

# **Bill Taylor Captures North American Title**

In the dogmushing annals of Alaska dogsled racing, history will show that it takes for Alaska racers six years of careful breeding and training of dogs to recapture the championship that has been awarded to an out-of-state dogsled racer for that length of time.

It will also show that it takes a lot of stamina and endurance for both man and dog to turn the trick.

Bill Taylor of Fairbanks recaptured the coveted North American Championship Sled Dog Race title last Saturday from the six-time title holder, Dr. Roland Lombard of Wayland, Mass.

In the 70-mile, three-day, 20-20-30-mile distances respectively, Taylor rolled

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# Bill Taylor Wins...

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up a total elapse time of 261:79 compared with Dr. Lombard's 263:93.

Taylor collected top prize money in the amount of \$2,800 and Lombard collected \$2,100.

The race trail was almost stone-hard most of the way due to recent thawing temperatures. The pounding the racers took on their tiny racing sleds minus shock absorbers was brutal. It was no less easy for the dogs and several dropped from exhaustion along the trail.

Coming in third in the North American was Bill Sturdevant of Anchorage whose total elapsed time was 268:93, followed by George Attla, the Huslia Hustler, who was clocked at 269:63.

The rest were: John Greeway, Fairbanks, 270:44; Joe Redington, Flat Horn Lake, 272:49; Andy Jimmie, Minto, 274:09; Dr. Charles Belford, Deerfield, Mass., 275:53;

Pete Shepherd, Fairbanks, 282:93; Herb Nayokpuk, Shishmaref, 284:31; Lefty Schallock, Fairbanks, 286:08; J. P. Norris, Anchorage, 287:28; Stan Barney, Anchorage, 287:84;

Godfrey Joseph, Fairbanks, 293:46; Ray Folger, Tanana, 299:23; John Verbeek, Fairbanks, 321:91; Raymond Paneak, Anaktuvuk Pass, 371:22; Tim Luke, Chief Creek, 395:08.

Two mushers, Gareth Wright, Fairbanks, and Pollock Simon, Allakaket, scratched.