proceed to the Northwest Meeting Rooms. An ecological conference is going on, a green conference. "Look at me", I think, "I am powered by dog. Is not this a perfectly greenway to go!?" No one notices. Ruby and I continue around Key Arena. I am a former landscaper. Seattle Center is better landscaped and more beautiful than it was five years ago. I enjoy riding by, looking at and identifying my favorite plants. I look at my watch. Ten minutes until the washers are done.

We trot back into the heart of the Center and proceed towards the Science Center. We go down an alley, cross a parking lot, and turn back uphill on a narrow sidewalk. A crowd of people is coming down the sidewalk towards us. The sidewalk is packed for fifty feet. "Ruby Walk." I get off the scooter and Ruby staying to the right walks straight up the sidewalk pulling the scooter while I walk beside it. The people crowd to their right to let Ruby and me pass. Once we have passed the people, I say, "Ruby,OK". I hop back on the scooter and Rubro pulls me up the hill.

We come to the traffic light where we will leave Seattle Center and proceed south to the laundromat. "Ruby, gee. Wait!" Rubro turns right and stops perpendicular to the curb waiting for the command to cross the street. I hold his tugline near his harness so he does not make a mistake and go into the street and the traffic. I push the scooter beside him so people can walk past us. When the light changes, off we go ninety degrees to the course we were taking before. About all I have to say is ."Go to the car". We proceed at a fast trot. When we arrive at the car, I load the scooter in back. On command Rubro jumps in beside it. The laundry rides with me on the front seat.

Check out Daphne's web page at:
www.dogscooter.com

Terry Hinesly, the Olympics and the A5K

Rob Stevens

With the cold weather soon to commence Altitude 5000 is as always hoping for a bumper snow season. One year we may very well crack it! in fact I have not experienced a meter plus of snow at Dinner Plain for 8 years now.

Speaking with the some of the old Mountain Cattle men in the Omeo Pub a few weeks back they stated "Rob, when bark on the snow gums peels away in summer and the new bark beneath is a bright pink color you can bet your cattle dog it's going to be a bumper snow season!" Yeah right! I've heard that one before and besides I don't own any cattle dogs but I do have a Healer Husky cross so I guess where still behind the 8ball!!!!!!! Theories or no theories I put the poor seasons of late down to that ozone thing? Either way fingers crossed and lets see what happens.

Now the race dates, I must also say once and for all, the A5K race is always the second weekend in August or if you like the weekend following "The Burn". This year's dates are August 12th and 13th. If you intend on staying at Dinner Plain for the entire weekend remember we can only accommodate 70 vehicles in the car parking/trailer parking area therefore our entries are capped at 70 staying onsite. Don't panic we have never reached 70 actual dog vehicles staying onsite.

This is the reason why we control distribution of entries and also one of the contributors for dropping one dog i.e. we would not like to have a situation where we have 30 – 40 car spaces taken up with 1 dog whilst we reject entries for the bigger teams who in many instances take up the same parking space.

If you need accommodation at Dinner Plain you had better hurry, as there are not many options left available. For all your lodging needs Accommodation Services of Dinner Plain can be contacted on 03-5159-6696 or email **info@accommdinnerplain.com.au.**

Those of you subscribing to Sleddog-L and Ozworkingdog may recall the short appetiser I posted earlier this week i.e. what does the 2000 Sydney Olympics, Altitude 5000 and Terry Hinesly have in common? I did promise to deliver an answer with this article however due to overseas travel and work commitments I can only deliver part of. My apologies however some plans on the Olympic side have not been finalised.

However...what I can release is that Terry and Cari Hinesly will be visiting us again in Australia during August. Terry has kindly accepted our offer to once again be our Race Marshall. Terry, as most of you know is a well known North American Musher and has competed twice in the Iditarod. Terry Initially came to Australia in 1996 and Race Marshaled locally for Undera, in 1998 on invitation from Altitude returned to Marshall our race and whilst here Race Marshaled for Sydney Siberian Husky Club and Bannockburn.

When last in the Victorian High Country Terry and Carrie spent a week with Altitude member's snowmachining, dogsleddiing, downhill skiing and even managed a little race Marshalling along the way. The Hinesly's enjoyed Australia so much they vowed to return and Y2K is the year. To date the return pattern for the Hinesly's indicates we can all expect a visit every two years.

Incidentally Terry has run both Henry Cordani's dogs and my own team at Dinner Plain and stated the trails were good enough to accommodate 10 > 12 dog teams. Distance for that size team would be an issue however as Narrelle Mace stated in HIKE Magazine A5K is a fun weekend and that is exactly the "Spirit of the Race"

Soooooooooo your still wondering about the Olympic thing?

Well to date what I can tell you is the 2000 Olympic torch will pass through Dinner Plain on the Sunday of our race. If the timing is right and running in cold temperature at high altitude does not rip the bejesus out of the joggers lungs the torch and its bearers should be arriving around the time the last dog team comes home.

No the flaming torch will not be your red lantern!

There are other plans surrounding the Olympic torches appearance at Dinner Plain however these are still being negotiated and that is a process and a half in itself. The torch trackside would be a first for dog sledding in this country and maybe the world. However I'm not too sure about the world one? An Olympic Torch trackside! arrh yes now your thinking! Whilst that bunsen burner is so close our sport has a prime opportunity to gain further exposure locally and just maybe global as well. However as I said more news will follow once plans are finalised and confirmed.

Pedigree PAL will again be our main sponsor together with the Dinner Plain Hotel, Stewart Webster Landrover, Accommodation Services of Dinner Plain, Maloney's Ski Hire, The Mount Hotham Lift Company and the Alpine Shire.

Stewart Webster Landrover plan this year to have two vehicles trackside! The first being a twin cab Defender open for mushers to inspect the actual tub size for dog carrying suitability. The second is the latest model Discovery this is aimed at the Latte sipping musher.

