

CAVALIERS OF THE WEST

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I can hardly believe that it was some two years ago when I opened the envelope containing my invitation to judge at this show. I considered it an honour conferred on that occasion and still do to this very day! My visit was a memorable not only for the wonderful hospitality and kindness afforded to me, but for the opportunity to judge some truly lovely dogs. I have no doubt in my mind that amongst the Cavalier judges of today great emphasis is placed on the quality of the head for which breeders over the decades have procured and refined to achieve this essential element of the breed. My involvement in being a UK Toy Group judge cannot help but influence the fact that I acknowledge that there must also be other requirements of this enchanting breed which must not be overlooked or disregarded in deference to those beautiful heads each supporting that sweet, trusting, soft expression with eyes to melt those who look into them.

It was not surprising therefore, that I found some really beautiful headpieces. There were however, those which were bordering on being rather too short in foreface and over cushioned in muzzle which might also appear soft and enchanting, but are actually alien to the breed standard. Dark large round eyes were plentiful; likewise correct front construction and shoulder placement was in abundance. In general terms, hindquarters and rear angulations were not as secure or strong as forequarters. Overall balance varied considerably. Interestingly, the excellent ACKS Club 'CKCS Breed Guide' in respect to proportion, specifically states - 'the body approaches squareness, yet if measured from point of shoulder to point of buttock is slightly longer than height at the withers. The height from the withers to elbow is approximately equal to the height from the elbow to the ground'. Balance is not just restricted to body measurements however, but embraces size of head, length of neck and quantity of bone in particular. For example, a dog which conforms to the required body proportions supporting finely boned legs, may not appear balanced to the naked eye. A secure level topline is essential, but I felt that the 'Cavalier Croup' is something which still troubles breeders worldwide today. In consequence, instead of seeing a gentle rounding at the area of the tail set there are a number whose sloping croup gives rise to a low or incorrect tail setting.

Presentation and temperament were exemplary, so was the manner in which my decisions were received (irrespective of the level of disappointment).

Overall, I thought the bitch entry was stronger in depth and contained a number of very exciting young prospects.

My assignment started with absolutely no knowledge of those exhibitors who had so generously entered under me. I was totally oblivious of the dogs I judged, their former achievements, accolades held and moreover void of the knowledge of the dog's lineage or ancestry. Afterwards, on receipt of the 'marked' catalogue and my subsequent days spent sitting watching further judging, I was most interested to see the same dogs appear in the same ring, but looking so different, clearly confirming the adage that it is 'all about the dog on the day'.

Thank you for a most enjoyable visit and the many new friendships formed throughout the unforgettable time spent with you all.

Tony Allcock, MBE

JUNIOR PUPPY DOG (3)

1. **Orchardhill Shirmont Back Story** (Henry/Henry)
Mature 8 month old. Masculine head with well tapered muzzle, lovely dentition, gorgeous eyes. Well-proportioned and balanced throughout. Sturdy level topline. Tail set correctly, to be carried level with back. Moved with a happy easy stride. Excellent secure topline and tail setting. Lovely silky coat and beautifully presented. **BEST PUPPY IN SHOW, BEST PUPPY DOG**
2. **Glenellen Royal Cookie** (Murphy)
Progressing nicely. This 6 month old gave a lot away in maturity. Excellent body and gorgeous temperament.
3. **Kinvaar Magnus** (Gentil)
Clearly the baby in the class and needs time. Sweet expression, but naturally has some developing to do particularly in body and chest.

SENIOR PUPPY DOG (1)

1. **Canyoncrest The Leader Of The Band** (DuRoss)
Well broken Tri Colour. Elegant and refined, but with balanced substance. Balanced head giving an endearing expression. Excellent front assembly. At 10 months will strengthen behind as he matures. Start attentive mover.

