

Read Larry Powell

A Gazette for the 21st Century



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January 13, 2006

Tanner's style...

When it comes to relaxation, this is one champion sleeper. He's Tanner, the golden guy who has earned his way into the spotlight of our weekly feature, "Let Sleeping Dogs Lie & Napping Cats Nap."



Cheryl Bales adores him. "I got Tanner at 6 weeks old and, yes, he is my only 'kid.' He just turned 3 on Oct. 19.

"He is a dog with a lot of character – martial arts school mascot, flyball team member and overall best friend."

Now, yes, that is a lot of responsibility for a dog but Tanner gleefully throws himself into every activity.

And, as you can see, he "throws" himself into sleeping positions, too. Cheryl sent a 9-picture collage of Tanner sleeping – she began photographing him when he was a youngster. And, judging by the photographic evidence, this "back-to-the-ground, feet-to-the-stars" position is his favorite position.



You can't help but be envious, can you, my fellow insomniacal humans!

Cheryl says, "Our days always include Tanner activities, too (

visiting the Martial Arts Center of Plano Kung Fu School while I train, hiking at Arbor Hills or Eisenhower State Park, playing football in the Plano greenbelt, fetch at Addison Circle or flyball practice/tournaments).

DAILY NOTION

Partnership idea: Jerry Jones and Tom Hicks go halvesies to get Vince Young to play quarterback for the Cowboys and pitch for the Rangers. We don't know if he can pitch, but we don't know for sure about the rest of those rag-arms, either.

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"Each year we go to Iron-Dogs camp in Kerrville (www.iron-dogs.com) and over the course of the past three years, he's earned the 'best dog' sport certificate for rally-o, flyball and tracking."

In 2005, she says, he earned the Iron Dog title, given to only one dog each year.



"This past summer we started competing in flyball with 4 Dog Flight's team, Golden Biscuits, and he's earned his first 4 flyball titles over the course of 5 tournaments.

"Our living room decor includes a flyball box, an agility tunnel wrapped around our loveseat, and a Baby Snoopy wooden toy box filled to the top.

"Guess you could say Tanner works hard, plays hard and

sleeps hard.

"He has several favorite places to sleep -- in the hallway in front of our apartment door, in the dog bed by the front window, loveseat, huge bean bag chair, his wood-framed Orvis dog bed in my room and, of course, my bed, too."

That "formal photo" is of Tanner wearing one of his flyball medals -- it's from the Let Freedom Run III tournament in Houston last summer. You can check out more aspects of Tanner's life at his home page, <http://isma.us/Tanner.asp>, and his photo page at http://isma.us/tanner_2.htm.

Yes, a dog that's featured as a championship sleeper has his own website. It's just a matter of time until he has his own TV series.

(To nominate a critter for spotlighting in Let Sleeping Dogs Lie & Napping Cats Nap, e-mail the info and a picture of the sleeper to dallrp@aol.com Remember, this feature is seen around the globe thanks to the World Wide Whatever that other "W" is. In the past week we've had readers from Australia, Thailand, Switzerland and Quebec and -- continuing with exotic locations -- Lubbock, Longview, Texas, and Bemidji, Minn. We're grateful for all of our readers all over the country and around the world. Thanks for being there. And thanks for being kind to animals.)



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