

# Drake takes Susitna dog race at Montana Creek

Harvey Drake of North Pole nosed out a dog mushing victory of Linda Leanard this past weekend at Montana Creek. The Montana Creek Mushers sponsored event, billed as the Susitna Valley Championship involving two eight-mile heats was decided by 22 seconds as Drake posted a two-day time of 49:07 and Leanard finished with 49:29. J.P. Norris finished with 51:04 for third place, Bill Cotter posted 51:10 claiming fourth place and former world champion Gareth Wright rounded out the top five with a time of 51:31.

Both Wright and Nenana musher Charles Stevens who finished sixth with a time of 52:13 were slowed considerably in Saturdays heat as undisputed red lantern "winner" Jack Stevens was unable to let the speedier mushers pass. How much time was lost is very hard to determine but, it would be safe to say that their (Wright and Stevens C. Stevens) overall positions would have been improved. Jack Stevens won the lantern with a whopping two day time of 101:07.

Bob Fairchilds of Soldotna

won the five dog event posting a time of 27:56 for two 3½ mile heats and Doug Tiltens time of 33:49 for two 5½ mile heats in the seven dog event beat out many time Womens Fur Rondy and Womens North American champ Roxy Woods who finished at 34:37.

Times for mushers follow:

## OPEN TWO DAYS 8 MILES

1. Harvey Drake
2. Linda Leanard
3. J.P. Norris
4. Bill Cotter
5. Gareth Wright
6. Charles Stevens
7. Helen Farleigh
8. Earl Norris
9. Del Allison
10. Jack Stevens
- Lavon Barvey
- Steve Adkins

49:07

49:27

51:04

51:10

51:31

52:13

52:59

61:06

66:00

101:07

scratch

scratch

## 5 DOG, 3½ MILES

1. Bob Fairchilds 27:56

2. Cathy Brockman 30:34

3. Glenn Marden 30:56

4. Patty Jackson 31:21

5. Patty Ohera 31:25

## 7 DOG, 5½ MILES

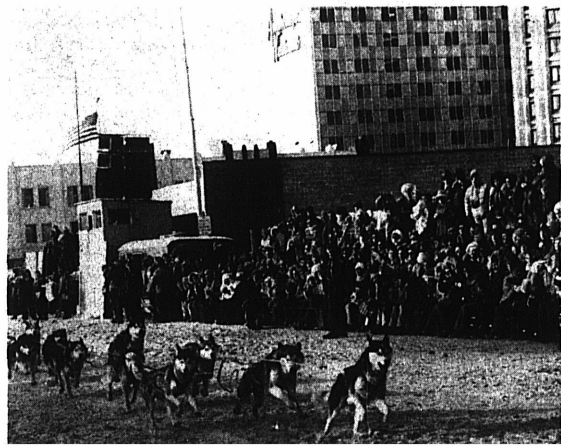
1. Doug Tiltlen 33:49

2. Roxy Woods 34:37

3. Ted Monroe 38:42

4. Lee Gardino 39:11

Arhoa Good scratch



**VETERAN MUSER** — Earl Norris, shown here in the 1976 Fur Rondy finished eighth in the Susitna Valley championship.