



MARKETPLACE: Classifieds • Autos • Apartments • Jobs • Homes • Coupons

Place an ad

Sections

News & Views

Sports

Entertainment

Health & Fitness

Community

Obituaries

Special Sections

Services

Customer Service

Subscriber

Services

Newsletters

Partners

Topics.com

IndyStar.com

USAToday.com

Gannett

STORY SEARCH

7 days Archive [➔](#)

News & Views

Posted 9:15 PM February 5, 2007

Betsy Reason column: Woman sits, stays on top of dog-show world

Noblesville-bred canine to defend top dog title Monday at Westminster Kennel Club.

By Betsy Reason

Betsy.Reason@TheNoblesvilleLedger.com

February 6, 2007

What's better than being the top dog?

For Faye Richardson, it's being the top dog's breeder. She bred and raised the No. 1 bulldog in the nation.



Betsy Reason

On Monday, the Noblesville woman will be crossing her fingers that Cherokee Legend Rock, a 2-year-old English

bulldog, will repeat his top dog title at the 131st annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show in New York City.

"Rock's the perfect name for him because he stands there like a statue," she said, confident the 61-pound canine will prevail.

"He's the prettiest (dog) you've ever seen," said the breeder, who will watch the show on cable TV from the comfort of her Oakmont home. Rock's owner and handler lives in Oyster Bay, N.Y.

What makes a good show dog? "He just stands out. He walks in like he owns the place. Everybody bows down to him," said Richardson, vice president of the Bulldog Club of Indiana.

She's the breeder and co-owner of a second bulldog from the same litter, Empires Legend Spice Girl, also invited to compete at Westminster,



Faye Richardson of Noblesville is the breeder of the nation's No. 1 bulldog. She poses with puppies, Empires Tinker Bell (left) and Empires Black Bear. --

Betsy.Reason@TheNoblesvilleLedger.com

Topics headlines

- Businesses bring flavor to Taste of Chamber
- 3 firms cited for zoning violations
- Teacher faces felony charge
- Official: Error causes crash
- Mentor makes time to help student thrive
- I-69 needs attention, says resident
- Jamboree takes scare out of school

the most prestigious show in the dog world, she said.

Richardson says Spice Girl is a top dog in the making. "Spice Girl loves applause. She jumps up and down when she wins.

She said finding a good show dog is not easy. There aren't a lot of Rocks out there, she said of the bulldog, which is worth about \$25,000, is overall among the top five dogs in the nation and has racked up 2,118 points, 1,500 more than the closest contender.

The breeder, who trains every dog to stand in a show ring, has high hopes for two new puppies, Empires Tinker Bell and Empires Black Bear.

And for herself. "My goal is to get myself on the carpet."

Justin Richardson, 19, compares his mom to a coach or a movie director. She's someone you don't see but who deserves a lot of credit.

John Richardson laughed, knowing how much his wife of 20 years adores the sturdy, thick-set shorthaired breed he said people call the lazy man's dog.

He said their first bulldog was truly for companionship. When breeding became his wife's hobby, he supported her wholeheartedly.

"My husband and I were married 10 years before he bought me my first bulldog," she said, "and that's the day I tell people I knew he was in love with me."

Betsy Reason writes about interesting people, places and events in the Tuesday Noblesville Ledger. Contact her at (317) 444-5542 or Betsy.Reason@TheNoblesvilleLedger.com

 [Email this](#)

 [Print this](#)

 [Send letter to editor](#)

 [Reprint info](#)

[Contact Us](#) • [Terms of Service](#) • [Subscribe Now](#) • [Place an Ad](#) • [Jobs with us](#)
Copyright 2006 Indiana Newspapers. All rights reserved

Gannett Indiana network: [Indianapolis](#) • [Fishers](#) • [Lafayette](#) • [Marion](#) • [Muncie](#) • [Noblesville](#) • [Richmond](#)
[USA Today](#) • [USA Weekend](#) • [Gannett Co. Inc.](#) • [Gannett Foundation](#)