We are in the process of finalising entry forms and flyers have been printed. Flyers are available now on request. This year we managed to get an actual Sibe team on the front. I cant tell you which team or who the driver is so I guess you had better ask for some flyers.

Ironically 7000 flyers have been printed this year with many being made available for international visitors here for the Sydney Olympics. With the Dinner Plain Airport open for public and commercial use by winter flights from both Melbourne and Sydney will be popular and our race has been marketed in with some accommodation packages from both cities.

The official launch of this year flyer will be at the Easter Polo Match at Dinner Plain. Before the Polo A5K complete a short demo sprint race followed by a race/sleddog sport expo. This year Barry Burden is also incorporating into the Altitude stand a large display and promotion of

VSDRA. The demo race will be interesting as we have 3 teams of 6 dogs pulling ATV's should be fun!

This years race is being run under the same permit conditions as last year and no cars or trailers with dogs can be parked outside lodges. Vehicles and trailers housing dogs must park in the allocated car park.

Accommodation can also be booked through Dinner Plain Central Reservations on 03-5159-6451 or alternatively if you wish to stay at Omeo contact the RACV or the Omeo information office.

We strongly recommend to those mushers not staying at Dinner Plain that they stay in Omeo rather than Harrietville given that access is much easier and quicker. If road conditions are particularly icy vehicles with trailers coming from Harrietville may be refused access.

This year's race is priming to be one of our best yet! Now is the time to start building or tuning those sleds, humans, get out training now and focus on becoming superfit for our race given that running in altitude (where there is less oxygen) and on snow is very different and much harder than a dirt track.

That's enough for this months mgazines hope to speak with many of you soon.

On behalf of Altitude 5000 Sleddog Group Inc have a great year mushing, enjoy and respect every race for what they offer and you will come home a winner!

***

The March edition of Hike! featured an article on the real Iron Will (Fred Hartman). Well the picture above is a photo of the actual winner of the 1917 Winnipeg to St Paul race upon which the Iron Will movie was based.

While Iron Will Fred Hartman managed to cross the line in fourth position, the race was actually taken out by Albert Campbell.

Photo C/o: Tim White

Check out other photos at the IFSS weekly photo page **http://www.sleddogsport.com/weeklypics/index.htm**

Some More Benefits of a National Body

Anne & Donal McIntyre

We were very disappointed when the boot camp was cancelled earlier this year. We need experienced veterans to be able to come out and impart their knowledge and skills to us so we can grow successfully in this sport that we all enjoy. Maybe if we already had a National body then arrangements could have been made to alleviate some of the costs of the boot camp by clubs and organisations also sponsoring and using the visitors as Race Marshals or Specialist Lecturers so that the burden would not have befallen the two persons who tried desperately to arrange the camp for the benefit of many.

A vacations/lodgings register is an idea that could be explored – where Australian families could provide accommodation for overseas mushers on holidays and Australian mushers travelling overseas could help out at racing kennels. For Australians, valuable knowledge and skills traded for accommodation and transport assistance to make an inexpensive holiday in Oz. Overseas mushers could swap host families at races to see more of Oz. Our home is open! It would be exciting and beneficial, to be able to see some experienced mushers from overseas actually showing their style in Australia as many of us will never have the opportunity to go overseas and experience this first hand, as much as we would like to. Maybe a demonstration race against some of Oz's teams (suitable teams may need to be donated for this purpose) as well as Race Marshalling.

The National Parks issue is also very important to the continuance of our sport and being able to hold a snow race each year. For many this is the highlight of the racing season. I believe that with assistance from an International Body persistence may ensure our (responsible) admittance to the National Parks.

Alaskan Pup(s) For Sale

One and possibly two pups have become available from the recent litter of the race-proven:

Angola + Tim

For more information:
contact Jozsef Toth on **0418 366 316**

Chatmac

SLED DOG SUPPLIES ARE NOW IN AUSTRALIA

Sydney-based Mark Geroge is now your local Chatmac supplier

Items currently in stock include:

Harnesses:
Small, Medium & Medium/Long (black, burgundy and silver) **$30.00 + postage.**
All other sizes and colours may be ordered.
Sizes include Large ($30.00) Xlarge, XXlarge and Jumbo (all $35.00 ea).
Other colours include Red, Blue, Forest Green, Lime Green, Hot Pink &Yellow.

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This rope is woven with extra strands for greater strength and durability and is the prefered choice for many North American mushers.
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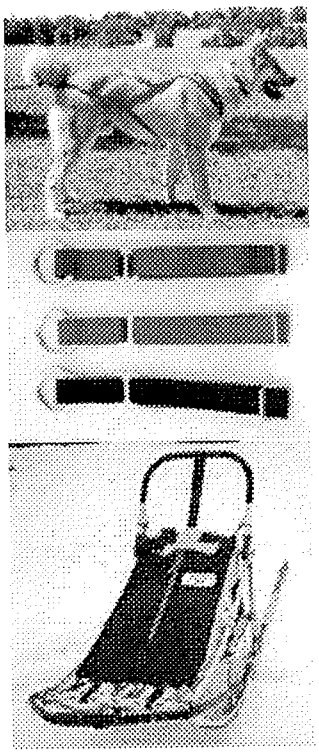
For more information on any of the above items or to see more of the Chatmac range, check out the website at "www.chatmac.com", or contact Mark George ph **02 96277220**.



WILD DOG DATE & DISTANCES CONFIRMED

Following their recent annual AGM, Dave Brown was able to confirm that the SA Wild Dog Derby will be held on 15-16 July.

The 2 heat race will be held on the same trails as last year with the distances being:

1 Dog - 3.6 km
2 Dog - 5.9 km
4 Dog - 7.6 km

My question is will the tree roots be painted gold again this year?

Alex Theuma and Owen Robertson at the '99 Sydney Sled Dog Sprint
Photo: A&F Matthews

WHEN IS A PUP NOT A PUP?

