



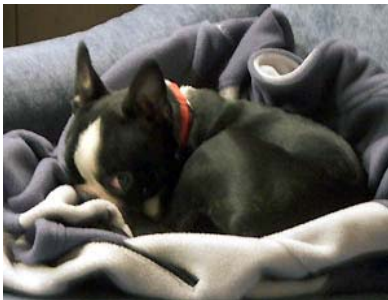
Zuma's
Paw Prints

A NEW FRIEND & COUNTDOWN TO THE START

March 4, 2006

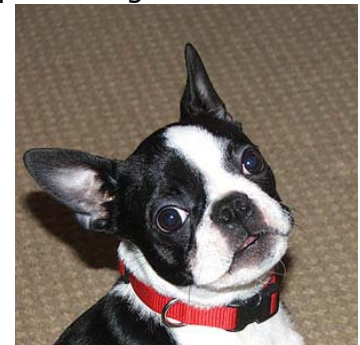
Hi Boys and Girls,

As we count down to the start in a few hours, I want to tell you about my new little friend.



Joanne Potts is the Race Director for the Iditarod. Her mother raised Boston Terriers when she was a girl and she had wanted one of those little dogs all of her adult life. So, for Christmas, her husband, Art, and daughter, Valerie, who lives in Washington State, formed a secret plan to give Joanne her puppy for Christmas. Valerie brought the puppy from Washington with her on an airliner and gave it to her mother right there at the airport. What a surprise that was for Joanne!

After the Christmas holiday, Joanne brought the little girl, now named Holly, to the office with her each day and I have taken her under my paw to help her learn the ways of Alaskans.



She doesn't quite understand about sled dog racing yet, but she trusts me to teach her all she needs to know so that she can grow up to be a true fan of the Iditarod Race.



She is a cute little thing and she has wormed her way into my heart. How could I resist when she cocks her head to the side and looks at me like I am the smartest dog in the whole world.

I have been teaching her the "down" command and she is getting really good at it. She has learned to stay there until I tell her it is okay to get up. Joanne is really proud of her.



I am also teaching her to "sit" and these things when your human asks learning fast. I am really proud of girl with you before we get started just love her as much as I do.



"stay". It is very important to do you to. Holly is very smart and is her. I wanted to share this cute little following the race. I know you will

Now, lets get back to the race. The mushers picked their starting positions last night and I want to give you the bib numbers so that you can be ready to follow your musher during the race. It is really getting close now. Only ten hours to go until the start.

Bib #	First Name	Last Name	Bib #	First Name	Last Name	Bib #	First Name	Last Name
2	Lori	Townsend	30	Jeff	King	58	Martin	Buser
3	Bryan	Bearss	31	DeeDee	Jonrowe	59	Lachlan	Clarke
4	Jim	Lanier	32	Matt	Hayashida	60	Sue	Morgan
5	Doug	Swingley	33	Peter	Bartlett	61	Sonny	Lindner
6	Jessie	Royer	34	Sebastian	Schnuelle	62	Dave	Sawatzky
7	Ken	Anderson	35	Bjornar	Anderson	63	Ben	Valks
8	Ramey	Smyth	36	Rick	Swenson	64	William	Hanes
9	John	Barron	37	Cindy	Gallea	65	Louis	Nelson
10	Aaron	Burmeister	38	Lynda	Plettner	66	Katie	Davis
11	Bill	Pinkham	39	Terry	Adkins	67	Dean	Rosiar II
12	Mitch	Seavey	40	Warren	Palfrey	68	Trent	Herbst
13	Kim	Kittredge	41	Tim	Osmar	69	Hans	Gatt
14	Ed	Iten	42	Rachael	Scdoris	70	Sandy	McKee
15	Gary	Paulsen	43	Rich	Hum	71	Danny	Seavey
16	Ramie	Brooks	44	Tom	Knolmayer	72	Cim	Smyth
17	Jessica	Hendricks	45	Ryan	Redington	73	Greg	Hickman
18	Gerald	Sousa	46	Tore	Albrightson	74	Jim	Warren
19	Bryan	Mills	47	Rick	Larson	75	Jacques	Philip
20	Judy	Currier	48	Tove	Sorenson	76	Karen	Ramstead
21	Eric	Rogers	49	Randy	Cummins	77	Harry	Harisberger
22	Robert	Bundtzen	50	Katrina	Pawlaczyk	78	Chad	Schouweiler
23	Melanie	Gould	51	Fabrizio	Lovati	79	Jamie	Nelson
24	Lance	Mackey	52	Tollef	Monson	80	Glenn	Lockwood
25	Clint	Warnke	53	Rick	Costillo	81	Ed	Steilstra
26	Aliy	Zirkle	54	Paul	Ellering	82	Mike	Jayne
27	Dave	Tresino	55	Ron	Cortte	83	Steve	Madsen
28	Noah	Burmeister	56	John	Baker	84	Paul	Gebhardt
29	Jason	Barron	57	Hugh	Neff			

Good luck with your mushers and I hope that you will remember that any team that finishes this race is a champion team. The Iditarod is the ultimate challenge to humans and their K-9 partners.

Insiders: Don't miss the two part video interview with Doug Swingley AND, the start of Iditarod 2006 on streaming video at 10 a.m. AST. This is 2 p.m. for the East Coast, 1 p.m. central time, 12 noon mountain time and 11 a.m. pacific time. Hawaii folks can tune in just before 9 a.m.

Until next time,



Lots of Tail Wags,
Zuma

Don't forget to visit the rest of the Iditarod website at www.iditarod.com where you will be able to find the latest updates plus terrific stories by my good friend, June Price, as the teams travel the trail to Nome.