

CAVALIERS OF THE WEST

1/15/24 - OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

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It was a pleasure to come to California to judge for the Cavaliers of the West. Historically, this has always been one of my favorite shows. The venue is great, the hospitality of the exhibitors is always top-notch, and, in typical fashion, the show chairs had everything organized perfectly. The entry was quite low for the weekend, but I was able to find top quality exhibits that I felt were excellent representations of the breed. When judging I look for a well-balanced Cavalier paying particular attention to size and shape. I try to find an elegant appearing Cavalier that carries itself proudly who can cover ground fluidly and effortlessly on the move. It's important to remember that each breed was bred for a purpose. This should be reflected in how they look and behave. Cavaliers therefore should portray a fearless yet gentle and affectionate demeanor both in and out of the ring. Their purpose, after all, is to be our loyal and loving companion and look good while doing just that!

Kevin Cline

DOGS

SENIOR PUPPY DOG (1)

1. BLUSTERA ALADDIN'S LIGHT (Parris/Parris)

A well broken blenheim slightly longer than tall with moderate angulation front and rear. He has an attractive head, but would prefer a bit more fill, which may come with age.

GRADUATE PUPPY DOG (2)

1. ORCHARD HILL OVERANALYZED (Venier/Venier)

Two nice exhibits in this class. The first was a heavier marked tri-color with bright rich tan markings. I appreciated his correct shoulder placement and well angulated rear. Typical of this kennel, he had a beautiful soft expression with appropriately set dark round eyes. He moved well when viewed from side with a level tail carriage. His coat adds to his glamor. He was cut to the final few. His day will come.

2. CHADWICKS BUCK'S FIZZ (Stewart/Eckersley)

A heavier marked blenheim who was well made. He had an attractive face but not quite the cushion and softness of the first exhibit. His soundness was demonstrated in his fluid movement. Especially when viewed from behind. He kept a level topline on the move.

BRED BY EXHIBITOR DOG (2)

1. IVYLINE MICHELANGELO (Giampapa/Ostmann)

This is a richly pigmented blenheim who was short coupled and compact in size. His expression was soft and kind with large dark eyes and a good lip line and correct dentition. He moved very clean coming and going and appeared elegant when viewed from the side. ***RESERVE BEST IN SHOW & RESERVE WINNERS DOG***

2. BELLAROSE CUCCI GU (Becker)

The second exhibit was a heavier marked, lighter pigmented, heavily coated blenheim who was slightly longer in cast than the first exhibit. He had a beautiful head and large eyes. In general he had good movement but could get a bit erratic in the rear at times.

JUNIOR AMERICAN BRED DOG (1)

1. SORELLA TWO TICKETS TO PARADISE (Savage Green)

A very stylish young boy of 11 months. He was nicely marked with rich color. I appreciated his moderate size and balance. He was attractive with moderate fill to his foreface and large dark, expressive eyes. He came alive on the move, excelling in reach and drive. He had a good croup with a nicely set on tail that, at times, would elevate with excitement. He was in my final consideration in the challenge, lacking only the finish which I expect should come with time. ***BEST PUPPY DOG & BEST PUPPY IN SHOW***

AMERICAN BRED DOG (3)

1. CHADWICK EIGHTEEN CARAT GOLD, JW (Mitchell)

The head of this class was a well broken, heavily coated blenheim in good condition. He is overall made well with good, balanced and angulation front and rear. I appreciated his small compact shape and superbly maintained coat. Good expression. He was a bit unsettled on the move which affected his topline today.

2. COVINGTON RHAEGAL (Gonyo/Mohn)

A larger, blenheim well broken with good bone. He has a pleasant expression with large double pigmented eyes. I would prefer a bit more neck. Moved well.

3. ROSEGIEN GRAND SLAM (Lofholm/Lofholm/Colombo)

A larger sound boy with good front and rear movement carrying a level topline while traveling around the ring. I preferred then expression of the first two exhibits.

