



2007 NADAC Championships

★ *Special Issue* -

Editor Special Year-End / Champs Edition: Lynn Saunders



Ready 2 Run Members Gather At 2007 NADAC Championships

Five, four, three, two, one... GO! And everyone was racing into the building to set up their crating area. El Presidente, Lynn Saunders, runs to the center of the room, arms stretched out, trying to get all the R2R members attention to set up our "one square city street block" to get all members crated together. Karin Bell had made some very nifty flags on poles (see below) that were placed on each corner to designate the

Ready 2 Run "block". Then out comes the purple, and more purple, and more purple — yeah... we're into it. And apparently it paid off... as Ready 2 Run received a special award for "The Most Purple in the Crating Area."

Our beautiful Ready 2 Run NADAC Triple Triple Superior "Hall of Fame" plaque made the trip and was displayed at the entrance to our "block". The plaque

... continued on next page





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LEAVING IN THE RV

By Betsie Corwin

To the tune of
"Leaving on a Jet Plane"
Apologies to the late John Denver

VERSE 1

All our purple is packed and
we're ready to go
We're sitting here by the RV
door
I've held the mail and paper for
two weeks

When the dawn is breaking on
Saturday morn
We'll pull out the driveway and
toot our horn
Already thinking about rest
stops along the way

CHORUS

Do those weaves like a real pro
Wait for me to tell you "Go"
Race like there's a squirrel run-
ning up a tree
'cause you're running with the
top of the heap
Yip while you run, and spring
for every leap
Oh, we're just itching to go

VERSE 2

There's so many times I've
blown some runs
So many times you've saved my
buns
I tell you now those Q's don't
mean a thing

Every course we'll run I'll trust
you more
Be happy and joyful, not worry
about the score
When we meet the challenge
we'll cheer with joy

CHORUS

jump from previous page

had lots of lookie-loos, all very impressed with it. Of course, we proudly displayed our banner in the stands of the arena.

Our raffle basket (right) was incredible — complete with a very expensive bottle of wine, Amanda Nelson DVD's, gates to accompany the DVD's, handcrafted jewelry, photo albums, dogs beds, etc, etc, etc. Thanks to everyone who contributed to it... ya done us proud!

At the awards presentations, we loudly cheered at our members' accomplishments, waving Mr. Burns' "EXCELLENT!" signs! Everyone really loved them, and wanted to know where they could buy them (Karin Bell, Ms. Creative, printed and laminated them).

I believe we had the largest contingent of any agility club there — it was impressive!!



Make sure you take a peek at the list of all the R2R members who competed at Champs on the back page of this issue.





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From Lin & Greg Battaglia:

Fallon: 3rd in Jumpers, 7th in Jumpers, Q in TNG, Q in Tunnelers, Q in Tunnelers, 5th in Reg, 8th in Reg., 7th in Reg. 3rd in Team, 1st in Team, 4th in Team, 6th in Team. She and her team "Dances With Woofs" won 3rd Place Overall with their VET Team. She also made the 2007 NADAC Top Ten List in Jumpers. She finished a NATCh at Champs.

Trapper: Q in Tunnelers, 5th in Tunnelers, 8th in Weavers; 3rd in Regular, 4th in Regular, 2nd in Regular, 5th in Regular; 2nd in Team, 1st in Team, 1st in Team, 4th in Team, 5th and 6th in something not marked. He and his teammates (Sweep & Sampson) "Permission To Land" won First place Overall with their VET Team.

Sweep: I was very proud of Sweep in the new Super Stakes Division. 30 dog handler teams had signed up but some dropped out. We didn't know what it would be or how it would be scored but what the heck ...we gave it a try. 4", 8" and 12" dogs were all scored together. Sharon presented each of us with special Super Stakes jackets and we were on our way to distance places! I will say I think it is especially hard for the smaller dogs that with their shorter strides have to really work hard to drift out for the distances of 40-50 feet. Anyway we did well and were proud to be there with dogs of that caliber. We came home with the following: He finished 6th Overall in Super Stakes (SS). 5th in Super Stakes Distance Challenge, 3rd in SS Regular, 2nd in SS Weavers, 7th in SS Weavers, 4th in SS Touch 'N Go, 5th in SS Regular, 1st in SS Tunnelers, 1st in SS Tunnelers, 4th in SS Regular, 5th in SS Jumpers, 3rd in SS Regular, 2nd in SS Touch 'N Go. He and his teammates (Sampson & Trapper) "Permission To Land" won Overall 1st place Vet Team. He also made the 2007 NADAC Top Ten List in Chances and Jumpers. He finished his NADAC Platinum Speed Star at the September Labor Day mdt-AA Trial and finished a Regular NATCh at the same time!



