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**WINNING RUN**—Greg Sellentin drives his six-dog team to the finish line of the Limited North American Sled Dog Race on Sunday at the Jeff Studdert Racegrounds.

# Sellentin wins hot LNAC 6-dog contest

By **BOB ELEY**  
Sports Editor

Track records, repeat champions and a come-from-behind victory by Greg Sellentin in the six-dog class highlighted the final day of racing at the Gene's Chrysler Limited North American Championship Sled Dog Race on another balmy Sunday afternoon at the Jeff Studdert Racegrounds.

Sellentin moved from third to first place in the highly competitive six-dog class, where almost all of the top seven finishers changed places from where they were heading into the final day of racing in the three-day event. Uwo Radant broke two more course records on Sunday and Carol Kleckner and Uschi Liebhart successfully defended their three-dog skijoring and eight-dog mushing titles, respectively.

Sellentin went into Sunday's 7.7-mile heat in third place, but turned in the fastest time of the day on the 7.7-mile course with a run of 23 minutes and 50.5 seconds to finish 14.3 seconds ahead of Jiri Krejci and 34.9 seconds ahead of Kourosch Partow, who led Krejci by 0.5 seconds after the first two heats.

Krejci finished in 1:00:23.7 and Partow posted a three-day time of 1:00:44.3. Ken Chezik climbed from seventh to fourth place with the second fastest time on Sunday and finished

1:00:59.1. While mushers were trading places all around her in the six-dog standing, Bev Stevens remained in fifth place with an overall time of 1:01:14.5.

Radant, who set a track record on Friday in the first heat, set a track record for the final day of the four-dog class, when he posted a run of 17 minutes, 15.8 seconds on the 5.9-mile trail to finish in 43:41.0, which also was a track record for three days of racing.

Jr. Truka finished a distant second in 43:1.0, with Lou Serre (46:49.0), Pam Richards (48:58.3) and Partow (49:36.5) rounding out the top five finishers.

Liebhart finished second to Chezik in Sunday's heat of the eight-dog class, but still defended the title with a winning margin of more than a minute. Keibhart finished the three days of racing in 1:44:02.9, while Chezik was second in 1:45:13.7, less than 10 seconds ahead of Lena Westas Havimaki, who finished in 1:45:23.4.

Chezik won Sunday's 12.1-mile heat in 38:15.9, followed by Liebhart in 28:17.4 and Havimaki in 38:24.5.

Rounding out the top five in the overall standings were Christian Taveau in 1:50:28.8 and Jeff Conn in 1:51:02.0.

Kleckner successfully defended her three-dog skijoring title by pulling away from Brian Charl-

ton over three days of racing. Kleckner finished with an overall time of 50:42.0, while Charlton came in at 52:19.6.

Amanda Byrd widened her lead in winning the two-dog class with a time of 53:33.8 over three days on the trail with Andy Warwick taking second in 54:41.9.

Kari Lovett cruised to victory in the one-dog class with a three-day time of 1:01:05.1, while Mike Malvick was second in 1:01:42.2.

Mushers and skijorers shared in a total purse of \$10,500.

This weekend the Alaska Dog Musers' Association will host the 60th annual running of the GCI Open North American Championship Sled Dog Race in downtown Fairbanks. The Open North American features 20-mile heats on Friday and Saturday and a grueling 30-mile run on Sunday.

Racing action starts at 1 p.m. each day on Second Avenue in downtown. This year, drivers will be competing for at least \$35,000 in prize money.

A Meet the Musers gathering and the draw for starting positions is scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday at Big Daddy's Barbecue on Wickersham Street.

Sports Editor Bob Eley can be reached [beley@newsminer.com](mailto:beley@newsminer.com), [sports@newsminer.com](mailto:sports@newsminer.com) or 459-7581.