

Rumor has it: Shepherd scores at Westminster dog show

By **BEN WALKER**
Associated Press

NEW YORK — She's no longer a Rumor at America's top dog show.

A German shepherd called Rumor who just missed winning at the Westminster Kennel Club last year came back to score a big victory Monday night, beating out favored Preston the puli in the herding group.

To the cheers of the crowd at Madison Square Garden, Rumor joined a miniature poodle, a Pekingese and a Norwegian elkhound in the best-of-seven final ring. She'll face three more group winners still to be picked tonight, right before the champ is chosen.

Rumor was the nation's No. 1 show dog last year when she came to the Garden. But she fell short when a German shorthaired pointer named CJ won in a surprise, and it was thought that Rumor would retire.

Asked about the chances of 5-year-old Rumor adding to her 103 career championship ribbons, handler and co-owner Kent Boyles said, "I have no idea. ... You never know."

"Really good competition," Boyles said, adding that he was "pretty nervous."



AP Photo/Seth Wenig

Rumor, a German shepherd, and Kent Boyles take a lap around the ring during the best in show competition at the 140th Westminster Kennel Club dog show at Madison Square Garden in New York in 2016. CJ, a German shorthaired pointer, won best in show. Rumor, who just missed winning at the Westminster Kennel Club in 2016, came back to score a big victory Monday, beating out favored Preston the puli in the herding group.

Crowd favorites

Nearly 2,800 dogs across 202 breeds and varieties were entered. Plenty of them were early crowd favorites at the mostly filled Garden, if not winners.

A toy fox terrier just wanted to stand still. A papillon lived up to its name — "butterfly," in French — by fluttering around. And a sloughi, one of three new breeds at this year's show, kept yawning.

Preston came in with 95 total wins, known for a black, corded coat so thick that it's often hard to see any of his features. It's also hard to handle — his hair takes up to five hours to dry, helped by a couple of industrial carpet blowers that create a "swirly, tornado effect," handler and co-owner Linda Pitts said.

In an upset, Duffy the Norwegian elkhound took the hound group. She topped Lucy the borzoi, second overall at Westminster last year, and Gia the greyhound, champ of the National Dog Show televised last Thanksgiving Day.



LEFT: Adriano Rocha grooms XO, a briard, during the 141st Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show on Monday in New York. RIGHT: Frankie Larriou grooms Bella, a Yorkshire terrier from Moscow during the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show on Monday in New York. Almost 2,800 dogs and 202 breeds competed in the annual event.



AP Photos/Mary Altaffer

Hound judge Polly Smith perked up some ears, too. In an interview shown on the scoreboard, she started out, "This bitch epitomized type." That's the proper term for a female dog — predictably, it drew

laughs and guffaws from the crowd.

Chuckie the Pekingese won the toy group. Not yet 2, he already has a legacy as his pop Malachy won Westminster in 2012. A black miniature poo-

dle pranced off with nonsporting group.

The top of the sporting, working and terriers will be picked tonight, followed immediately by best in show.

Dazzling debut

Watching little Raina McCloskey romp around the Westminster dog show ring with her borzoi buddy, it was hard to tell who was leading whom.

Because, really, Briar was so big Raina could've ridden him.

As fans noticed the unlikely pairing in the breed competition — a 7-year-old girl, in her aqua princess dress, galloping with her elegant 8-year-old pal — the sweet sound of "awwwww" filled the ring.

"Makes me teary-eyed," said her mom, Kari, of Delta, Pennsylvania.

Handlers who take dogs into the ring at Westminster are almost always adults. There is a portion of the program for junior showmanship, yet even those participants are usually teenagers.

"Mommy, where do I go into the ring?" Raina asked before boldly making her debut in the main draw. Her mother led a dog right behind them.

When Raina presented Briar to judge Steven Herman, he leaned over and softly asked: "Is he your friend?" She nodded.

Moments later, Raina took a tumble when her pink sneakers caught on a seam of the green, uneven carpet. She bounced up in a hurry without a worry, drew a loud cheer and finished the run alongside Briar.