From Marj & Gene Ross:

This was, by far, the most fun either one of us has had at Champs. The hours were grueling at times and Gene and I thought we just might drop in our tracks but watching the younger ones kept us going and energized us!

Gene and Chasie were not entered in all events but had a totally great time. They managed to get a 7th place in one event and a third place in Vet Team along with Lin Battaglia and Jeanne Nixon. They are VERY proud and I am so proud of them.

Chellie continued to show her incredible talent in Super Stakes coming in 1st in the 20+ group, 1st in the Elite group, outdone (in terms of points) by only Sharon Nelson and one other Vet Handler. Only when I returned home did I realize that Chelle had the second highest number of "distance bonus" points in Super Stakes (only second to Sharon Nelson). Super Stakes was an amazing event and the most fun Chellie and I have ever had in agility.

Additionally, at the Champs, Chellie was named to ALL SIX Top Ten categories for 2007. This probably eclipsed the Super Stakes in terms of accomplishments. A real rarity for a pup to do this. This comes on the heels of her MACH and Platinum Speed Star awards this

year. So, indeed, 2007 has been a banner year for her. A little bittersweet as she will now (just turned 7) begin running as a Vet. It is amazing how quickly we have gone from a pup who had no "stays" to becoming a "Vet". But what a ride it has been!!

My own special thanks to my wonderful husband, Gene, without whom I would never have been able to do all of the above. And a special thanks to all of my dear agility friends who never wavered in their support and encouragement and cheering me on. This support has meant more than any awards or ribbons. And, of course, to my loving friend, Chellie, my one and only agility dog and the love of my life....I am so blessed!

A HUGE "thank you" to NADAC for providing such an extraordinary venue and to R2R for their wonderful trials and support.





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The Championship Saga of Minx McGee

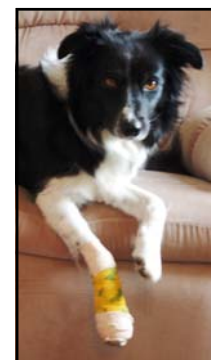
By Barbara Meyer



We started out the New Year in January with just 30 points in Novice Regular and no thoughts of Championships in our heads. As we started to come together more and more as a team and heard all our friends talking about Champs, I started playing around with the idea. Obviously we would qualify for some classes (we were already at the Elite level in Jumpers and Tunnelers) but could we get enough points to qualify for regular in just a few short months? We picked up a few Q's early in the year and then at the Pepper Memorial qualified in all 4 regular runs! We were definitely in a race against the calendar! May saw us pick up 55 points and June a few more. We spent July traveling all over Northern California to Funraisers and earned 75 points! That brought us to 245 points, just 5 points short of the lifetime total needed to qualify but Sharon had said she was going to re-open entries to those of us who were close. A quick email to Sharon and a quick response, we were in!

Our first day at Championships was a rough one as Minx feeds on energy and there was enough energy in that building to feed on for the rest of her life. We had no start line stay, no contacts and little communication. By the second day things were starting to get better and we managed a good Tunnelers run and a great Weavers run. We qualified but no placement. By that point, I really wanted at least one of those pretty placement ribbons to take home to justify this trip to friends and family who don't really understand my agility addiction. The third day we started regular and in the first round we finished in 6th place. At last, a placement ribbon! The fourth day I got a real ego boost when Lori Visintainer stopped to compliment me on how much Minx and I had improved since camp in Idaho last year. I was thrilled that she even remembered us (although Minx is a memorable dog) and even though my R2R friends had given us "Most Improved" award it was still exciting to hear it from someone else. We then went on to an excellent run in round 3, finishing 2nd to Susan Perry and Chevy. My feet never touched the ground for days! (Now I know how Minx feels all the time!) We got another 6th and a 7th place in the remaining rounds of Regular. Our team events were a blast and Minx especially liked that she was not required to sit/stay at the start line. Together with our teammates Lynn Saunders & Liam and Jayme Martinez & Kestra the team of KLM earned one 5th place and two 6th place ribbons.