Hayley Coutts

It is Michael Herbst's article that has placed me before the computer to ask myself the question of when is a pup not a pup.

If your dogs are your substitute children then they are always your babies and therefore generally referred to as the pups or puppers as I have heard recently around NSW.

For some people a male pup is no longer a pup when he thinks he can mate a bitch. For some this could be 6 months and for some it could be 18 months.

For bitches it could be 24 months or whenever they are old enough to pump out a litter.

Some dogs are pups till the day they die.

Some dogs die when they are still pups.

Here's where I am headed. We recently had puppy owners asking us when is a pup old enough to race? They had been spending way too much time on the internet (I am not on it and don't intend to. I'd rather spend the time in the yard or with the kids!!) and they were told, by I suppose some well meaning person, who had never raced a dog team to wait until they were at least 2 before they should even run the dogs. I found this strange and wondered if that person just didn't want these pups out there as competition ☺. Lawrie always says that if he had waited for Spyder to turn 2 then that would have been 6 fewer races that Spyder and Kuma would have won!

Let me tell you about Kuma. If you think they shouldn't run till they're 2 then this will kill ya!

Nearly 7 years ago we purchased a little Siberian girl from Annie Jackson. She was our 2nd Sibe and Lawrie's 'future' in the sport. Her name is Kuma. Kuma came through the ranks in the days where Nola Randell and Jozsef Toth ruled the 2 dog class. This little girl ran her first competitive race at the age of 8 ½ months. (She consistently placed top 3 even as a baby). She was able to race due to the fact that she turned 9 months old in the month of the first race. Now I don't know what we did right but Kuma has never ever missed a beat. She had her first litter when she was nearly 4. I believed that at that age (4) she was no longer a pup. She whelped in March and won Undera in June. How was she able to do this?

We believe that:

a) she had good confirmation, her smaller size reduced the risk of injury;
b) she had plenty of free running and swimming at the beach as a pup. This helps build muscle and encourages the dog to 'find its feet' on the move (These days they also learn to dodge syringes!);
c) we have a mini gymnastics course for the dogs on their quarter acre run that encourages play and balance; and
d) she was allowed to fully mature before she was bred from thus enabling an injury free and speedy return to

So here we have a bitch who started racing at 8 ½ months. She has had 3 litters and still runs on the team. She is often borrowed by friends who need a reliable leader and I kid you not she is almost 7 (a veteran) and she has never been lame.

I am concerned at the number of back and shoulder injuries occurring these days. Are our dogs getting too long and weak in the back? Are they getting too big and pounding the life out of their joints? Are some of us simply pushing too hard for that elusive victory without ever realising it? A two year old animal to some people is old enough to breed from, why shouldn't it be competitive on the trail now and for many years to come? Personally I don't think a bitch should be bred from until it has proven itself one way or another. Be that in the show ring or on the trail. If it can't get through a season without a major injury then you need to look closely at what you've got and what you're putting over it. There is no road test like a long season on the trail. We like to give our dogs a season to learn and play (usually at 12-18 months) and then a season to run hard and prove what type of sled dogs they are (2-2 ½ years). If they can't cut it, we don't breed with them. May sound harsh but if the dog can't make it in your team then you probably don't need a yard full of them!!! (This doesn't mean they are shipped off to 'pet' homes. But that is a different topic altogether). They are still valued members of the team but not necessarily what you want to be running in 10 years.

I suppose what it gets down to is when do you start treating them seriously as sled dogs. If they can't get it together by 2 then they probably never will. If you don't take advantage of the window of opportunity to teach your dogs to die for running then the next season the window may be closed and your dogs curled up inside on the bed looking out of that window and dreaming about what could have been if you gave them an honest go as youngsters.

So the question remains. When is a pup not a pup?

Greg Badior & Alex Theuma at the '99 A5K
Photo A&F Matthews

LIHUK SIBERIANS

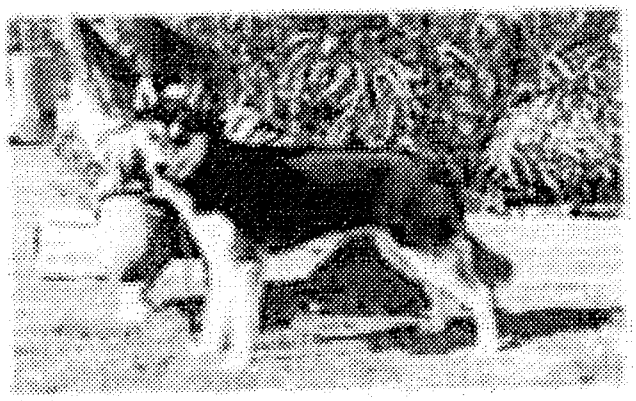
PRESENT

LIHUK BACK IN BLACK
"M.J."

TELKWA TAIKA (IID) X TUMLADEN HUNTERS DAWN
POLARSPEED PEKKO CHARKINSKI CHAR
X X
POLARSPEED PINJA CH TUMLADEN HUNTERS DAWN

LIHUK BLACK AND BLUE
"BLUEY"

TELKWA TAIKA (IID) X NEYSASIBES CAT BALLOU (IMP CAN)
POLARSPEED PEKKO LACADIE'S FLIGHT O'EAGLE
X X
POLARSPEED PINJA NEKANSKU'S SHEEBA



M.J. runs lead and BLUEY runs at wheel on TEAM LIHUK'S 4 dog team. They are both very competent sleddogs and are extremely hard workers acheiving along with their team mates many wonderful results throughout the 1999 sledding season.

Puppies from this wonderful pair will be available to suitable homes.

For more information please contact either John or Lisa Hodgson of LIHUK SIBERIANS on 03 - 5281 5283 phone or fax or email lihuk_sibrerians@dogs.net.au and we would be more than happy to assist your enquiries.