GRADUATE PUPPY DOG (4)

1. **Nightingale Diorchavon Baby Its You, JW** (Bialek)
15 month old most promising youngster and clearly destined for the top. Beautifully balanced throughout. Gorgeous headpiece, enhanced with the darkest pigmentations. Beautiful coat and condition. Accurate mover.
2. **Dulce Carmel Awesome Sauce** (Covell)
Appealing head. Giving a little away to #1 in maturity. This dog has some lovely attributes, especially his front and rear assembly. Just a tad longer cast than #1.
3. **Crossbow Horton Hears A Who** (Kubin/Schiffman)
Balanced throughout. Shoulders sloping correctly, ideal clean length of neck. Head still to mature along with rear movement. Excellent tail setting, carried correctly.
4. **Dulaney That's Amore** (Postero)
Appealing head and eyes. A tad longer cast. Excellent bone and substance. A very happy character, but just a little proud of his tail on occasions.

BRED BY EXHIBITOR DOG (3)

1. **Ch Jadestone Legend Has It, JW** (Peek)
Well broken Blenheim, coat in excellent condition. Secure level back and excellent tail setting. On the stand portrayed a well-balanced profile. Super forehead and strong rear drive.
2. **Ca Cambridge Rutledge** (Magera/Mitchell)

Most attractive Black-and-Tan. Coat of ideal texture. Balanced head with a lovely finish. Gorgeous eyes. On occasions, when standing, he relaxes his hindquarters, thus creating a sloping top line and exaggerating body length. Notwithstanding this, it started to settle and came together on the move. Close call with #1. **BEST BLACK-AND-TAN DOG**

3. **Veribas Eye Of The Tiger** (Cusick)

Produces an acceptable shape on the stand, if perhaps a touch heavier all round. Not quite as secure in elbow. Excellent strong hindquarters. Coat texture OK.

JUNIOR AMERICAN BRED DOG (4)

1. **Linrica Milan, JW** (Liu)

This 1 year old ticks a number of the boxes in accordance with my interpretation of the breed standard. Skull of correct shape, well tapered muzzle and excellent underjaw, dentition and finish. Beautifully balanced throughout, I thought he conformed admirably to this requirement. Excellent chest and front assembly. Ideal length of rib and loins, super neck and shoulders. His construction proved exemplary movement being free graceful and happy. Ideal tail setting and carried correctly on the move. **RESERVE WINNERS DOG**

2. **Chadwick Jet Setter at Hudsonview, JW.** (Glynn/Glynn)

Another beautiful young dog and there is still a lot more to come. Like #1, he again conforms to so many of the breed requirements, although there was just slight variance in overall balance to #1. A lovely happy friendly character. Headpiece is worth a second look here, as he gives such a soft lipid look but still maintains masculinity. Spirit level top line. Beautiful coat texture still to finish in length. I was really having to be extremely 'picky' when making this hair splitting decision so on the final go around gave the nod to #1 on such a flawless performance.

3. **Dallarock Flight Time** (Geldermann)

Balanced head with sufficient finish and dark round eyes. Lovely broken coat colour. Excellent tail setting. Needs to settle in movement, but at 15 months, there is maturity on his side.

4. **Crossbow Greyhawk Daniel A Kickapoo of Zooks** (Kubin/Schiffman)

This 12 month old appeared the most immature in the class. He was a tad overawed with the occasion and tail was down. Impressive to examine particularly his strong rear angulations and body proportions.

AMERICAN BRED DOG (3)

1. **Almeara Extra Extraordinary, JW** (Whitmire)

Had the darkest and most appealing eyes in the class and has such a lovely fill under the eyes. Good depth and width of chest. Sturdy loins. Well set tail carried correctly. Excellent neck and shoulders. Needs to strengthen a touch in hindquarters. Fabulous showman.

2. **Belcarra Straight Shot Remington of Bearriver** (Toepfer)

Lovely disposition. Balanced head. Eyes not quite as dark and appealing as #1. Secure level back. Really happy character and moved with purpose.

3. **Bentwood Cartier** (Covell/Harrison)

Larger and heavier set than #1 & #2. A really happy character who clearly was willing to please. A tad longer cast. Moved OK.

SPECIAL LIMIT BLENHEIM DOG (2)

1. **Forestcreek Back In The Saddle** (Cline)
Soft appealing eyes and expression. At 18 months old has maturity in his favour. Impressive to examine. Straight front legs, good depth of chest and secure elbows. His coat lay did little or nothing to enhance his topline, and this appeared to rise over the loin. Upon inspection however, this was not apparent. Excellent rear construction proved superb rear drive aiding purposeful and accurate movement.
2. **Bekenhall Shirmont He's The Ticket** (Henry/Henry)
Beautifully presented Blenheim dog whose head qualities are simply to die for. Lovely overall size and shape. Straightest of fronts. Excellent shoulders and depth of chest. Today his rear movement let him down.