So we managed to return home with lots of pretty ribbons. I brought them all to work and hung them on my wall and they made quite an impressive showing. This was my second time attending Championships (Pounce went to Calgary in 2003) and the first time for Minx. I consider what we accomplished an amazing success and definitely hope to attend next year. Stay tuned for the continuing saga...



*From
Jeff
Lyons:*

Kachina is chasing down her elusive first NATCH needing only 2

Chances Q's. My goal was to have it done before she turned 4, which is on December 12. We had a minor setback at Championships this year when she tore her dewclaw off while we were playing on the lawn the Monday we arrived. After I rushed her to the vet that was listed in the Exhibitor's Guide she was pronounced fit to trial on Wednesday. We captured a few Q's and finished in the ribbons three times, but Kachina was more careful than usual and never turned on the speed you really need to be in contention at Champs. All-in-all I was very proud of her performance finishing 9th overall in the Elite 20" class.





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From Sara McKinley:

Max, Wizz and I traveled to Champs with mascots Morgan and Billy along for the ride. We spent the weekend before Champs in West Yellowstone, and had a fun mini-vacation mountain biking, hiking, wildlife viewing, and enjoying the beauty of the area. I would highly recommend this side trip for anyone who has not been to the area! The dogs especially enjoyed viewing buffalo from the RV...even Billy's barking could not scare away the large beasts!

This was our 5th Championships, and while it is always fun, this time was especially so. I always look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new people from other parts of the country, all who share an interest in NADAC agility.

This year, Max and I participated in the Super Stakes (extreme distance) division, which gave me an opportunity to meet people I never would have met in a typical class. Because it was a smaller group we did walk-throughs together, and most everyone was helpful in sharing tips and strategies. I'm very proud of Max, and although he didn't win any big awards he really tried his hardest (well, except for a few runs!) and did some distance that even amazed me. He had a little cheering section of his small dog friends from past years, and I think it helped him perform. We did end up with four 1st places and four 2nd places, even though he was competing with larger dogs.

Max also was named in the Top Ten Skilled dogs in Touch 'n Go, Chances and Weavers. He also was the high scoring Jack Russell Terrier at Champions AND was featured in the local newspaper (*see next page*), and it was fun to see him in print. His little ego was pretty big after all those accomplishments!!

Wizz also did well in 20" Vets. We were second overall, but so very happy to see Sampson win first place – what a wonderful accomplishment for he and Cherie!

And while we were at Champs, I "interviewed" some potential new dogs to add to our pack. I am pleased to announce that "Sinner" has come to live with us and she seems to be enjoying life in Granite Bay. She is a 2 1/2 year old petite border collie, and has a wonderful personality.





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**Gillette's
choice for news**

ONLINE

The News-Record

September 20, 2007

Does Size Matter?



Meet two of the dogs competing in North American Dog Agility Championships

FROM THE SMALLEST...

- **Name:** Max
- **Age:** 7
- **Height:** 10 inches
- **Weight:** 18 pounds
- **Unique characteristic:** 2-1/2 inch ground clearance
- **Breed:** Short-legged Jack Russell Terrier
- **Handler:** Sara McKinley
- **Home:** Granite Bay, Calif.
- **Number of years competing (dog):** 5
- **Number of years competing (handler):** 6
- **Competition:** 4-inch jump height division
- **Training:** Running around in backyard
- **Diet:** Herring and sweet potato dog food twice a day
- **Competitive edge:** Attitude
- **Favorite Pastimes:** Hunting rats, rabbits and any other animal that crosses his path
- **Favorite Wyoming attraction:** Buffalo herd at Yellowstone National Park