PUPPIES ARE BORN!!!!!!!!!
LITTER WHELPED 12 JANUARY 2000
2 Males and 3 Females
2 Females left to suitable homes

TEAM LIHUK
PROUDLY USE AND RECOMMEND PEDIGREE PAL PROFESSIONAL FORMULA.

Doug Swingley Wins the Iditarod

Perhaps if you spent the last few weeks on Mars you could be excused for not already knowing that Doug Swingley won the Iditarod in a new record time of 9 days 56 min-

Swingly with lead dogs Stormy and Cola in Nome
Photo C/o the Iditarod Race Organising Committee

The Top 10 this year were:

1. Doug Swingley
2. Paul Gebhardt
3. Jeff King
4. Ramy Brooks
5. Charlie Boulding
6. Rick Mackey
7. Martin Buser
8. Rick Swenson
9. Mitch Seavey
10. Bill Cotter

But its Cold Comfort for Aussie Musher Neen Brown

Neen Brown was encouraged to drop out of the Iditarod after falling well behind the pack. Running 2 of her own dogs that she brought out from Australia along with the team she purchased in the States, Neen was never in the race and fell behind to such an extent that race officials convinced her to withdraw.

Neen was keen to keep going and was obviously upset at having to withdraw. However, the time lag between her and the rest of the teams was such that considerable resources were being tied up at checkpoints which would otherwise have closed down as they waited for Neen to arrive.

❖❖❖

Swede Egil Ellis Wins the World Championships 2000

A skijoring and GSP fanatic friend of mine from Alaska sent me a video of the final heat of the Anchorage World Championships 2000. This is a three heat sprint race covering 25 miles (40 km) per heat for the open class (up to 20 dogs). The video was of live to air coverage of the 3rd and final heat of the race and was compared by Libby Riddles. It even had 'coptercam'.

Egil was running a 10 dog team of German Shorthaired Pointers and Pointer/Alaskan crosses against teams ranging up to 18 dogs. And he made it look easy! Obviously his dogs must have been good to pull something like that off! And when they 'interviewed' the lead dog Mike literally minutes after the race (remember this was live to air) he wasn't even panting! After 40 km!

But what struck me even more was the obvious results of Egil's training. In every shot (and he featured for most of the race) his team were running two by two like soldiers – never out of position. Even Libby Riddles was astounded by the discipline of the team and said just watching them made her hair stand on end.

Egil's GSPs are undoubtably good – but his training is phenomenal!

Calling all Scooter-Freaks

Peter Komidar

Following my article in the March edition, I have had a number of enquiries about scooter racing as a possible off-season sport.

As you probably have guessed by now, I am a confirmed Scooter-Freak and would be very interested in seeing if we could get it to fly.

So here's my proposition. If you think you may be interested in participating in (non-dog) scooter races over the warmer months, let me know. Contact details are in the front cover of the magazine.

If we can get a core of interested individuals we could start a couple of races in the coming summer.

For instance, we could organise a Canberra race in September or October. This would allow people to bring their dogs and run them in the morning (there's about an 80% chance of running your dogs any day in October in Canberra – hell we were running our dogs on New Years Day this year) followed by the Scooter race in mid morning.

A couple of years ago I was involved in trying to get a snow race happening in NSW – as a result of this I have made contacts in the Thredbo Chamber of Commerce – which (if there was enough interest) I could contact to see if we could stage a race up in the Snowies say in November or December (no dogs of course). Anyway, it's a thought. But to get it rolling, I'd need to know there was enough interest to make it worth while.

And that's where you come in. If you are interested, please drop me a line.

CYBERHUSKY

A SMALL LITTER OF 3 CRITTERS LOOKING FOR HOMES

BY "SPYDER"
TELKWA HAMAHAKKI (IID)
Polarspeed Pekko (Fin) X Polarspeed Pinja (Imp Fin)

OUT OF "GECKO"
CYBERHUSKY CYCLONE
Northomes Cliff (Imp USA) X Norstarr Utikuma

Spyder & Gecko have proven to be an outstanding team on the trail. They both have the attributes you would wish for in a racing dog. They are crazy to run & have their mind on the job.

Along with her sensational running ability Gecko has proven herself in the obedience ring and is now on her way to achieving her Novice title. She is a rare gem in our kennel as she brings to us not only speed and agility but also brains to the team.

Spyder has had a sensational racing career and never ceases to amaze us with his ability to lead small and large teams. He is a credit to his breeding. Recently he was awarded Best Dog 3-7 year old in the Siberian Husky Club of N.S.W Sled Dog Match. This was awarded under Mrs Susan Gilchrist (Lokiboden Racing Kennels Canada).

Spyder and Gecko have had a win in every race in Victoria, South Australia, & New South Wales.

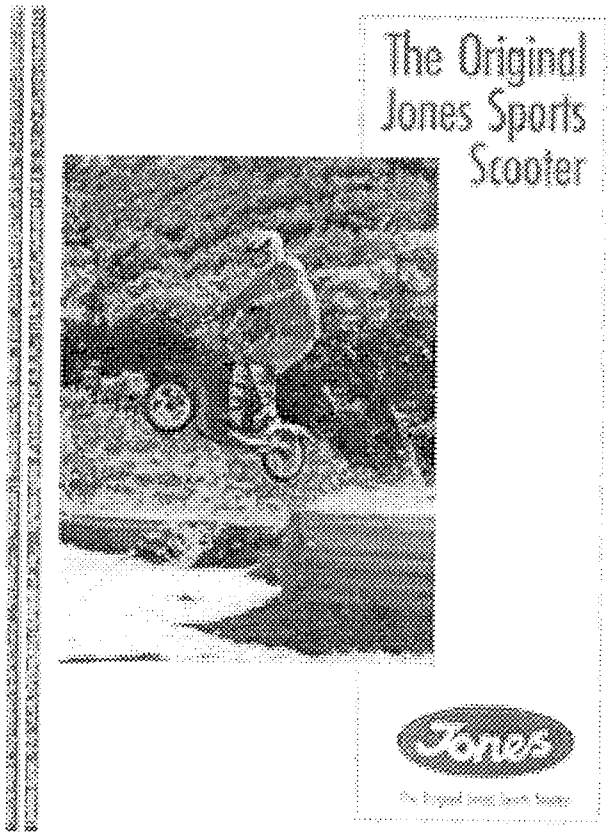
3 little girls available to very special homes.
Born on January 17th.

