



News Release

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SADIE A SCOTTISH TERRIER FROM MACKINAC ISLAND, MICH. WINS BEST IN SHOW AT NINTH ANNUAL AKC/EUKANUBA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

New Champions Emerge from Field of Nearly 4,000 Canine Competitors

Long Beach, Calif. (Dec. 14, 2009) – Earning a \$50,000 cash prize and the title of Best in Show at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship was CH ROUNDTOWN MERCEDES OF MARYSCOT a Scottish Terrier known as “Sadie” owned by Amelia Musser of Mackinac Island, Mich. Sadie was named the nation’s top dog by Best in Show judge Dr. Robert J. Moore after a weekend of intense canine competition in Long Beach, Calif.

The AKC/Eukanuba National Championship – recognized as one of the most prestigious dog shows in the world – joined a range of canine sporting events all under one roof, including the AKC Agility Invitational and the AKC National Obedience Invitational. These highly anticipated events featured nearly 5,000 dogs vying for the title of “top dog” and more than \$225,000. This year, in celebration of AKC’s 125th anniversary, the show adopted an open format, allowing all exhibitors to enter and compete for championship points. In addition, 133 breed clubs also hosted specialties and supported entries in honor of this milestone.

“We are proud to have Sadie and her owners join the elite family of Best in Show AKC/Eukanuba National Championship winners,” said Ron Menaker, AKC Chairman. “The competition was especially intense this year, a fitting culmination to our organization’s 125th anniversary celebration. I am also pleased to honor our new Eukanuba World Challenge Champion and our Best Bred-By Exhibitor in Show winner along with all of our participants and winners in conformation, agility and obedience. We thank them for their support of this show and AKC, and their enthusiasm for the sport of dogs.”

The AKC/Eukanuba National Championship will be simulcast on Animal Planet and the Discovery Channel on Saturday, Feb. 6, 2010 at 8 p.m. (EST).

“We’re pleased to award Sadie with The Eukanuba Celebration of Champions trophy, which features a likeness of all AKC/Eukanuba National Champions, plus a check for \$50,000 and a year’s supply of Eukanuba dog food,” said Dan Rajczak, Senior Vice President, Global P&G Pet Care and Snacks. “The 2009 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship was the most hotly contested national championship yet, and we thank the nearly 5,000 competitors for a spectacular weekend.”

Best in Show Finalists and Group Winners

After winning Best of Breed competitions during the day, the following top dogs went on to win in their respective groups and compete for Best in Show:

Sporting: CH SHADAGEE CAUGHT RED HANDED, an Irish Setter known as “Emily” owned by Debra Burke, Tim Burke & Ellen Bieler of Montague, Mass.

Hound: CH GRANDCRU CLOS ERASMUS, a Greyhound known as “Era” owned by Rindi Gaudet & Melanie Steele of Waxhaw, N.C.

Working: CH DUBA-DAE'S WHO'S YOUR DADDY a Boxer known as “Bosco” owned by Charles Vose, Wendy Bettis & Lynn Jansson of Riverside, Calif.

Toy: CH SMASH JP MOON WALK a Toy Poodle known as “Walker” owned by Ron Scott & Debbie Burke of Dillsberg, Penn.

Non-Sporting: CH DAWIN SPITFIRE a Standard Poodle known as “Jetta” owned by Linda Campbell of Toronto, Ontario CA

Herding: CH SYLVAN ARGENT SIMPLY IRRESISTIBLE a Rough Collie known as “Sax” owned by Dr. Cindi Bossart, Connie DuBois, Nancy Comparato, D. Greene, Leah Warner & Stacy Smith of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Miscellaneous: TENANGO a Xoloitzcuintli owned by B Gimenez-Valdez & Fernandez Posada from Mexico.

Other top-dogs awarded during the two-day event included the following:

Eukanuba World Challenge

This [international event](#) featured top dogs from 40 countries and six continents. Italy’s CH AXEL DEL MONTE ALAGO, a Bracco Italiano known as “Axel” owned by Bitte Ahrens & Salvo Tripoli was awarded a hefty purse of \$10,000 along with the title of “World Challenge Champion.”

Junior Showmanship

In the Junior Showmanship competition, for handlers from between 9 to 18 years of age, Demery Paladichuk and her English Springer Spaniel “Gleason” was awarded the coveted title of Best Junior Handler, along with a \$2,000 scholarship.

Best Bred-By-Exhibitor in Show

CH RUSH HILL'S RIVER ROAD PAYOFF, a Golden Retriever known as “Vegas” was awarded Best Bred-By-Exhibitor in Show, edging out more than 1,300 dogs representing 32 percent of the total competitors entered in the “Bred-By Exhibitor” competition. Vegas’s owners Mark Struble, Tanya Struble & Kelsey Dunn of Lake Stevens, Wash. were awarded a \$15,000 cash prize.

Agility and Obedience Competitions

The 2009 AKC National Obedience Invitational and the AKC Agility Invitational were held in conjunction with the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship. The two events demonstrated the highest level of training and teamwork between dog and handler and were the culmination of thousands of trials held throughout the year.

For the second year in a row, the **AKC National Obedience Invitational Champion** is NOC OTCH Count Tyler Show Me the Money UDX4 OM1 a Labrador Retriever commonly known as “Tyler,” owned by Petra Ford of Washington, N.J.

Five agility dogs and their owners – one dog/handler team in each of the five height categories – were crowned at the **AKC Agility Invitational**, which brought together more than 450 dogs from across the country and beyond.

Placing first in their height division (8", 12", 16", 20" and 24" respectively) were:

- 8"- "Tobi" a Pembroke Welsh Corgi owned by Darlene Paul of Sykesville, M.D.
- 12"- "Letti" a Cardigan Welsh Corgi owned by Michelle Permann of Torrence, Calif.
- 16"- "Luka" a Pyrenean Shepherd owned by Ashley Deacon of Redwood City, Calif.
- 20"- "Jace" a Border Collie owned by Lisa Carol Ross of Woodinville, Wash.
- 24"- "Flare" a Doberman Pinscher owned by Yvonne Mancino of Pataskala, Ohio

Download high resolution photos on AKC's Web site at

http://www.akc.org/press_center/photo_gallery/high_rez_2009.cfm

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The American Kennel Club (AKC), proudly celebrates its 125th Anniversary in 2009. Since 1884 the not-for-profit organization has maintained the largest registry of purebred dogs in the world, and today its rules govern more than 20,000 canine competitions each year. The AKC advocates for the purebred dog as a family companion, advances canine health and well-being, works to protect the rights of all dog owners and promotes responsible dog ownership. For more information, visit www.akc.org.

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