... TO THE LARGEST

- **Name:** Keen
- **Age:** 9
- **Weight:** 78 pounds
- **Unique characteristic:** Gets a height exemption for the competition because of his age
- **Breed:** German Shepherd mix
- **Home:** Portland, Ore.
- **Handler:** Cyndi Gross
- **Number of years competition (dog and handler):** 4
- **Competition:** 20+ jump height division
- **Training:** One to two hours of agility training a week
- **Diet:** Raw chicken neck or thigh, and vitamin supplements
- **Competitive edge:** Honesty
- **Favorite pastimes:** Playing catch
- **Favorite Wyoming attraction:** Prairie dog town at Devils Tower National Monument

Continued on next page



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ONLINE

The News-Record

September 20, 2007

Does size matter? When it comes to dog agility, not really

By J.D. STETSON
News-Record Writer

Sometimes being the “Big Dog” isn’t all it’s cracked up to be.

Keen, a mixed-breed German Shepherd, sat in his kennel Wednesday morning patiently waiting for his owner to return.

As Cyndi Gross approached, Keen came to attention — jumping up and standing his black-tipped yellow ears at attention. Then he let out a sign — a sound filled with pining that only a dog can convey.

Gross waved her hand sternly in his direction and the 78-pound dog put on his sad puppy face and lowered his ears.

“He’s very honest,” Gross said. “he doesn’t like to make me mad.”

It takes all sizes

In its second year at Cam-plex, the North American Dog Agility Championships are one of the few places where dogs of all sizes from all walks of life can compete for top honors and have a little fun with their owners.

More than 300 teams, including six from Wyoming, spent the year earning points to quality for competition.

Sharon Nelson, president of the North American Dog Agility Council based in Colbert, Okla., said the sport is designed to include everyone.

Dog handlers range in age from 11 to 81, and many of them run more than one dog, said staff member Emily Glatzel.

Ranchers, doctors, lawyers and average pet owners all enjoy working with their pets in this style of dog competition, Nelson said. But most people are simply trying to teach their dog obedience.

“There’s no end to the diversity among competitors,” Nelson said.

The big dog

Keen has spent the last few days traveling from Portland, Ore., to Gillette for five days of competition.

He’s spent the last year traveling all over Oregon and Washington earning points to compete in the sport.

Keen has worked hard to get to the championships. And, although Gross said he’s already a winner in her eyes, she worries about the disadvantage his size will have on racing through the tunnels — he has to crouch in order to make his way through.

“I want him to win, but realistically I know that the medium-size dogs have a huge advantage,” Gross said.

The wee one

For Max, a short-legged Jack Russell Terrier, it’s also time to make new friends. He doesn’t care if dogs are large or small, a simple sniff of the bum tells him all he needs to know.

He’ll also spend the week doing what he does best — run through hoops, jump over obstacles and play with his owner.

The white dog with brown spots from Granite Bay, Calif., doesn’t require much direction from owner Sara

McKinley. He uses bursts of energy and cunning to navigate his way through a course designed to test his agility, training and speed.

The tunnels are his favorite part of the course. McKinley suspects that comes from her dog’s pedigree — bred to hunt small animals that burrow underground. He enjoys looking through holes and hunting rats and rodents during his outdoor time.

“He’s definitely bred to hunt,” McKinley said.

Working the dogs

Large or small, each dog has its strengths and weaknesses. It’s all about weaving through polls, making the jumps and barreling through the tunnels.

Each team needs 350 points earned at various dog trials around the country to compete. Dogs must be trained in the course instructions.

The competition isn’t limited by the dog’s size or breed, but they are divided into elite and pre-elite divisions. Each division depends on the height of the jumps, which range from 4 inches to 20 inches.

The level of competition is more against the course and the track than other competitors, she said. And many of the handlers enjoy rooting for each other.

Keen, Max and the other canine athletes may not understand that they are competing in a high-energy, high-speed competition, but dogs of all sizes understand happy owners.