For enquiries please call Lawrie Coutts on 03 5942 9073

TEST DRIVING THE JONES EXTREME SCOOTER

Darren Higgins

$200 for a brand new scooter? Designed in Australia? Well I bought one instantly! Although I was very impressed, it wasn't until last week when I test drove the bigger version now available, that I've started salivating again! The original is perfect for kids, but the "EXTREME" version would accommodate a clowns foot!



This thing takes bumps, and I train where there's plenty of 'em! Maybe I won't have to wear a back brace training any more (you think I'm joking!). My normal, large wheeled $500 dollar, imported scooter, as used by many top mushers, was bound to give me early arthritis of the fingers it shuddered so much. The Jones Sports Scooter glides over roots and ruts so well I was tempted to sit on it's back wheel arch. O.k. I'm not race fit! I did sit on it!

I've now trialed this baby along my rugged local river bank, chasing rabbits with my champ, Ookie & also teamed up with his well renowned father, Spyder at Southern Cross' race demo in long grass at the Pakenham show and felt like I was driving a luxury vehicle on each occasion.

Besides value for money & durable flexy frame, other major features include powerful hub brakes, light weight wire wheels & plenty of ground clearance. Other features of the Jones Extreme Scooter include:

- Long, wide foot platform with water channelling & raised sides
- Frame covering wheels widely enough to prevent mud spinning onto rider
- Front & back brakes
- Weighs the same as a large wheeled scooter
- Brake cable runs through the frame
- Good looks
- Very good hand grips

The price of the Jones Extreme Scooter is $200 and options include skis, motor (great for hills!), seated version.

For more information on the Jones range contact
JONES LEISURETECH AUSTRALIA
Phone: 61 3 9531 9229
Fax: 61 3 9525 7101
Email: david@jonessportsscooters.com
Contact: David Jones

You can also check out the website at
www.jonessportsscooters.com

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- Cable Lines & Stake Outs (2,4,6 dog)
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VSDRA and a National Body

Helen Pettifer

You have published some interesting comments on the formation of a national body. I just thought I would let you know about the origins of VSDRA and the development of some of the organisations that have been in our past history.

When Dave and I first became interested in Sled Dog racing in 1989 we joined the fairly newly formed ADDA (Australian Dog Drivers Association)I'm not sure what year it started. This association was formed to promote sled dog racing and provide information which is generally one of the main reasons for creating new associations. However it was called the Australian Dog Drivers Association but was not really representing sled dog racing in any other State but Victoria, which is were sled dog racing began in Australia. Nola Randall would be able to fill you more on the beginnings in Australia.

To be a national association the body must truly represent all the states that are providing races. ADDA did not survive and then CHA was formed but it was then realised that for us to truly be represented as a sporting body to promote our sport it must not be discriminating thus it cannot be associated with a pure bred registry such as CHA was.

This is when VSDRA was formed. VSDRA was to be the first state body with the hope of encouraging other states to form a similar association which will eventually led to a national body.

Cliff French tried to form a national body and also a combined association with New Zealand several years ago but again this did not work as we all need to do the ground work first.

I fully support a national organisation but in order for this to happen we need to do it properly. As you say there are numerous opportunities for government grants etc, but you must follow the rules in forming these associations. Each state must form a body like VSDRA which is the main reason VSDRA has tried to encourage other interstate clubs to get together rather than just joining VSDRA. I have spoken to Brad Leeson and other clubs about this. You need a copy of Planning in Sport from the Australian Sports Commission were this is explained more fully.

VSDRA is made up of independent race clubs two members from each club form the VSDRA Council plus the elected office bearers. The Clubs remain independent using their own rules etc but share common interests and provide an avenue for the clubs to disperse any information they wish to share, provide insurance coverage to the individual members and help them get advice and training to generally promote the sport. Things like the introduction of the Aggressive dog policy were formed for our own clubs but also with the hope that any other club wishing to adopt this policy could do so at no cost but with a written request for use so that our data base will be updated by all those using it.

Northern Exposure Classic Update

Tammy Hutchison

The 6th annual Northern Exposure Classic will again be held at the Noosa North Shore Retreat (note name change from Lake Cooroibah Holiday Park). , and we are proud to announce Pedigree Pal once again as our major sponsor. We would also like to introduce Barry Burden as Classic Race Marshal.

As well, to ensure that every pup is given the maximum protection against the threat of transmittable disease, all entrants to the Classic must submit copies of vaccination certificates for all dogs competing.

We have also renamed and redefined the Novice class as the Touring Class . This new one dog class is open to all non-competitive mushers, will give placing certificates to all its entrants, as well as provide separate prizes for either Novice entrants (first time mushers only), Puppy class entrants(Siberians 9-15 months, Malamutes 12-18 months) or Veteran's class entrants(dogs over 7 years). If you fit into more than one of three sub-classes (Novice with a puppy or veteran dog), then you must specify which one you wish to enter. . With the touring class, entrants must specify which class they wish to enter (if applicable). On the other hand, mushers are not restricted to running the touring class, they can run a "puppy" or "veteran" (as defined by the touring class) dog in any of the open classes.

For more information, give me a call.

Classes on offer are:

1, 2, and 3-4 dog who run over three heats one being a night run, distances are not set and are determined closer to the date taking the weather into consideration and we are a sprint race.

