

DOG

SPRING 2008

&

Sled

Blue Ridge
Dryland Challenge



Casper Mountain
Sled Dog Races

Sled Dog Watchdog

An Interview With Terry Cumming

Dog & Sled is published quarterly. Each issue contains articles, news and information on the world of sled dog sports.

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ALICE E. WHITE Editor, Writer, Publisher and Distributor



I am a teenager and love sled dogs and sled dog sports. I have been running dogs for many years, sometimes on foot, sometimes with a bike or scooter or, in the rare case that my home state of Georgia actually gets significant snowfall, with a sled. Recently I have done some racing and I have worked in Alaska at Northern Sky Lodge and Kennel.

My current sled dog is Calypso, a Siberian husky. I scooter with her nearly every day and she loves it!

Dog & Sled started out as a handwritten magazine in 2000. Now I write it with the aid of a computer.

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COVER: Steve Riggs' team runs along a wooded trail in the 2008 Casper Mountain Sled Dog Races.

Talk & Bark

Commentary By Alice White



Putting *Dog & Sled* together is always an interesting process.

Take this issue for instance. I had it all mapped out in my head. Along with the usual articles and interviews, it would contain my account of working and staying at Northern Sky Lodge in Ester, Alaska, last March.

However, when I started work on the Northern Sky article, it became longer and longer. I realized that if I was going to tell the story the way I wanted, it would take up the entire magazine! And I plan to do just that - but not in this issue. Nor with the next one. So I've bumped the Northern Sky account to the Fall 2008 issue, which will be a special edition containing just that story. I had a wonderful time in Alaska and can't wait to share my experiences.

I am pleased to report that the Casper Mountain races this year were great. I managed to dodge all the tornadoes and other nasty weather when flying out of Atlanta and had a good time staying with my friends, the Berges, at Deer Creek Kennel. I had an eventful couple of days at the races but managed to take third-place in the Novice Senior division. I've included a story on the Casper races as well as one on Virginia's Blue Ridge Dryland Challenge in this issue of *Dog & Sled*.

I've also included something a bit more controversial - an interview with Terry Cumming of Sleddogwatchdog.com. Terry's opinion of sled dog racing is very different from mine yet he is willing to discuss his issues with the mushing community, rather than shut himself off. Whether we agree with everything or not, we should definitely hear what he has to say.

As always, I hope you find this issue of *Dog & Sled* to be interesting and informative.

CASPER MOUNTAIN SLED DOG RACES 2008



Each February, mushers and dogs from around the country gather together in Casper, Wyoming, to raise money for charity through the Casper Mountain Sled Dog Races. Also called Canines For Charity, these races benefit the ARC of Natrona County - a non-profit organization dedicated to helping special-needs kids.

The 2008 Casper Mountain Sled Dog Races kicked off with a sign-up event held at the Parkway Plaza Inn in Casper, where many of the mushers were staying. There were twelve classes mushers could enter - everything from a 17-mile "mid-distance" race to a 100-yard dash. There was even an event called the "disABILITY dash" where children from the ARC could ride a special sled and compete in their own event!



The sign-up is really a get-together for the mushers and race organizers and has the feel of a reunion for many. There is a short meeting to discuss rules, starting order and trail information.

The next morning, mushers made

their way to Beartrap Meadow atop Casper Mountain. A record number of mushers attended the 2008 races - it seems that sled dog racing really is experiencing a boom in popularity.



The longer races were held first, starting with the 25-mile "mid-distance" races. There were two 25-mile divisions - one for 10-dog teams and one for 8-dog teams. The mid-distance trail is known for being challenging but the 2008 races included a new and unexpected obstacle: pack mules. Several teams encountered free-ranging pack mules along the trail. Fortunately, no dogs or mushers were hurt and snowmachiners were sent out to chase the mules away from the trail before the races the second day.

After the mid-distance events, the 10-mile and 6-mile sprint races were held. The 10-mile race was divided into two divisions, one for 8-dog teams and one for 6-dog teams. There was also a 6-dog division in the 6-mile sprint, as well as a 4-dog class. Racers ran loop trails beginning and ending in Beartrap Meadow. The last stretch of the races is always very popular with race fans as it allows for good views of the teams coming into the finish line.

Sometimes two, even three teams would come in at once, making for an exciting and competitive finish.

The next races were the 4-dog, 4-mile and 3-dog, 1-mile classes. They were followed by Junior races for mushers under 18. The Junior races included a 4-dog, 3-mile race and a 3-dog, 1-mile race.