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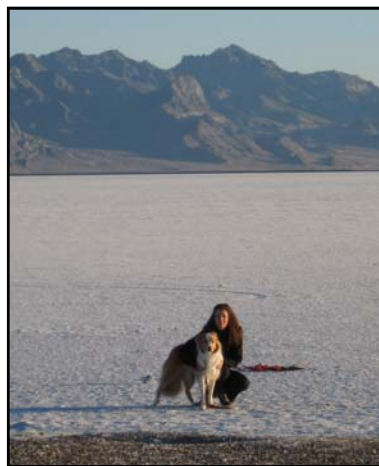


From Karin Bell:



Bell's Beauties At Champs

We felt honored to be able to attend this year and compete in all classes because the previous year we did not qualify to compete in Regular. Our division is tough because it has the largest entry with numbers like 65 in Tunnelers. Logan ran his little heart out and managed to finish 9th and 11th in Tunnelers. I was so proud. But, to go one step further, Logan even finished 3rd in one round of Regular, his nemesis. And in



one of Logan's favorite classes, Weavers, he finished 6th. He was smokin'.

Beyond my experience with Logan, I also had a Vendor Booth at Champs, Bell's Beauties, selling my handcrafted jewelry. This gave me the privilege of seeing the event from an-

other aspect. I got to meet many exhibitors who traveled across the nation to compete at Champs. Since *purple* is such a theme among the NADAC crowd, I came up with a variety of *purple* paw print items that were so popular I was busy creating all week. I just loved meeting these people and coming up with the "right" item just for them.

I can't wait for next year. Logan is nearly qualified and I have hopes to compete with Griffin as well. I will stock up on *purple* again to be ready.....

TOP 10 THINGS I LEARNED AT NADAC CHAMPIONSHIPS

By Cherie Singer



10. Buy your raffle tickets early. You will get a better deal and you will need all that time to fill them out!
9. Sleep is over-rated. You can catch up when you get home.
8. Course walk throughs are unnecessary. You will probably get to see the course run and all the handling options available at least 50 times before you get to step out there.
7. Nothing at Championships ever happens in a hurry.
6. Even if you don't eat or sleep on a schedule, make sure your dogs do.
5. In Gillette, shopping means Wal-Mart.
4. Always have a poop bag handy. They are multi-functional.
3. I will always enjoy hearing my name called to come get a ribbon.
2. If you have traveled with friends, you will learn the good, the bad and the ugly about them during the week. Great friends will still like you after the trip.
1. Have fun with your dog. You never know what the next day will bring so keep building happy memories.





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From Lynn Saunders:

Chloe and I have been on a real high the past few months. First there was the unique experience of earning our first NATCh at Championships. It really turned out better than I thought – the anticipation of wanting to have a clean run at Champs, made me completely forget until after each run, how close I was to my NATCh. It was only on the last run, that I couldn't put it out of my mind as I stepped to the start line. It was a double shot – Chloe pops out of the weave poles... eek! She NEVER does that... then she does it again! We move on. We huff and puff onto the second course with every intention that we WILL Q on this one and get that darn NATCh – and we did! It was killing me the day before to not tell my friends how close I was – I didn't need any more pressure. I came off the course, asked Jeff if it was clean, he said yes, and I stated that was our NATCh – everyone was taken a bit by surprise (after all, it's hard enough to keep track of our own progress, let alone remember everyone else!).

I was very happy with our performance at Champs – getting 10 out of 13 Q's; and placing in 4 out of 5 Regular runs. Chloe is "careful" not "careless", so I'm not sure she will ever out run the top dogs at Champs, but we did our best when it counted and I can't ask for anything more!

We came home to celebrate in front of the home crowd, and take our victory lap! Thank you – that meant a lot to me!! Then the icing on the cake was, with the narrowest of margins, taking home the Sierra Cup for the Elite Division. It was Chloe and Kachina to the very, very bitter end – how exciting that made the competition for us. And my 84-year-old Mother was there to see it too... very special.

We are now back to reality and pecking away at our Touch 'n Go's to get our Versatility NATCh – but those are few and far between (both the opportunities and the Q's), so we aren't expecting that any time soon.

And my little bundle of energy, Liam, actually brought home 3 ribbons from Champs by placing with his Pre-Elite Team, KLM (Kestra-Liam-Minx; with Jayme Martinez and Barbara Meyer). It was a hoot! And he was quite respectable!! I thought sure he was going to embarrass me with his antics, but he did his job, foaming at the mouth with excitement all the way! It was so much fun to be able to play with him at Champs!