. For the younger crowd we offer Mini Peewee, Pee Wee and Junior races which can be entered on the day. The trails consist of hard packed areas and sandy patches.

Our Race Marshall is Barry Burden.

The Retreat offers a range of accommodation from powered/unpowered camping sites to cabins (sleeps up to 6). Note there are some restrictions with dogs with the cabins. They also have hot showers, a laundry and shop on site. The Pub is open from breakfast and is where our highly successful banquet and Raffle and Auction are held mid race. This is a sure way to experience some NEGRC Inc hospitality, have a laugh and gain a lighter wallet.

Hope to see you there, it is an experience you won't soon forget!

All race enquiries should be directed to
Donald Maillet Ph 07 3822 6427 or
Sonia Moore Ph 07 3882 0193

***

GENERATION X

Sled Dog Racing Team

Is proud to present the first litter from **SADE** and **REPCO**

Sade and Repco have been outstanding performers in their 3 years on the Sled Dog Racing scene consistently placing and winning at major races around Australia

Relatives of Note:

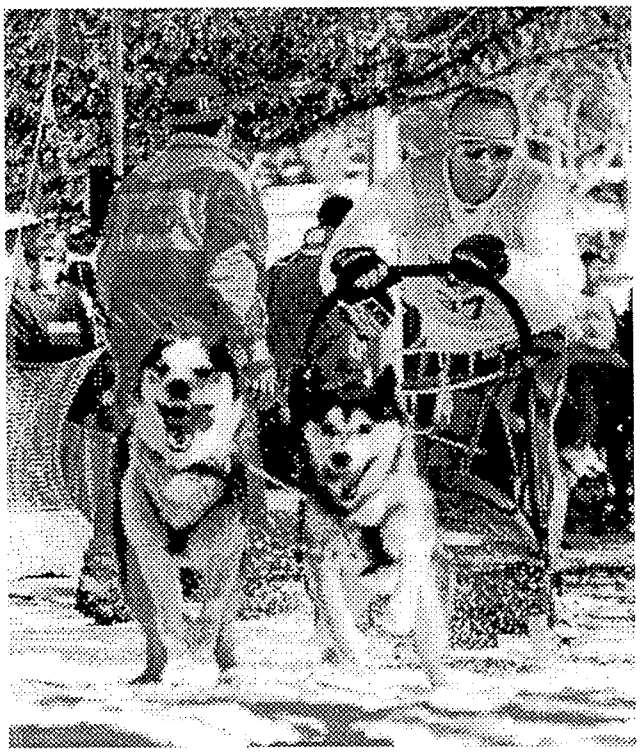
Dad:
Northomes Cliff – multiple winner including 3 Southern Cross Classics

Mums
Norstarr Utikuma – multiple winner including many 2 dogs wins in 1997

Chucki Sharra - multiple winner and a member of Finn Jensen's dominant 1998 team

Daughter:
Chuvashkaya Chilli - Winner 1999 Sydney Sled Dog Shield & multiple place getter

Sister:
Gecko (Sade's twin) – The sometimes forgotten member of Laurie Coutts champion 1997/8/9 2 & now 4 dog teams



Pedigree:

REPCO
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Northomes Cliff (imp USA)
Northomes Keki (USA)
Chuvashkaya Jagged Edge
Nazareth's Evangelist Mark (CAN)
Chuckchi Sharra (imp N.Z.)
Chuckchi Taska Too (N.Z)

SADE
Northomes Jasper (USA)
Northomes Cliff (imp USA)
Northomes Keki (USA)
Cyberhusky Whirlwind
Ch.Sledog Polar King
Norstarr Utikuma
Ch. Norstarr Raising Arizona

Race record of Sade and Repco			
Race	1997	1998	1999
Undera Sled Dog Race	8th 2 Dog	3rd 2 Dog	2nd 3 Dog
Siberian Express	3rd 2 Dog	2nd 2 Dog	1st 4 dog
Wild Dog Derby	3rd 2 dog	2nd 2 dog	-
Bannockburn	3rd 2 dog	2nd 2 dog	2nd 4 dog
Canberra Sled Dog Classic	2nd 2 Dog	2nd 2 Dog	4th 4 Dog
Due South	-	-	2nd 6 dog
Diner Plain Derby	4th 2 dog	2nd 2 dog	6th 3 dog
Sydney Sled Dog Shield	-	1st 2 dog	3rd 2 dog
Mikulov / Charters Cup	-	2nd 2 Dog	1st 4 Dog

For more information please contact Owen or Helen Robertson
Phone:0412 279 734 or (03) 53417867
Address: RMB N 837 Ballarat 3352 **Email :owenr@au1.ibm.com**

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(SLASH.)

DAM: CARDIPRIN MELAS XENA.
(SPICE.)

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Both parents are race track proven.

Contact
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PHONE: (02) 6236 3557

Worms!

Dr Michael Banyard HDA BVS(Hons) PhD

With the range of wormers currently on the market, it has become very confusing for dog owners to know what wormer to use and when to use it.

The key issue is really the range of worms the animal is likely to have exposure to and the likely rates of infection. Your vet's advice is based on assumptions about the type and level of infection to which your dog is likely to be exposed.

In broad terms the groups of worms which represent health concerns for dogs and cats in Australia are hookworm, roundworm, whipworm, tapeworms and hydatid tapeworm. Hookworm are rarely a problem in the Canberra region as they have a free living larval stage which requires a level of soil warmth and moisture seldom found here.

Roundworm are common in Canberra with most puppies and kittens being born with an infestation acquired from their mother whilst in the uterus or through the milk when they suckle. Infections can also occur from ingestioningestion of eggs from the environment (bitches with puppies and young puppies being especially susceptible) and from eating infected carcasses such as those of rats and mice.

Whipworms are common parasites of urban dogs as their eggs remain viable in the environment for long periods of time (up to 5 years) so reinfection can readily occur.

