



MEDIA RELEASE

February 15, 2010; 14:00 PST (Whitehorse, YT) - Hans Gatt is the winner of the 2010 Yukon Quest, arriving at the Whitehorse finish line at 13:35 PM local time. He broke a new record for fastest finish at 9 days 0 hours and 26 minutes, which is approximately 23 hours faster than the previous record made in 2009 by Sebastian Schnuelle.

This is Gatt's fourth win of the Yukon Quest. His previous wins were in 2002, 2003 and 2004. His fastest previous time was 10 days 8 hours and 59 minutes.

Gatt took the lead in the race early this morning when he was the first musher out of the Braeburn checkpoint after a mandatory 8-hour layover. His total travel time to Whitehorse was 11 hours and 16 minutes. He arrived with 9 dogs on the line and was thrilled to win in his home territory.

"I can't even explain how this feels. I'm actually really emotional right now," he told reporters. "These 9 dogs are incredible. I'm so proud of them."

Lance Mackey is expected to finish second, followed by Hugh Neff in third. Both teams are expected to arrive in Whitehorse this afternoon. These top three teams were in tight competition throughout the end of the race. Mackey and Neff are also expected to surpass the previous finishing record.

Zack Steer and Ken Anderson are scheduled to leave the Braeburn checkpoint at about 14:30 PM on each others heels. They are currently racing for fourth place.

Twenty-three competitors are still participating in this 27th running of the Yukon Quest.

**For the most up-to-date results from the Yukon Quest, please visit <http://yukonquest.com/site/race-updates/>. You can also access mini-updates of the race through our Facebook page - just search Facebook for "Yukon Quest - Official Site". Plus, follow the race on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/YukonQuest2010> **

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