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NADAC Championships - What I Learned...

By Betsie Corwin

It's Tuesday morning and while I sip on my cappuccino and look out at the view of the Tetons from our RV in West Yellowstone, I have time to reflect on our NADAC Champs experience and what I've learned.

1. It's well worth the three day drive from California, not to mention the expense, to participate in this challenging and incredible event.

2. It's way more than running the courses and collecting ribbons. It's watching awesome teams run their hearts out, meeting so many friendly people, matching faces to names from the NADAC E-List, and being motivated by the supportive atmosphere.

3. Wearing lots of purple and competing for the Purple Award lets you meet lots of new friends. (Special congratulations to Purplosity Girl and new friend Karen Merriman. You deserved it for your energy and over-the-top glittery creativity).

4. Sharon (aka Mother NADAC) with her staff and volunteers deserve my utmost thanks and appreciation for pulling this all together and letting all of us have such a great time.

5. Your dogs will rise to the occasion and still give you their best even when it's way past their bedtime. I should not underestimate them.

6. My little non-herding mini-schnauzers who have never run an Elite course in their life, exceeded my expectations. I promise to have more faith in their ability, and be a better handler in the future.

7. Bring plenty of cash and make sure your credit card is paid up. There is plenty of shopping for cool stuff.

8. Professional agility trainers and NADAC judges make goofy mistakes too.

9. You can be a senior citizen and/or senior dog and still ROCK!

10. Sharon is more than generous with the placement ribbons so we can take them home, hang them on our wall, and impress friends and families who think we are completely obsessed this agility stuff and

out of our minds.

11. It is gratifying to see your friends make the finals and see some of them win those humongous trophies.

12. Seventy years of age is NOT too old to do a cartwheel after crossing the finish line, although I don't think you get bonus points for it.

13. Next year make room in our little RV for a reclining chair to set up in our crating area so I can stretch out for a nap in the afternoon.

14. Next year remember to pay attention to the rules so I don't start my part of the team relay before the other team finishes.

15. Live music for the national anthems, plus singing those fun songs, beats canned music any day of the week.

16. I will not be able to justify the dollars vs. the great fun we had to my non-agility friends. It is best to remain silent on the issue and keep receipts out of sight.

17. Ready 2 Run Agility Club is the coolest bunch of people. If there was a special award for most club members at Champs we would have won. I'm delighted to be a member.

18. I can never have too much purple apparel or accessories.

19. I can always find more purple stuff after Champs than before.

20. NADAC Champs is an experience worth repeating. Time to start collecting points for next year.



See you in 2008!



**2008 NADAC CHAMPIONSHIPS - Gillette, Wyoming
September 17-21, 2008**



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THE TOBYANSEN'S GILLETTE ESCAPADES

Ziggie and Willie whined, "Where are we going?"
 Mom patiently said, "We're on our way to Wyoming!"
 Eleven hundred miles latter, they arrived in Gillette;
 Ziggie had hurt her paw, and Willie was sick!
 They were nursed back to health, during the next two days.
 So by Wednesday morning, they were ready to play!
 And what to their wondering eyes did they see?
 The first dog on the line was none other than Willie!
 When the leash came off, he was Ready 2 Run,
 He zoomed through the course, leaving Mom in the sun!
 The competition was tough, but they raced and they raced,
 But by the end of the first day they wondered if they'd ever place!
 And lo and behold, sweet Ziggie broke the "no placement affliction,"
 By zooming though Touch N' Go, and getting a pretty ribbon!
 The next few days their clean runs got faster and better,
 They each placed in every run that we all know as Regular!
 Eleven ribbons they earned from second to eighth place; very pretty!
 Mom certainly was proud of hardworking Willie and Ziggie!
 The games were a blast; the long days were much fun,
 When champs comes around next year, we'll be very Ready 2 Run!