Infections with the tapeworm Dipylidium caninum, which has a life cycle that is linked with fleas, are very common. Infection with other tapeworm species relies on the dog eating an infected animal (anything from a small lizard to a cow depending on the species of tapeworm) which contains the intermediate form of the worm (usually a cyst in the muscle or attached to the abdominal organs).

Hydatid tapeworm is a human health problem in the Canberra region. The adult tapeworms develop in the dog who then passes out infective eggs. These develop into cysts in an intermediate host, ideally one which the dog will eat so that the life cycle is completed (mostly sheep but also rabbits, cattle and kangaroos).

Unfortunately, if humans ingest the eggs we can also act as an intermediate host and the cysts can develop in us. The dog can only be infected by eating the cysts from the intermediate host, not from eating the eggs. Humans are infected by the eggs from infected dogs, which may be found on the hairs of the dog's coat, in soil or on raw fruit or vegetables from the garden.

So what does this all mean for your pet? Here are a few basic guidelines for worming dogs:

- dogs with access to sheep, cattle, rabbit or kangaroo carcasses need to be wormed every 6 weeks for tapeworms (especially hydatids) and every 3 months for all other worms;
- active dogs need to be wormed every 3 months for the full range of worms. Less active dogs need worming every 6-12 months;
- dogs that receive a monthly wormer as part of their heartworm or other parasite control regime (such as Sentinel or Heartgard plus or Revolution) still need to be treated every 3 months. They should also be treated for whipworm at least twice yearly;
- puppies and lactating bitches need to be wormed every 2 weeks for roundworm until the puppies are 12 weeks old.

For tapeworms only (including hydatids) use Droncit. For the full spectrum of worms (including whipworm and hydatid tapeworm) use Drontal, Popantal or Canex Plus.

There is a new parasite control product called 'Revolution' which is applied once monthly as a 'spot-on' preparation to the skin at the back of the neck. It is effective against heartworm, fleas, sarcoptic mange mites, ear mites and some ticks (not paralysis ticks). The flea control agent kills adult fleas as well as reducing egg production and killing lavae. This is an advance on other heartworm/flea control combinations which do not kill adult fleas. Revolution is water fast even if the animal is bathed 2 hours after treatment. So if you have trouble giving your dog oral heartworm medication this may be the answer. It is also useful for those dogs who have recurrent ear problems in which ear mites are implicated.

Geoff Carter at the '98 Sydney Sprint start chute
Photo: A&F Matthews

CHIPPEWA

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Igloo Pak's Sitka (USA)
Koonah's Spice

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Northomes Pepper
Northomes Cliff (Imp USA)
Northomes Chancy of Anadyr
Northomes Keki
Northomes Pepper

Lokiboden's Gucci (Imp Canada)

Northomes Spook
Northomes Snowmist Caper (USA)
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Lokiboden's Waterloo (Imp Can)
Igloo Pak's Clyde
Igloo Pak's Sitka (USA)
Koonah's Spice

Chuvashkaya Ozzy

Northomes Yankee
Northomes Ed
Northomes Whitby
Northomes Lexi (Imp USA)
Lokiboden's Mr Snuffalupagus
Northomes Spot
Northomes Mimi Tschida

Both Snuffy and Loo were tog dogs in Leigh Gilchrist kennel, running on this main team for many years. Both have been SEPP evaluated.

Lokiboden's Mr Snuffalupagus (8/85) 25-26 Oct 1986 - rated GOOD-EXCELLENT
5-6 Nov 1988 - rated GOOD

Lokiboden's Waterloo (5/86) 5-6 Nov 1988 - rated GOOD

Both Cliff and Lexi were imported as young dogs from one the USA's top Racing Siberian Husky Kennels. Brothers and sisters of these two run on the main teams at Northome. Cliff's sisters run lead on their 10 dog team.

Gucci has just completed her second season of racing here in Australia, this year running lead on my 4 and 6 dog teams. Gucci also won Challenge Bitch and Runner Up Best of Breed at the 1988 Siberian Husky Club of NSW Championship show under Ali Koops (UK). Ozzy, even though he has had limited race experience, running in a few 2 dog races last season, I fully expect him to run on the 4 and 6 dog teams this year. And most likely in lead. He has the heart and desire to run and Run and Run.

Limited number of Puppies are available to suitable homes

For further information please contact **Karen McCarthy** **(03) 5962 6220** or email: chippewa@dragon.net.au

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2000 Sled Dog Events Calendar

Sprint Races

Race	Distances	Date	Contact
Southern Cross Pro Am (Victoria)		20-21 May	Karen Johnson kazjohn@netspace.net.au
Undera Sled Dog Dash (Victoria)	1 Dog Class 3 heats of 2km 2 Dog Class, 3 heats 4.5km 3&4 Dog Class 2 heats 7km + night heat 4.5km, Novice 2 heats of 2 km -no night heat	10-12 June	Helen & David Pettifer pettifer@bigpond.com
Sydney Sled Dog Sprint (New South Wales)		24-25 June	Craig Turner ionamal@shoal.net.au
Northern Exposure Classic (Queensland)		30/6 - 2/7 1-2	Donald Maillet (07) 3822 6427 d.maillet@mailbox.uq.edu.au
Great Grey Bound (Victoria)	1 Dog Class 2 heats of 2.4 km 2 Dog Class 2 heats of 6.5 km 4 Dog Class 2 heats of 9.0 km 6 Dog Class 2 heats of 12.7 km	8-9 July	Terry & Narelle Mace weish@primus.com.au
Wild Dog Derby (South Australia)	1 Dog Class 2 heats of 3.6 km 2 Dog Class 2 heats of 5.9 km 4 Dog Class 2 heats of 7.6 km	15-16 July	Dave Brown davebrown@ozemail.com.au
Sydney Sled Dog Shield (New South Wales)		29-30 July	Ivan Douglas skylaska@zip.com.au
The Burn (Victoria)	1&2 Dog Class 2 heats of 7.5km 3, 4 & 6 Dog Class 2 heats of 15km Junior Class 2 heats of 3.8km	5-6 August	Lisa Hodgson lihuk@netspace.net.au
A5000 Sled Dog Derby (Victoria)		12-13 August	Robert Stevens sleddogs@ssc.net.au
Canberra Sled Dog Classic (ACT)		19-20 August	Kate Ord kate.ord@ca.gov.au