Two skijoring classes were also held at the Casper races. Both classes were for teams of 1-3 dogs, although most mushers ran only one or two. There was a 3-mile race for the more adventurous but most skijorers chose the 1-mile event.

During these events, the disABILITY dash was held for children of the ARC. The dash is one of the main highlights of Canines For Charity.

The last event of the day was the 1-dog, 100-yard dash for children under eight.

On the evening of the first day, a banquet was held at the Parkway Plaza. There was a lot of food served and organizers made sure no one left hungry! The banquet has always been a chance for mushers to get together, talk and swap race stories. There was both a silent and live auction to benefit the ARC.

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MOVIE REVIEW

SNOW BUDDIES

Over the past few years, Disney has given us some great sled dog movies, including *White Fang*, *Iron Will* and the more recent *Snow Dogs* and *Eight Below*. With the success of these movies it was inevitable that the studios would come up with another movie starring sled dogs.

Their latest foray into the genre is *Snow Buddies*, the new addition to the *Air Bud* series. In *Snow Buddies*, five talking Golden retriever puppies (the "Buddies") end up in Alaska, far from their suburban home. And, of course, they meet up with a Siberian husky puppy (he refers to himself as an Alaskan husky but is obviously a purebred) whose young owner wants to start a sled dog team. So, with the help of a legendary sled dog (voiced by Kris Kristofferson) they train for and compete in a grueling sled dog race.

During the race, the movie starts to feel familiar. There are WAY too many similarities between *Snow Buddies* and the 2001 not-for-kids film, *Chilly Dogs* (released as *Kevin Of The North* in Canada). Both films contain an over-the-top, bad-guy musher who is French. In both films, this French musher sabotages other racers' attempts and he sabotages them the *same way*. In fact, parts of *Chilly Dogs* could almost pass off as a parody of *Snow Buddies*.

Some people are concerned about the portrayal of mushing in *Snow Buddies*. After all, the film shows a team of puppies that can't be more than a few months old pulling a sled! Not a good idea.

Surprisingly, according to a mini-documentary on the film, the puppies actually pulled the sled in some scenes - it wasn't all trick photography or special effects. This is certainly cause for concern but it turns out there were much worse problems on the set.

The American Humane Association (AHA), which monitors treatment of animal actors on set (you know them for their "no animal was harmed in the making of this movie" statements in film credits) and gives the film either an "Acceptable" or "Unacceptable" rating. The AHA, which very favorably reviewed *Eight Below* and *Snow Dogs*, slapped *Snow Buddies* with an "Unacceptable" rating. This was due to the fact that several puppies died during the film and were imported from the US to Canada at only six weeks old (puppies under eight weeks are not supposed to star in films). Twenty-eight puppies were treated for parvovirus and three were euthanised. According to the AHA website, the breeder who sold the puppies for the movie "has been charged with fraud by the New York State Police for falsifying health documents."

Sled Dog Watchdog An Interview With Terry Cumming

If you follow sled dog sports, sooner or later you will realize that there is controversy surrounding how mushers treat their dogs.

Terry Cumming runs SledDogWatchdog.com, a website protesting the Yukon Quest and other sled dog races. Last Winter, Terry talked to Dog & Sled about the issues he has with sled dog racing and gave us insight into the "other side" of the sled dog debate.

Dog & Sled: Okay, first question. Usually I start by asking whoever I'm interviewing how they became involved in mushing. With you I'll have to ask, how did you become involved in sled dog advocacy?

Terry Cumming: I grew up in the Northwest Territories and have lived most of my life either in the NWT or Yukon. I have traveled extensively across the north as part of my job. The nature of my job involved visiting many properties on-site, including properties owned by dog mushers. To say the least, I have not been impressed with the care of sled dogs, whether they are owned by native or non-native mushers, whether the dogs are used for racing, recreational, or sled dog tourism purposes.

One of my first wake-up calls about sled dogs came in the

Spring of 1983, in Hay River, Northwest Territories. I was inspecting flood damage in a primarily native fishing village located on Great Slave Lake and saw a pickup truck loaded with dead sled dogs who had been left on their chains to drown. There had been a flood warning well in advance of the actual flood, but nobody apparently gave a second thought to ensuring these dogs were kept safe.

I have seen Inuit dogs chained to the shoreline in Iqaluit, Nunavut, with no protection from the weather. In the north, including some Yukon communities, stray dogs are shot as a means of controlling their population.