SPECIAL LIMIT TRICOLOUR DOG (2)

1. **Truelegance Pistols At Dawn** (Cromer)
This rather solidly coloured tricolour has a clean finish and soft expression. Enough neck, fore chest and ribs. A touch longer in loin than ideal, and a tad proud of his tail at times. Moved well, especially the accurate forehand reach. **BEST TRICOLOUR DOG**
2. **Briarcrest Going For Baroque** (Katz)
This 16 month year old strongly challenged #1, but did not make the best of himself today. I thought his head most attractive, lovely neck and sturdy back. Like #1, would just prefer a tad shorter in loin to complete the overall picture. Moved OK, but could have done so much more.

SPECIAL LIMIT RUBY DOG (1)

1. **Kolaci Magic Cinnamon Spice** (Legerretta/Gray)
This 2 year old stood alone, which was a pity, but he didn't mind one bit and was so happy with himself. Lovely size and shape. Super colour and coat texture. **BEST RUBY DOG**

SPECIAL LIMIT BLACK-and-TAN DOG (2)

1. **Nottingham Mugs** (Beebower/Beebower)
Mature 4 year old. Lovely textured coat and colour combination. Nicely proportioned throughout. Correct shape skull, appearing flat between well set ears. Dark round lustrous eyes. Adequate depth of chest. Rear movement OK.
2. **Robin's Nest November Rain** (Prodanovich)
Lovely disposition. Just preferred expression of #1, and not quite the same fine straight coat texture today. Excellent tan. Impressive mover, covering the ground with ease.

OPEN DOG (2)

1. **Ch Brookhaven Here Comes Hogan** (Ayers/Martz)

Two year old dog, who I feel still has some maturing to accomplish, but notwithstanding this he is already extremely eye catching and cannot fail to capture the judge's attention. He is beautifully balanced on the stand. His head is of ideal proportions, correct length of nose, neat finish. Dark mysterious eyes beautifully filled underneath, which can certainly tell a story. Uses his ears to advantage. Flowing neck, short coupled ribs, ideal loins, well set on tail. Ideally his superbly textured silky coat needs to finish, but this is just transitory in such a young dog. A careful and precise mover. **BEST OPPOSITE SEX IN SHOW, WINNERS DOG, BEST BLENHEIM DOG, BEST AMERICAN BRED DOG, BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR DOG**

2. **Ch Bonitos Companeros Vahir** (Lemon/Lemon)

A very glamorous dog in full coat, but I preferred the coat texture of #1. Excels in head qualities. Is of a really happy disposition. Nicely balanced throughout. Movement in profile looked most impressive.

JUNIOR PUPPY BITCH (4)

1. **Parlett Pinky promise** (Williams/Williams)

This absolute poppet has a delightful attitude. Nicely balanced with a sweet expression. Well-schooled and moved beautifully. **BEST PUPPY BITCH**

2. **Sheeba Mile High at Intryzik** (Goodwin)

Another little beauty. Excels in head qualities and size of eyes. In super coat for age. Movement to settle.

3. **Wymns Hold That Thought** (Milosevic)

Well bodied and of good bone and substance. Smart mover and of a lovely disposition. Just preferred head qualities of #1 & #2.

4. **Robin's Nest Life Is A Highway** (Prodanovic)

Smart baby. Clearly the most immature in the class and giving a lot away in that department. Super eyes and expression. A very happy youngster. Needs time.

SENIOR PUPPY BITCH (2)

“Two very promising puppies and their placings were of hair splitting proportions!”

1. **Chadwick Oh La La** (Eckersley)

Super head, eyes and ears setting. Super pigmentation. Great width of chest and nicely balanced throughout. Excellent neck and shoulders. Moved superbly.

2. **Briarcrest Coco Loves Pearls** (Van Luchene/ Van Luchene)

Elegant throughout and very feminine. Correct reach of neck, straight front legs, and ideal lay of shoulder, producing excellent forehand movement. Secure level top line and excellent tail setting.