Ziggie



Willie



Some of Our Ribbons
Champs 2007





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Cherie & Sampson... An Incredible Journey

Everybody's journey to Championships is different. Obviously, this year's event was bittersweet for me but it was the culmination of a journey that started at last year's Championships. Sampson had turned 7 in June of '06 but we didn't have time to accumulate points in Veterans so we ran in our regular 20 inch jump height. We had some beautiful runs and came home with ribbons but there was no way we could really win it all. But I thought to myself "Next year will be our year." We would be able to compete in the Veterans division and I knew we could kick some serious butt.

I had been emotional about moving Sampson to Veterans. I guess it is a realization that he is getting older, possibly a little slower. I just wasn't quite ready to accept all that. But we had been struggling with some soft tissue injuries for over a year and I knew deep down in my heart that we would get to play the game a little longer if Sampson was jumping 16



inches. So we accumulated our points in Veterans, stayed injury free and I knew that I was bringing my dog to Championships in his prime.

I never get nervous running at a regular trial but I always get nervous at Championships and the first run is always the worst. I was already an emotional wreck having heard of

Sampson's cancer diagnosis the day we arrived in Gillette. I had been outside crying my eyes out just minutes before our first run trying to get Sampson to pee while I am blubbering like a fool. I think my dog thought I had gone nuts. But, we made it out onto the course and had a clean, fast run. I knew that with that under our belts, we were off and running for the week and we actually did very well in all the "games" classes.

So when Regular agility started on Friday, I had stopped crying every time I put Sampson's leash on (even though his lymph nodes were enlarging every day) and just wanted to have fun. Every time we ran, we placed in our class....never 1st or 2nd but still a placement. And we did use our mulligan when we missed a dog walk contact and thank goodness it was a clean run and not a disaster.

Now, I have been known to keep track of scores and had started a spreadsheet to see if we would make the finals. After the last regular run before finals on Sunday, I was on cloud nine because we had a clean run and some of the dogs that

had been ahead of us had too many mistakes. So, I put the scores into the spreadsheet and knew that Oakley (Pam Smith's Aussie), Sampson and Wizz would be in the finals. But Oakley was over 8 points ahead of us and Wizz and Sampson were about 2 points apart.

Oakley had been perfection all week...Pam hadn't even used her mulligan. And then I saw the course for the final...a simple, fast, flowing course. It would be all about speed and I knew that we didn't have a chance of winning...we couldn't beat Oakley by over 8 seconds and there were not many opportunities for mistakes on the course. I was heartbroken that we wouldn't win so now my goal was to be a solid 2nd place finisher and I was OK with that. Oakley was scheduled to run first, then Sampson and finally Wizz.

I had decided to not even watch Oakley run even though we were right there but I looked up just once to see a missed contact and knew that a window of opportunity had opened up and now was our chance. I will always remember running that course with Sampson. I haven't actually watched the video of it. I prefer to keep my memory of it. It wasn't flawless... Sampson was barking at me....just like any other weekend trial..and it was a clean run.

Only one dog left and Wizz had a blazing fast run. Sara was stunned when she came off the course. It was beautiful. So, I knew we were about 2 points apart and Wizz finished about 2 seconds faster than us. I congratulated Sara on an outstanding run and was positive that Wizz had won. And I was so happy to have placed 2nd. I couldn't wait to have that big red 2nd place ribbon.

Imagine my surprise (and Sara's too, I'm sure) when they told us that the Sampson had won by 0.21 points!!! (I hadn't really paid attention to the decimal points). There was not a dry eye in the house when Sharon presented us with the trophy and I kept thinking someone made a mistake. I actually didn't really believe it until I saw the scores for myself when we got home. I even did the math again. It was like a dream come true for me and for my wonderful, beautiful Sampson. I know that our journey together to Championships will probably end with this trip and I am so happy that we had this last chance to play hard and have fun.