I realize that you are protective about the reputation of Yukon Quest and Iditarod mushers. I do not need to have personally visited any dog yards of our small band of area Quest mushers in order to form my low opinion of them. I have gathered a lot of pictures from the web sites of some of these mushers.

I see the pictures of dogs at the end of 6-foot chains, next to their cheap, uninsulated dog houses - or plastic rain barrels with a bit of hay at the bottom. I do not have any respect for mushers who keep their dogs on chains. This is a convenient and economical way for them to keep their dogs, and to keep

their dogs IN CONTROL, whether they are chained up or in harness. Yes, I realize that some mushers allow their dogs to run free on occasion, in fenced areas but my experience is that most Yukon and northern mushers don't do any more than the bare minimum to keep their dogs happy.

I also see the local newspaper ads in the Spring and Fall when Quest mushers have their clearance sales on sled dogs, including ex-Quest and Iditarod sled dogs. In 2007, Quest musher Frank Turner brought up the distasteful subject of other Quest mushers culling unwanted dogs and puppies. Mr. Turner wanted the Quest to adopt a 'culling' disclosure, something I had previously asked for in a letter to a local newspaper. Quest race marshal Mike McCowan replied that it was "not the Quest's business" what mushers did in their dog yards. There was absolutely no outcry from other Quest mushers stating that they did not cull dogs either.

I started volunteering for our local humane society in about 1999. A couple that my wife and I met owned a beautiful fenced property near Whitehorse, which they cleared partly in order to allow shelter dogs including sled dogs and dog yard (hoarded) dogs to visit every week to run free. We, the other couple and

other friends took the dogs to this property pretty much every weekend for close to five years, until the owners of the property left the Yukon. It was great to see dogs who had been on chains for most of their lives and after that, only felt freedom in the small yard at the shelter, experience true freedom for the first time (and run like maniacs).

A big influence on getting me into sled dog advocacy came in 2003, when a young man who was working in the Yukon staged a small protest about the Yukon Quest. He was made to look like a fool in a pro-Yukon Quest 'documentary' done by the Yukon Quest cheerleading team at CBC Yukon/CBC North. These people have never done any investigation of sled dog cruelty, and even after they reported Frank Turner's story about sled dog culling they still have a 99.9 percent favourable bias towards the Yukon Quest. The Yukon Territory has abysmal animal protection laws, and sled dogs are totally at the mercy of anybody who chooses to breed them and use them.

I would not have complicated my life in this 'small town' environment had I not had ample 'insider information' about sled dog cruelty, including dog culling/cruelty/neglect issues involving Yukon Quest

mushers. I have heard that some of our local mushers have no respect for our egotistical, whiny Quest mushers, and do not see why anybody else should respect them either.

I have also made long phone calls to various animal welfare people in Alaska, and from what I gather, the Yukon is a veritable sled dog paradise in comparison to what happens in Alaska.

As you have probably already read, I have dog mushing on both sides of my family - "working sled dogs."

D&S: Yes, I have. Could you explain a little more about that for our readers?

TC: My maternal grandfather was a trapper (using dog teams) for much of his life, operating around where Northern Saskatchewan, NWT and Alberta meet.

My father had a working dog team from when he was a young teenager because his father - my grandfather - was sometimes away in winters, weathered in somewhere on the Mackenzie River system (he was a ship's captain, who spent a lot of time on the Mackenzie, Slave and Athabasca Rivers) and my dad had 8 sisters and 1 brother to

help support.

Unfortunately I did not get a chance to talk to my dad about his dog team before he passed away suddenly several years ago.

One of my Mother's uncles was a famous priest in the north, who was well known for traveling long distances with sled dogs to spread the 'good word.'

D&S: What about you? Have you done any mushing?

TC: I went on an afternoon trip with one of my Dad's friends who was a native musher/trapper on Yellowknife Bay when I was about 7 or 8 years old. That is the only time I have been on a dog sled. I remember it was cold and sunny and remember the poop smell from the dogs' rear ends. My recollection is that the mushing experience did not make a big impression on me.

D&S: Your focus is mainly on the Yukon Quest. Do you feel that dogs are physically abused in the race even though abuse is prohibited and whips banned? Or, do you feel that mushers often neglect their dogs during the course of the Quest? What about the veterinarians that are stationed along the trail?

TC: My focus is mainly on the Yukon Quest because the lesser-known race has gotten off light over the years when compared to the sled dog advocacy on behalf of Iditarod dogs started by Margery Glickman of the Sled Dog Action Coalition, PETA and others.

