

# GRUNFELD GERMAN SHEPHERDS

## GSSCC Prairie Regional Sieger Show and SchH Championship Trial

By Fred Lanting

June 20-22, 2003

Hosted by the Schutzhund-Manitoba WDA and the Winnipeg Working Dog Club, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

The threat of SARS and its recent outbreaks in Toronto caused a German judge to cancel, and North American judges were able and willing to step in, without being routed through Toronto. I filled in as the conformation judge, and Jan Hrouda from Calgary did the performance evaluations. This was my second Canadian Regional Sieger Show assignment, and again I found wonderful hospitality and several very worthy dogs. While most of the dogs in each event were different, there were a few "workin' dawgs" who competed honorably in the conformation portion of the weekend. I'm always willing to reward deserving performance dogs when they are in the breed ring, and I think the exhibitors knew that.

Jan, a Czech native who escaped the Soviets' iron curtain in 1968, was tough and expert. Unfortunately, the tracking day was marked by a 60 mph wind, allowing only 4 of the schutzhund dogs to pass. However, one of them managed to keep his nose on the ground and get an amazing 95/93/96 score: Danny Königreich bred by Stephan Hoffman and owned/handled by Jim Chrisp, who qualified this day to represent Canada in the Weltmeisterschaft in 2003.

The Regional Sieger was Dylan Nordlandzwingler, a Mack Aducht son bred by Hans-Peter Schweimer and owned by Lawrence Anonychuk and Garry Eng of Canisphere. This is a consortium of about a dozen fanciers in Manitoba, and consequently presented the preponderance of showdogs on Sunday. Mack has been doing some very nice breeding, although his progeny class in Germany so far might not have been the most spectacular. I have seen some excellent offspring in Europe, Latin America, the U.S., and now in Canada. Dylan was the best single-tracker of all the entries, had a powerful outreaching gait, great pigment and proportions, and all the other attributes of a VA- or high V-quality animal. If we had had a progeny class here, it would have been admirable.

Regional Siegerin was Vanny Freiheit-Westerholt, a Mack daughter bred by Ralf Lang and owned by Anonychuk. She only had a SchH-1, and I hope to hear of additional titles before long. To my mind, there is not much excuse for a 3.5-year-old to not have a SchH-2, though I understand her primary function as a producer of puppies. Dylan is 4 years, and has a SchH-2. Vanny also had the outreaching stride that is thrilling to watch. Hans-Peter Rieker's and Heinrich Messler's apparent hopes for Mack being an improvement over double-Sieger Rikkor Bad-Boll were apparently justified. The 18-24-mo male winner, Sasko Canisphere, was also a handsome Mack son with a very slightly wide earset, but very good pigment, proportions, front assembly, croup, pasterns, medium bone, and other qualities. His dam is Pamina Pallas Athena, and he is owned by Anonychuk and Eng.

Vanny was the dam of the vp-1 baby puppy female, while Dylan sired the vp-2 in that class, and the vp-1 in the 6-9-mo class. Dylan also sired the 18-24-mo female winner Laura Canisphere, the non-titled adult female Orchid Canisphere, the non-titled adult male Niiko Canisphere owned by Fred Klein, and many other entries. Another important factor in the gene pool in the prairie provinces is Kris Drantum Land, SchH2, a Leif Noriswand son owned by Anonychuk and Susanne Olver. Kris was originally in the catalog as a Working Class (adult, titled) dog, but was moved to the Veterans class without competition. I think this was an error in judgment, as a V-2 behind Dylan would have looked better than an SG-1 in front of nobody; perhaps there was a shortage of handlers. He is a handsome, high-V dog. Kris sired many of the entries including the 9-12-mo male, the 12-18-mo SG-1 Canisphere's Brandie (ex Pamina), and several 2nd and 3rd-place entries. Brandie has a slightly short croup, but at a good angle, has a very good front, and very correct overline and underline.

German Sieger Yasko Farbenspiel was represented by the 3-6-mo. baby female winner, but also by several who were further back in the pack and out of different females. Yasko might not be the best producer in Canada. Time will tell, but I think Dylan might turn out to capture that honor. The Dylan son Niiko, whom I mentioned above, is a large dog with medium eye color, normal croup and front angulation, very slightly short in croup and east-west at the pasterns. But so minor, that his powerful drive and effortless, smooth, ground-covering gait put him in first after a period of gaiting. He narrowly edged out a

correctly-medium size and well-pigmented 2-year-old son of Salo Maifeld & Whitney Agrigento whose somewhat steep croup counted against him in the sidegait. He (Kenno Bergmannshof) should also be a valuable stud for North American bloodlines if his hips and ZW # check out OK and he gets his SchH title. Veteran female (sole entry) was the very beautiful 8.5-year-old Una Canisphere. I think I gave her sire, Bingo Dunischenke, the Veterans Class at a CKC show a few years earlier. Good front angulation, very good topline, croup, and rear angulation, excellent true gait. She might have had a little more depth of pigment, and almost assuredly did as a younger bitch. She probably represents the best of a gene pool that has mostly died out. I would also like to give an "honorable mention" award to the only gray (sable) in the show, the 3rd-place Working Class female, Froesenhaus Coco owned by Glenn Konnen of Edmonton. Marvelous character (the bitch, not Glenn, though he would rightly be called a character), great expression, very good pigment, dry and firm. I enjoy seeing the working dogs, and believe they should not be neglected. She placed behind a nicely-constructed Kris daughter, Cathrianna Canisphere, owned by Dr. Eng and Nicole Carriere. In the Working Dog class, Bernd Klotz' Janko Judenberg (Cim Ecknachtal grandson) and Dean Senchuk's Nick LaacherHaus son Sunrise Cody v Waithaus followed Dylan around the ring.

[editor's note: Fred recently returned from judging a couple of specialties in China, and his report of the dog scene there can be found on several websites. His book, The Total German Shepherd Dog, can be ordered from [www.Hoflin.com](http://www.Hoflin.com) and his seminars can be arranged by writing him at [Mr.GSD@Juno.com](mailto:Mr.GSD@Juno.com)]



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