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READY 2 RUN BRINGS HOME "THE BLING"

SUPER STAKES FINALS

Small Dogs (7 dogs)

4. Max, Sara McKinley
6. Sweep, Lin Battaglia

Medium Dogs (3 dogs)

1. Rocky, Gro Aasgaard
2. Jewel, Chris Nelson

Large Dogs (4 dogs)

1. Chelle, Marj Ross

PRE-ELITE REGULAR FINALS

8" Class (6 dogs)

4. Levi, Rossean Hunter

20" Class (12 dogs)

1. Jazz, Edward Drenton
5. Minx, Barbara Meyer
9. Molly, Lorraine Drenton

SKILLED REGULAR FINALS

4-8" Class (6 dogs)

1. Bebop, Gro Aasgaard
5. Annie, Chris Nelson

16+ Class (7 dogs)

4. Try, Amanda Nelson

VETERAN REGULAR FINALS

8" Class (8 dogs)

4. Ziggy, Marie Tobyansen
7. Willie, Marie Tobyansen

12" Class (9 dogs)

1. Brandy, Jeanne Nixon
8. Sophie, Betsie Corwin

16" Class (6 dogs)

4. Trapper, Greg Battaglia
6. Snickers, Betsie Corwin

20" Class (12 dogs)

1. Sampson, Cherie Singer
2. Wizz, Sara McKinley
7. Fallon, Lin Battaglia

20+ Class (21 dogs)

8. Chasie, Gene Ross

ELITE REGULAR FINALS

8" Class (6 dogs)

3. Jake, Patty Diehl

12" Class (7 dogs)

7. Rally, Phyllis Sanders

16" Class (14 dogs)

8. Chloe, Lynn Saunders
12. Joker, Cherie Singer
13. Ripley, Cherie Singer

20" Class (10 dogs)

9. Kachina, Jeff Lyons

20+ Class (30 dogs)

23. Logan, Karin Bell

This is only a partial list of all of Ready 2 Run's accomplishments!

Congratulations to everyone!

There are many ways to be a winner at Champs... while some don't bring us a pretty ribbon or "bling", a nice run, a good contact, a weave pole entrance, or a graceful, beautiful jumper run... we know in our hearts that we are all winners!



Ready 2 Run Members Who Competed at 2007 NADAC Championships

Dog's Name	Breed	Handler	Hometown
Annie	Corgi	Chris Nelson	Cataldo, Idaho
Bebop	Jack Russell Terrier	Gro Aasgaard	Calgary, Alberta Canada
Brandy Mae	Jack Russell Terrier	Jeanne Nixon	Modesto, California
Chasie	Border Collie	Gene Ross	Martinez, California
Chellie	Border Collie	Marj Ross	Martinez, California
Chloe	Sheltie	Lynn Saunders	Truckee, California
Fallon	Border Collie	Lin Battaglia	Sparks, Nevada
Jake	Corgi	Patty Diehl	Rancho Cordova, California
Jazz	Australian Shepherd	Ed Drenton	Sun Valley, California
Jewel	Border Collie	Chris Nelson	Cataldo, Idaho
Joker	Sheltie	Cherie Singer	Sparks, Nevada
Kachina	Border Collie	Jeff Lyons	Santa Rosa, California
Katie	Corgi	Maudeen Martin	Modesto, California
Liam	Sheltie	Lynn Saunders	Truckee, California
Logan	English Shepherd	Karin Bell	Truckee, California
Max	Jack Russell Terrier	Sara McKinley	Granite Bay, California
Minx	Border Collie	Barbara Meyer	Nevada City, California
Molly	Australian Shepherd	Lorraine Drenton	Sun Valley, California
Rally	Sheltie	Phyllis Sanders	Livingston, Texas
Ripley	Sheltie	Cherie Singer	Sparks, Nevada
Rocky	Border Collie	Gro Aasgaard	Calgary, Alberta Canada
Sampson	Sheltie	Cherie Singer	Sparks, Nevada
Snickers	Miniature Schnauzer	Betsy Corwin	Oakdale, California
Sophie	Miniature Schnauzer	Betsy Corwin	Oakdale, California
Sweep	Sheltie	Lin Battaglia	Sparks, Nevada
Trapper	Sheltie	Greg Battaglia	Sparks, Nevada
Try	Border Collie	Amanda Nelson	Cataldo, Idaho
Willie	Corgi	Marie Tobyansen	Sparks, Nevada
Wizz	McNab	Sara McKinley	Granite Bay, California
Ziggie	Corgi	Marie Tobyansen	Sparks, Nevada