The Yukon Quest thirsts for a higher public profile. If the Quest wants to be as big as the Iditarod, the organization should be prepared to be the recipient of some of the criticism the Iditarod deservedly receives.

This 'disgraceful organization' as I call it, rarely answers any questions or responds to criticism directed its way, because, in my opinion, it really doesn't have much ammo to defend itself with. And when they do choose to respond, it ends up backfiring on them.

NOBODY sees all that happens to the dogs along the thousand mile trail. This year and last, one of our local Whitehorse newspapers, the Yukon News, has stepped forward as being the most responsible media source for reporting about the Quest. Reporter Genesee Keevil, who is also apparently a recreational musher and amateur racer, did a lot of good reporting about the extreme cold and its effect on

the dogs, and the various injuries dogs are exposed to, such as frozen penises and scrotums. She also wrote about the physical dangers posed to Quest mushers and their teams, specifically about the poor trail marking and trail preparation, chances of dogs falling off narrow trails and into water hazards, and dogs being injured by unseen soft spots on the trail.

One musher was disqualified early in the 2008 Quest for poor dog treatment, Quest veterinarian Vern Starks, in a radio interview refused/declined to give the specifics about this.

With regard to beating/whipping dogs, Iditarod musher John Suter wrote a letter to the editor in response to the Ramy Brooks incident in the Iditarod last year, stating that "all the top [Iditarod] mushers" use corporal punishment on their teams in order to be competitive.

Quest vets knowingly allow injured dogs and dogs suffering from ulcers to compete in the race. A couple of years ago, I asked about this in a letter to the editor to a Whitehorse newspaper. I asked about injured and ulcer-afflicted dogs being allowed to be used in the race.

Previous to this, a Quest/Iditarod musher based in the Yukon called me on a Sunday evening and berated me for my advocacy. I did manage to get out of him, after about an hour, that he had several dogs he knew had ulcers, who had run in the race that year (2005). He thought that I would be impressed upon hearing that the ulcers 'cleared up' during the race. I also got out of him a statement about dog culling. He made sure to tell me that he did not cull dogs (I did not think to ask did he have anyone else kill perfectly healthy dogs for him, e.g., his employees or local veterinarians) but as to other Yukon-based Quest mushers, I recall him saying "possibly so."

Quest veterinarians also allow dogs who BECOME sick and injured during the race to continue to compete. I do not have any respect for these veterinarians, who by their participation in the Quest and Iditarod, condone the injuries and deaths of racing sled dogs. I strongly believe that any musher who enters the Quest or Iditarod is gambling with the lives of his or her dogs by doing so, and if there is love towards their dogs, it is of a twisted and perverted kind.

D&S: Interesting that you mention John Suter, given his past - running poodles in the Iditarod and attacking the race when it decided not to allow

non-sled dogs. I understand he admitted to spreading false claims in the early '90s. What is your feeling about this? Also, what is your response to the mushing community's insistence that dog care has improved dramatically in the last ten or fifteen years?

TC: Why is it so ridiculous for Standard Poodles to be running in the Idiot-a-rod circus? Is that any more ridiculous than mushers breeding and using all the short-haired mixed husky breeds in the Quest and Iditarod in 50 and 60 below temperatures? As to Mr. Suter's reputation, he is no better or worse than people like Ramy Brooks.

With regard to the recent 'dramatic' improvement in care of Idiotarod and Quest dogs, that is a bunch of absolute crapola. Both events are to this day responsible for killing dogs DURING the race (three dogs killed in each race in 2007) and from the irresponsible breeding and culling practices that happens throughout the remainder of the year.

There is a critical need for strict regulation of all dog mushing operations in the north, backed up by strong penalties for those who bring harm to sled dogs.

D&S: On your website, you

state that the sled dog advocacy campaign is not against recreational or light competitive mushing. The page also has a disclaimer about an abolitionist approach to animal rights. Could you explain a little bit about this viewpoint?

TC: I am personally torn as a sled dog advocate between the various animal rights/animal advocacy viewpoints and also from recognizing the reality of the pervasiveness of dog mushing in the North, in North America and its growth in popularity elsewhere in the world.