GRADUATE PUPPY BITCH (4)

“A varied class in which each exhibit possessed many positive attributes.”

1. **Chantismere Carrienna** (Tibbetts)
Produced an excellent balanced profile on the stand. Appealing head enhanced by those dark round eyes. In super body. Steady topline and good tail settings. Impressive rear angulations. Her conformation is impressive, but I felt she could have given so much more today.
2. **Delsol Love In An Elevator** (McHenry)
Beautiful head, having correct length of muzzle and finish. Ideal length neck. Dark pigmentation. Coat of silky texture. A tad proud of her tail on the move. Close call with #1.
3. **Windsea Dancing Queen C-RN** (Peterson/Peterson)
Very sweet character and I liked her expression. Fairly deep chest and secure elbows. Short strong loin. Movement and top line just needs to tidy.
4. **Marjorelle Rumour Has It** (Conley)
Gentle expression portrayed from a well-balanced head, neatly finished. Well set ears to finish the picture. Neat forequarters. Tail a tad low and set a little low. Rear movement to settle.

BRED BY EXHIBITOR BITCH (3)

1. **Forestcreek Bewitching Girl** (Cline/Cline)
Won this rather mixed class on her appealing head qualities. Flat appearing skull with super high set ears. Large lipid dark eyes. Sufficient fill underneath. Shoulders with good lay back. Well broken coat, although perhaps could be a touch silkier.
2. **Rhapsodee Trancendence** (Fields)
Very immature, but she has many breed type qualities to admire. Although she clearly appeared immature in this class, I chose to overlook this. Beautifully constructed and balanced throughout. Moved very well. Coat not of the length or maturity of #1.
3. **Ch Kean La Ti Da, JW** (Keane)
I can fully appreciate the many attributes this bitch possesses and, indeed, I observed her on the following two days when she appeared a different proposition. Very appealing head qualities. Abundant ear fringing but her low elongated deportment today completely distorted her profile on the move.

JUNIOR AMERICAN BRED BITCH (3)

1. **Sonesta California Dreaming** (Ellingson/Ellingson/Pennington)
A small package with gorgeous eyes. Forelegs straight and well under. Secure pasterns all produced a glorious example of reach of forehand. Extremely happy character, attentive at all times. Super texture coat. Perhaps just a tad low set tail, but overall most attractive.
2. **Crownrose Tempest In A Teapot** (Rosenberg/Rosenberg)

At 12 months, still maturing in head. Well broken coat of good texture. Balanced throughout. Excellent reach of neck. OK tail setting. Occasionally a touch uncertainty, but sufficiently happy on the move.

3. **Bluegarden Aussie Girl At Chadwick** (Eckersley)

Mature. Very attractive and appealing head. Eye colour OK. Extremely glamorous coat presented to perfection. Would have preferred a tad more neck to complete the picture. Just a touch wide in front coming towards me. Moved smartly and an extremely happy showgirl.

AMERICAN BRED BITCH (3)

1. **Brookhaven Simply Southern** (Toepfer/Martz)

Nicely patterned Blenheim coat of silky texture. At 2 years old is mature for her age. Super balance throughout. Clean neck set smoothly into shoulders. Well sprung ribs and broad pelvis, well let down hocks. Moved OK, but I felt she could have been a touch more animated.

2. **Rosearbor Bijou** (Eckersley)

Attractive Black-and-Tan with super coat texture and colour combinations. Soft sweet expression. Dark eyes giving such a lovely finish. A tad fall away at the croup. Topline a touch soft on the stand. Just preferred overall balance of shape and substance of #1.

3. **Sevenwoods French Kiss** (Shidler/Baird)

Tricolour slightly longer cast than #1 & #2. Lovely disposition. Appealing head. Clean front and level secure backline. Would have preferred stronger rear drive.

