



Zuma's
Paw Prints

CAN ANYONE CATCH JEFF KING?

March 14, 2006

Hi Girls and Boys,

As of 6:34 a.m. this morning, Jeff King has been taking his White Mountain mandatory 8-hour layover. It doesn't look like any teams behind him can catch him. Once he leaves White Mountain he will be traveling light and fast. At White Mountain, he will get rid of everything that is not absolutely necessary and lighten the load. He will be doing a lot of pushing of the sled and a lot of running himself to help the team move along at a good pace. We will have a winner this evening, although the weather may decide on the time. If the winds are blowing and making it very cold, then the teams will travel slower, but if it is clear and cold, the teams will travel at a quicker pace.

I will be reporting to you throughout the afternoon and evening to keep you up to date on the latest developments in the Iditarod Race.

I have some more folks to thank for sending out for that wonderful pizza that we keep receiving. I think I have put on a pound or so but it was worth it. My human will not let me have pizza except at race time. I eat as much as I can hold at that time of year so the taste will stay with me for the rest of the year. The other day, we had a mystery pizza delivered. It had no name, no address and not even the city or state! We were really puzzled but now I can thank those folks because they have contacted us and let us know who they are. On March 9, the mystery pizza was delivered and it turns out to be, none other than Ms. Shuster's 5th grade class along with Ms. Ross' 3rd & 5th grades who sent the pizza. Thank you very much! I remember that pizza very well because it was the biggest pizza I had ever seen. One slice could make a whole meal for a smaller dog.

On Saturday, we received pizza from Ms. Lyttle's, 4th grade class Hillside Intermediate School in Bridgewater, New Jersey, Ms. Snyder's 3rd grade at Chillicothe Elementary, Chillicothe, Illinois; Ms. Maholand, 5th graders from Lincoln School in Lincoln, Illinois; Ms. Rupais, also a 5th grade class at North Palm Beach Elementary, North Palm Beach, Florida. Monday had pizza arriving at just the right time for lunch and supper. On Monday we got some really we got pizza from Ms McOsher's fourth graders from Baily School in Lowell, Massachusettes and from Mrs. Gillen's 4th graders at the Randolph Elementary School in Randolph, New York.



Melanie Gould & Team climbs



Jacque Philip leaving a checkpoint



Rick Swenson arrives at a checkpoint.

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 about the race. Most of these pictures are from the Ruby checkpoint today.