If the actual lives of all sled dogs were a true reflection of what the extreme mushing industry, sled dog tourism industry and those who keep dogs for recreational purposes like to portray I would not have much latitude to be a critic. However, where I live in the North, and also in Alaska, NWT, and Nunavut, a lot of these dogs, including recreational/occasional racing dogs receive minimal care and attention. I have heard of some people who keep dogs in order to go mushing once or twice a year, or not at all. On my site, there is a Yukon News story about Frank Turner being involved in rescuing 17 dogs who were left to starve at a dog yard near Whitehorse. On his web site, he mentions another rescue operation involving 32 dogs and that

these dogs were "out of Seppala lines, mostly bred with other Alaskan husky lines, notably Butcher, Cotter & Swenson" [bloodlines].

Too many of these sled dogs are lucky to be fed and watered once a day, get proper veterinary care, have a warm dog house to live in, or get to run off chain for part of the day. I am aware that at least in Alaska and Yukon, if you go into a bar and say you are a musher, you will possibly get free drinks all night. I would want to see the dog yard before I bought the musher a beer. The local Yukon Quest 'elite athletes' live in pretty spartan surroundings, so it is a fat chance that the collected dogs owned by people who dream of being Quest or Iditarod mushers will receive anything more than minimal care.

Even native (First Nations) mushers in the North are involved in breeding husky-type dogs with other non-traditional dogs (whippets, greyhounds, German short-haired pointers), for racing purposes. Where is the 'tradition' in that?

I am not obsessed by sled dogs, but they are never far from my mind or thoughts.

Thanks for allowing me the opportunity to reach out to your readers.

SLED DOG RACING...IN THE SOUTH



January used to be a slow time of year for the town of Damascus, Virginia. Not any more! Now the town looks forward to the weekend of the Winterfest. It's a weekend of celebration, bonfires, hot chocolate and, of course, sled dogs. The past two years the town has hosted the Southeast's only sled dog race - the Blue Ridge Dryland Challenge, as well as a re-enactment of the 1925 Alaska diphtheria Serum Run.

The Winterfest kicks off on a Saturday with the start of the Serum Run in nearby Abingdon, VA. Crowds gather to watch a team carrying a package of "serum" take off down the Virginia Creeper Trail towards Damascus. There are several relay points along the trail, where the serum is handed off to another team. At each of these points, there are curious bystanders, mushers and sled dog fans. The Serum Run is very visitor-friendly - and so are the dogs! Dozens of huskies and other breeds on the teams enthusiastically greet bystanders. For a region not known for its sled dog sports, this event is a unique experience.

Of course, the teams are pulling carts, rigs and scooters rather than sleds. In fact, snow on the trail has actually posed a problem since it

often causes tires on the dryland rigs to skid. Fortunately, most of the Virginia Creeper Trail has been clear for the runs and races, although flurries set a very wintery mood for the 2008 event.

While waiting for the Serum Run teams to arrive, spectators gather in Damascus Park where there is a bonfire, hot cocoa, lumberjack competitions and even a fun race for dachshunds!

Spectators gather along the road, often pulling over to the side to watch the sled dog teams pass. This is the only such opportunity in the area and everyone takes advantage of it.

The Winterfest is put on by Siberian Husky Assist, a rescue group based in Bristol. Originally a fund-raiser for the rescue, the event has grown tremendously. In 2008, Eagle Pack pet foods sponsored the race - giving every participant a free bag of dog food. Alpine Outfitters also sponsored plaques for race winners.

Dr. Sonny King, an Iditarod musher from Spartanburg, South Carolina and Dr. Al Townshend, an Iditarod veterinarian, were special guests at the 2008 Winterfest and gave a speech at a banquet and silent auction held Saturday night.

On Sunday, the Blue Ridge Dryland Challenge is held. Teams compete in 1-dog and 2-dog



scooter classes or 4-dog and 6-dog rig classes. There is also a junior event.

All of the races end in Damascus Park where a small awards ceremony is held following the finishes.

The Winterfest has been a huge success the past two years and is expected to get bigger.

In 2008, the 1-dog scooter class was won by Brad Bellante. The 2-dog scooter class was won by Mark Brewer. Robin Harrison won the 4-dog event, while Brian Bond won the 6-dog race. Jordan Blewett ran in the junior run.



Photos from the 2008 Blue Ridge races



CASPER MOUNTAIN SLED DOG RACES 2008. Continued from page 5

On day two, the teams once again made their way to Beartrap Meadow for the next heat. Teams went out of the starting chute in the order in which they had finished the previous day.

Placings in the Casper races are determined by the combined times from day one and day two. Whoever has the shortest combined time wins their class.