SPECIAL LIMIT BLENHEIM DOG (2)

1. ORCHARD HILL FAN BOY (Venier/Venier/Johns)

Another beautiful cavalier from this kennel that seems to have the correct recipe. His color is broken and he is a compact sized dog that is very well put together. He has good bone. His expression is masculine yet soft with a darkly pigmented nose and good earset. He has exceptionally good front and rear angles allowing him to move smoothly and effortlessly around the ring with a strong driving rear. As I've come to expect from this handler, flawlessly put down. **BEST IN SHOW, WINNERS DOG, BEST BLENHEIM IN SHOW, BEST AMERICAN BRED IN SHOW**

2. MINGCHEN YUKON RIVER AT HIGH FLIGHT (Parris/Parris)

This is a compact though taller Blenheim in good condition with a straight silky coat and long thick ears. He has a sweet expression. I preferred the croup and topline of the first exhibit on the move.

SPECIAL LIMIT TRICOLOUR DOG (1)

1. BLUEGARDEN CASINO ROYALE (Matos/Di Bonaventura)

Well broken with a correct head shape, large eyes, nice lip line and good ear set. Well boned for size, compact and short coupled. Rich tan on clean markings. Moved purposefully round the ring.

BITCHES

JUNIOR PUPPY BITCH (5)

1. FIELDS EDGE OUR GREATEST EXPECTATIONS V. NIGHTHAWK (Dirks/Mitchell)

Well broken blenheim with good substance and a nice straight coat coming on the way. She has a cute feminine expression and is very animated. She has a good front and a well-angulated rear with well let down hocks. A good mover. **BEST PUPPY BITCH**

2. KIDDLE'S OBSIDIAN (McHenry)

A heavily marked tri with good rich tan in the correct places. Another cute expression. A slight bit straighter in front than the first exhibit. I liked her correct croup and well set on and correctly carried tail. Another good Mover.

3. GOLD COUNTRY SPICY PARADISE (Neiser/Neiser)

Another cute headed puppy bitch, this one with deeply pigmented ruby color. She has a sweet face with large dark eyes. She was longer in body with a bit of a drop off in the croup. **BEST RUBY IN SHOW**

SENIOR PUPPY BITCH (2)

1. **HARRINGTON BEJEWELLED (Gonyo/Gonyo)**
This is a heavily marked tri in super condition. She has a very pretty head and expression with beautiful large dark eyes. Moved correctly with great tail set and carriage.
2. **TEMPLAR'S LULLABY OF BROADWAY V. NIGHTHAWK (Morigi/Mitchell)**
A pretty headed well broken blenheim with a sweet expression. A nice shape but marginally longer than the first exhibit. Good topline on the move.

GRADUATE PUPPY BITCH (1)

1. **IVYLINE HONOLULU (Giampappa)**
A super pretty, compactly shaped puppy bitch with excellent bone for size. She has beautiful large dark eyes, dense nose pigment and well-broken color. She carries herself well around the ring showing off her nicely angulated front and rear. A nice typey bitch. Certainly in the consideration for top honors though I preferred the croups of my two final winners.

BRED BY EXHIBITOR BITCH (3)

1. **BELLAROSE CARTIER'S MAGIC (Becker)**

Well made girl a bit up to size but all parts correct. Good front and rear on table exam with nice length of neck. Moved correctly.
2. **NIGHTHAWK'S GOING BACK TO CALI (Morigi/Mitchell)**

Another up to size girl but slightly longer. When she ultimately settled to the job at hand she moved well but was a bit erratic at times. Good deep color.
3. **DEL SOL GOLD DIGGER (McHenry)**

This is a nice-sized Blenheim with a good shape. She is cute headed with big dark eyes. She had a bit of trouble today holding her topline on the move.
4. **ROSEGIEN DIAMOND IN THE SKY (Colombo)** I liked the size and shape of this richly colored Blenheim girl. She moved well. She was not as angulated front or rear as the other exhibits. She has a pretty head with dark eyes though I preferred the expression of the previous class placements.