Distance Races

Race	Distance	Date	Contact
CHA Distance Run (Victoria)	6 dog class (min 4 dogs) 1 heat of 25K	8 July	Terry & Narelle Mace weish@primus.com.au
Southern Highlands Freight Run (New South Wales)	1 Dog Class 2 heats of 7.8 km 2 Dog Class 2 heats of 14.9 km 4 Dog Class 2 heats of 20.8 km 6 Dog Class 2 heats of 20.8 km	8-9 July	Geoff Styche styche@pnc.com.au
B50 (New South Wales)		22-23 July	Stephen Carrick crack@ozemail.com.au
Kooyoora Challenge (Victoria)	2 heats of 25 km 6, 8, Open class (min 4 dogs)	5-6 August	John Hynd – 03 5438 7451

Weight Pull

Race & Distances	State	Date	Contact
AMCNSW Weight Pull	NSW	21 May	Geoff Styche - styche@pnc.com.au
AMCNSW Weight Pull	NSW	11 June	Geoff Styche - styche@pnc.com.au
AMCNSW Weight Pull	NSW	6 August	Geoff Styche - styche@pnc.com.au
AMCNSW Weight Pull	NSW	9 September	Geoff Styche - styche@pnc.com.au

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As a special service to our valued subscribers, *Hike!* will now be running a Racing Kennel Directory. The Directory will appear occasionally in *Hike!* (when space allows) and permanently on the Hike! web page.

All *Hike!* subscribers currently running Kennel ads in the magazine have automatically been included in the Directory.

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chippewa@dragon.net.au

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Alaskan Huskies
Jozsef Toth
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Lawrie & Hayley Coutts
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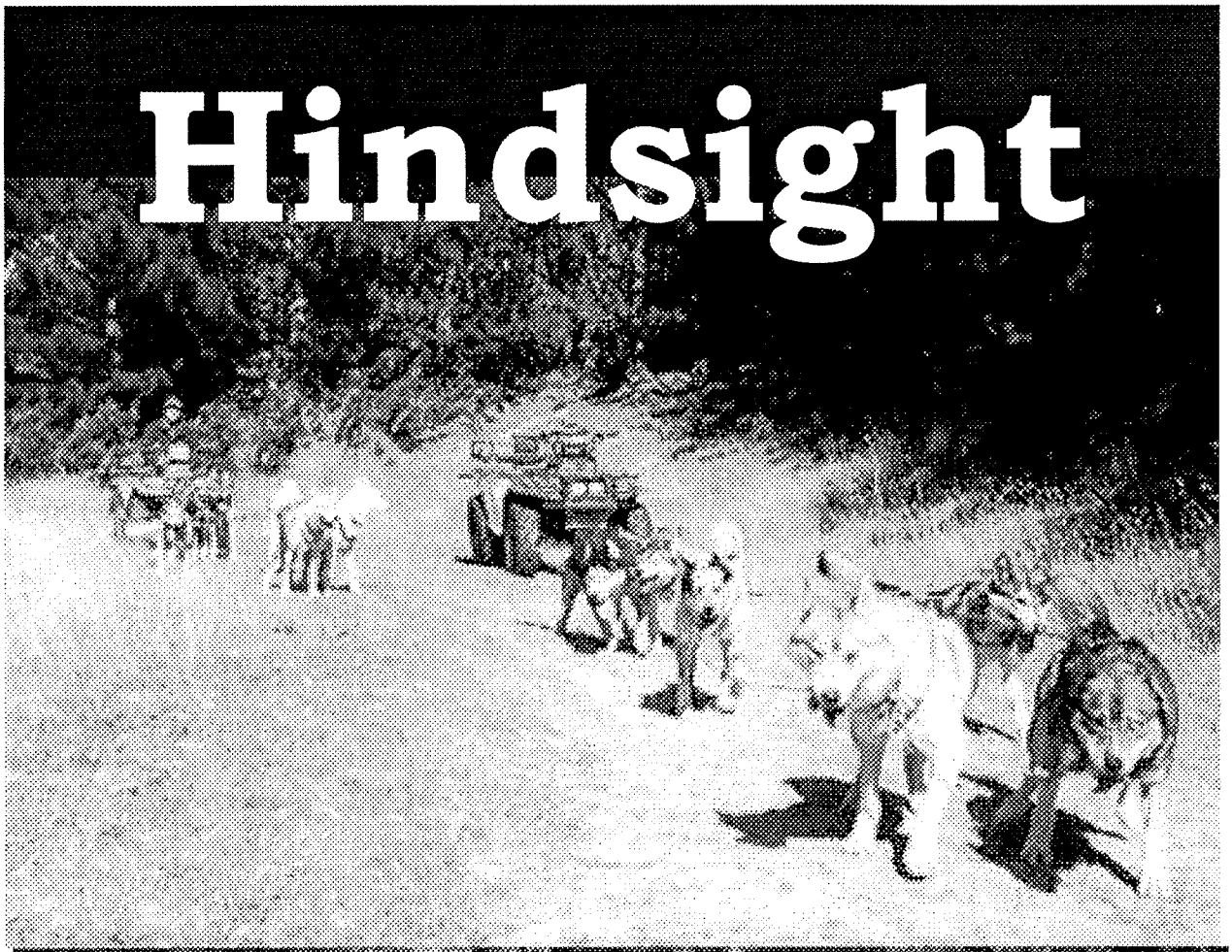
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