SPECIAL LIMIT BLENHEIM BITCH (5) “A truly beautiful class”

1. **Cedar Creek Sugar N Spice** (Owens)

Absolutely balanced throughout, so ably meeting the requirements of size, proportion and substance. Skull is so beautifully proportioned, being gently rounded, (but appeared flat) between well set furnished ears. Ideal length of muzzle and stop. Well filled under those gloriously dark, warm, round eyes. Short coupled with well sprung ribs. Shoulders well laid back. Slight rounding of the rump with tail beautifully set and carried correctly and always so happy! Well-presented, nicely patterned. Blenheim coat of optimum texture and length to complete the picture. Steady accurate mover. She met so much of my interpretation of the breed standard and so reminded me of those famous UK Champion bitches campaigned by the famous ‘Alansmere’ kennel. **BEST IN SHOW, WINNERS BITCH, BEST AMERICAN BRED BITCH, BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR BITCH, BEST BLENHEIM BITCH, BEST AMERICAN BRED IN SHOW, BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR IN SHOW, BEST BLENHEIM IN SHOW**

2. **Brookhaven Believe In Me** (Ayers/Martz)

Another lovely example of the breed especially in those head qualities and eyes to die for! Super structure and condition. Ultra-feminine throughout. Moved with such a light foot fall, demonstrating such an admirable deportment, being accurate and precise.

3. **Bonitos Companeros Uhura** (Magera/Mitchell)

Once again a lovely head to look into. Undeniably feminine all the way through. Lovely neck and shoulders. In being 'picky' (which I had to in this class), I just preferred the overall balance and shape of the first two placed dogs.

4. **Sikelei Emily Bronte** (Kornhi)

Excels in head, eyes and finish of foreface. A tad longer cast than those placed above her and she moved adequately.

SPECIAL LIMIT TRICOLOUR BITCH (3)

1. **Marilee Reggae** (Collins)

This beautifully presented girl is distinguished in appearance. Well broken body markings and exceptionally pretty in head. Coat quality is exemplary. Clean shoulders, level sturdy backline. Falls away a little at the croup. I simply loved her bright sparkling eyes – certainly a charmer in that respect! Moved well, but just felt she was a little 'flat' today.

BEST TRICOLOUR BITCH, BEST TRICOLOUR IN SHOW

2. **Rockcreek Bindi At Parlett** (Williams/Williams/Steagall)

Lovely overall shape. Rather solid black body. Excellent mover. A touch proud of her tail at times. Great bone and substance.

3. **Briarcrest Oh So Rococo** (Van Luchene/Van Luchene)

Well-shaped head and just needs a touch more fill under the eyes to enhance that desired soft expression which is required. Excellent tan points. Moved well.

OPEN BITCH (3)

1. **Ch Chadwick Drama, JW** (Hoehn)

This 2 year old Blenheim bitch is absolutely beautiful. Ultra-feminine head, giving such a breath-taking expression. Gorgeous large round sparkling eyes. Very impressive top line with ideal tail set and rear angulations. Sufficient coat for age. Movement was so elegant, coupled with accuracy and precision. Clearly a class act and there is more to come I am sure.

RESERVE WINNERS BITCH, RESERVE BEST IN SHOW

2. **Iloo Dite Ilan Du Jardin De Claire of Sumara, JW** (Gentil)

This attractive Black-and-Tan appeared to be somewhat unsettled at the beginning of the class, but soon pulled herself together and the more I saw, the more I liked. Beautiful Tan and sparkling Raven black coat added to the appeal. Moved very well and handled to advantage. **BEST BLACK-and-TAN BITCH, BEST BLACK-and-TAN IN SHOW**

3. **Ch Chadwick Sentimental Journey, JW** (Eckersley)

This very happy, attractive, young lady was, I felt, giving a lot away in maturity. At 17 months, she still has some way to go, but certainly supports a lovely headpiece and moved very well.

SENIOR OPEN BITCH (1)

Robin's Nest Witchy Woman (Prodanovich)

I had to ask the owner her age twice as I could not believe that this gorgeous Ruby girl was 10 ½ years old. She is in fantastic condition. Lovely shape and size. Great body. Neat forequarters coupled with strong rear angulations - she moved like a real power house. Congratulations to the

owner for the wonderful care and attention given to her. **BEST RUBY BITCH, BEST RUBY IN SHOW**

VETERAN BITCH

Robin's Nest Witchy Woman (Prodanovich)

See comments under Senior Open Bitch.

BEST VETERAN BITCH, BEST VETERAN IN SHOW