



Zuma's  
Paw Prints

**THE DAY BEFORE!**

June 24, 2006

Oh boy, oh boy,



Lance Mackey & GB Jones are first campers for Iditarod XXXV

Boys and girls, there are mushers everywhere here at headquarters today. As I paw this report, there are fourteen mushers signed in and camping here. Sign up for the 2007 Iditarod Race begins at 2 P.M. tomorrow, so I think we will see a lot more mushers arriving all through today and tonight. It is so exciting to see all my musher friends. They sure do look different in the summer time when they are not all dressed out in their winter outdoor gear. I am surprised at how much smaller some of these guys and gals

are when they are not in their gear.

Jessie Royer plays with pup →



You might think that it is boring to camp out here at HQ, but at this time of the year, there are

lots of tourists. Most of the mushers only get together at this time of the year and at races so they like to talk dogs with the other mushers whenever they can. Sometimes, mushers who are not going to run in the race stop by just to sit around and chat. Tails ☺ from the trail are always great and I try to sneak out and lie quietly close enough to hear some of the stories. This is really one of the best times of the summer for me.



← Perry Solmonson gives Jason a "thumbs up" for sign-up

Jason Barron took with my camera while I was busy showing some tourists around and took the pictures used in this report. Everyone is having a great time and there are smiles everywhere I look.



Cim Smyth, Rachael Scdoris (who has not signed in and has said she doesn't plan to run the race in 2007), Jessie Royer and an unidentified gentleman gather in Raymie Redington's Iditarod dog lot. Raymie is here giving rides at Iditarod HQ again this summer.

Perry Solmonson is very proud of his Red Lantern finish. As he sees it, he finished the race and that is what counts.



Until next time,



Lots of Tail Wags,  
Zuma