AMERICAN BRED BITCH (5)

1. **DARANE OTHERWORLDY, JW, MP (Kates)**

I really liked this bitch for her size and shape and overall make. She has an ultra-attractive headpiece and a soft, appealing expression. Her coat is outstanding and in great condition. She moves well coming and going but at times can be a bit soft with her topline. Great quality!

2. **NIGHTHAWK'S JINX YOU'RE IT (Mitchell)**

Another bitch that excelled in size and outline. She is richly marked with good bone and substance. She has a attractive head with dark eyes. Moves soundly.

3. **BEAIVER ROCKIN THE PARADISE (Topher)**

This is a well-made Blenheim somewhat larger than the first two exhibits. She has a lovely neck sloping into well laid-back shoulders. Front and rear are good and she moved with purpose. I just preferred the expression of the first two.

4. **CHIYODA JUST MY CUP OF TEA (Murphy)**

A pretty headed Blenheim a bit lighter in pigmentation than the three previous exhibits, perhaps changing coats. She was a strong mover and held her own in this competitive class.

SPECIAL LIMIT BLENHEIM BITCH (1)

1. **IVYLINE NOTORIOUS AT GYLDEN (Young-May/Gogol)**

This is a super well-constructed richly colored Blenheim that commanded attention immediately. She has excellent layback of shoulders into a dead level topline which she held firmly on the move. Her tail set and carriage were exemplary. She moved purposefully around the ring. Her head is pretty with nice round correctly placed dark eyes. A lot to like. **[RESERVE WINNERS BITCH](#)**

SPECIAL LIMIT TRICOLOUR BITCH (2)

1. **ONTHEMARK FLOWER POWER (Chan/Mitchell)**

Heavily marked tri in great condition. I liked her size and compact shape. She carried a level topline and showed off her good angulations on the move. Slightly sloping in the croup with a proud tail.

2. **TSAREVICH'S BREEZE IN THE SIERRAS AT GOLD COUNTRY (Neiser/Neiser)**

Another heavily marked tri with nice silky coat in good condition. She was a bit more hesitant to show than the first exhibit. She was well made, I just preferred the angles and movement of the first place exhibit.

SPECIAL LIMIT BLACK AND TAN BITCH (1)

1. **BROOKHAVEN FIDDLE-DEE-DEE AT BEARIVER (Toepfer)**

This is a well made bitch with an ideal size and construction. She moves well coming and going, though tended to loose her topline on occasion. Good tail set and carriage. She has a soft feminine expression. Her coat is the correct texture and is deeply pigmented. **BEST BLACK AND TAN IN SHOW**

OPEN BITCH (2)

1. **PROMONTORY HENLEY (Savage Green/Solomon)**
Super rich Blenheim who won the class on her construction. She is nicely angulated both front and rear which she used to her advantage on the move. She has a dead-level topline and moved correctly.
2. **CASTLEVILLE LOVE ME LIKE YOU DO (McCoy/McCoy)**
This was a tough class as these two exhibits were of different types. I actually preferred the head and super expression on this bitch to her classmate. She too has a level topline with good tail carriage. Both nice types, the first exhibit just won out on finer points like croup and rear movement. A tough class and two nice bitches, no doubt.

SENIOR OPEN BITCH (3)

1. **CH HARRINGTON COVINGTON PEARL OF A GIRL VW (Gonyo/Gonyo)**
I was very taken with this nine-year-old Blenheim bitch who, despite a few birthdays, has maintained her shape and construction. She is superbly put together and today proved that, she could not put a foot wrong on the move. Her condition was incredible. Her head is pretty with large double-pigmented eyes and a sweet soulful expression. Kudos to her owners for keeping her in such awesome condition. I couldn't deny her! **WINNERS BITCH & BEST OPPOSITE SEX TO BEST IN SHOW**
2. **DELSOL ADORED (Mary McHenry)**

A smaller tri that I have always admired, and she did not disappoint today. I love her expressive head, so similar to her father; soft, plush and eye-catching. She is well put together and traveled around the ring with drive. Not quite the bone and substance of the first exhibit but super quality.