In the past, Canines For Charity was a trophy-only event. All entry fees go to the ARC. However, starting in 2007, the Continental Kennel Club (CKC) has sponsored a purse for the race. First through third-place mushers in each class receive a monetary prize as well as the traditional prize - a hand-painted dog bowl.

Winners of the 2008 Casper Mountain Sled Dog Races were:

17 miles, 10-dogs: Allan Berge

10 miles, 8 dogs: Cheri Cubbison

10 miles, 6 dogs: Kayla Corcoran

6 miles, 6 dogs: Tory Corcoran

6 miles, 4 dogs: Kylee Price

4 miles, 4 dogs: Jamie Erick

1 mile, 3 dogs: Teri Price

Skijor 3 miles, 1-3 dogs: Amy Cunkelman

Skijor 1 mile, 1-3 dogs: Ella Wolf

Junior 3 miles, 4 dogs: Kaden Price

Junior 1-mile, 3 dogs: Ally Berge

100-yard dash: Kaleigh Clasen

NEWS

Hans Gatt Wins Cantwell Classic

Whitehorse, Yukon, musher, Hans Gatt, won the 2008 Cantwell Classic which runs along part of the Denali Highway. "Handling winds and bone chilling temperatures made for another tough year running this 200 mile mid distance race," Theresa Daily wrote for dogsled.com.

Source:
dogsled.com

Allen Moore wins Copper Basin 300

Defending champion, Allen Moore, won his second consecutive Copper Basin 300 this year. Lance Mackey finished second in the 2008 Copper Basin and Linwood Fiedler was third.

Source:
cb300.com

Cim Smyth wins Klondike 300

Cim Smyth won the 2008 Klondike 300 sled dog race, held near Big Lake, Alaska. Matt Hayashida placed second and Ken Anderson placed third.

Source:
klondike300.org

Mitch Seavey wins Kuskokwim 300

Mitch Seavey won the 2008 Kuskokwim sled dog race in Bethel, Alaska. Ramey Smyth finished second and Ed Iten third. Wet trail conditions and overflow resulted in this year's race being

referred to as the "Kusko-Swim" by mushers and race fans.

Source:
adn.com

Jason Barron, Don Galloway Winners Of Beargrease

Jason Barron of Lincoln, Montana, won the 2008 John Beargrease Sled Dog Marathon, a 400-mile distance race in Minnesota. John Stetson finished second and Matt Carstens third. The mid-distance Beargrease 150 was won by Don Galloway, with Sharon Nelson-Curtice and Robin Beall placing second and third.

Source:
beargrease.com

Melanie Shirilla Wins IPSSSDR

Melanie Shirilla won her third International Pedigree Stage Stop Sled Dog Race (IPSSSDR) this year. Second place went to Wendy Davis and third to Jacques Philipp. The IPSSSDR is a stage race held in Wyoming.

Source:
wyomingstagestop.org

Tom Thurston Wins at Race To The Sky and Seeley Lake

Tom Thurston won two Montana sled dog races in 2008 - the 350 mile Race To The Sky and the Seeley Lake 200. Second and third places in the Race To The Sky went to Aaron Peck and John Barron. Second and third places in the Seeley Lake 200 went to Rick Larson and Jason Barron. The Seeley Lake 300 was won by

Laura Daugereau with Sue Morgan placing second, and the Seeley Lake stage race was won by Melanie Shirilla with John Barron placing second and Frank Teasley third.

Source:
racetothsky.org
seeleylakedograces.com

Ed Stielstra, Don Galloway, Mark Churchill win in UP

The 2008 UP 200 in Michigan was won by Ed Stielstra, with Eric Morris and Ryan Anderson placing second and third. The Midnight Run was won by Don Galloway with JR Anderson and Jerry Papke taking second and third. The Jack Pine 30 was won by Mark Churchill with Randy Foust and Stan Bontrager second and third.

Source:
up200.org

Lance Mackey Wins 2008 Yukon Quest and Iditarod

For the second year in a row, Lance Mackey won the Yukon Quest and Iditarod back to back with a teams comprised of many of the same dogs. Both the Iditarod and Yukon Quest are thousand-mile sled dog races. In the Yukon Quest, Ken Anderson finished second and David Dalton third. In the Iditarod, Jeff King finished second and Ramey Smyth third. Lance Mackey also won the 2008 Tustumena 200.

Sources:
tustumena200.com
adn.com

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THE LAST WOOF



I CAN'T SEE YOU, YOU CAN'T SEE ME!

A sled dog from Noatak Racing Kennels digs in the snow after a training run.

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