When her mother checked if she was OK, Raina said her elbow hurt. Her mom kissed the boo-boo.

They both made the first cut of the 27 borzoi entries.

"I'm so proud of her, she did a great job," Kari said.

Asked if she had a fun time, Raina simply smiled. Instead, she kept her eyes on Briar, nuzzling him.

No words necessary.

Once is enough

Reigning champion CJ the German shorthaired pointer was entered in the show and came to New York, but co-owner/handler Valerie Nunes-Atkinson isn't going to have him compete today.

"We're not going to tarnish the memory," she said.

Westminster winners rarely try for a repeat — it's been more than 20 years since any champ stepped back into the Garden ring. The last dog to take two in a row at Westminster was an English springer spaniel in 1971-72.


There is no prize money for winning Westminster. Instead, the payoff can come in breeding rights, so owners frequently are eager to retire their champions.

THE DAILY ASTORIAN

TV LISTINGS

Evening listings
TUESDAY

TUESDAY EVENING												FEBRUARY 14	
A	L	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
2	KATU	(2) KATU News at 6		Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	The Middle (N)	Am. Housewife (N)	Fresh Off-Boat (N)	Real O'Neals (N)	SHIELD "The Man Behind the Shield" (N)		KATU News at 11	(35) Jimmy Kimmel
3	KOMO	(4) KOMO 4 News		Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy!	The Middle (N)	Am. Housewife (N)	Fresh Off-Boat (N)	Real O'Neals (N)	SHIELD "The Man Behind the Shield" (N)		KOMO 4 News	(35) Jimmy Kimmel
4	KING	(5) NBC Nightly News	KING 5 News	KING 5 News	Evening	The Wall "Darnell and Dion" (N)	This Is Us "Jack Pearson's Son" (N)	Chicago Fire "Trading in Scuttlebutt" (N)	Chicago Fire "Trading in Scuttlebutt" (N)	Chicago Fire "Trading in Scuttlebutt" (N)		KING 5 News	(35) Tonight Show
5	KOIN	(6) KOIN Local 6 at 6	CBS Evening News	Extra	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "Pandora's Box" Pt. 1 of 2 (N)	Bull "It's Classified" (N)	NCIS: New Orleans "Pandora's Box" (N)	NCIS: New Orleans "Pandora's Box" (N)	NCIS: New Orleans "Pandora's Box" (N)		KOIN 6 News @ 11	(35) S. Colbert
6	KIRO	(7) KIRO 7 News	CBS Evening News	The Insider	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "Pandora's Box" Pt. 1 of 2 (N)	Bull "It's Classified" (N)	NCIS: New Orleans "Pandora's Box" (N)	NCIS: New Orleans "Pandora's Box" (N)	NCIS: New Orleans "Pandora's Box" (N)		KIRO News	(35) S. Colbert
7	KGW	(8) KGW News at 6:00 p.m.	Live at Seven	Inside Edition	The Wall "Darnell and Dion" (N)	This Is Us "Jack Pearson's Son" (N)	Chicago Fire "Trading in Scuttlebutt" (N)	Chicago Fire "Trading in Scuttlebutt" (N)	Chicago Fire "Trading in Scuttlebutt" (N)	Chicago Fire "Trading in Scuttlebutt" (N)		KGW News at 11	(35) Tonight Show
8	KRCW	(3) Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Modern Family	Modern Family	Tough Mudder (SF) (N)	The Flash "Untouchable"	KGW News at 10	Two and a Half	Two and a Half	Two and a Half	Met Your Mother	Tower (N)
9	KOPB	(10) Ask-Old House	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour	Jackie Robinson Jackie Robinson speaks out against injustice. Pt. 2 of 2	Jackie Robinson Jackie Robinson speaks out against injustice. Pt. 2 of 2	American Experience "Ruby Ridge" (N)	American Experience "Ruby Ridge" (N)	American Experience "Ruby Ridge" (N)	American Experience "Ruby Ridge" (N)		Independent Lens	"Tower" (N)
10	KPTV	(12) 6 O'Clock News	Family Feud	Family Feud	New Girl (N)	The Mick (N)	Bones "The Scare in the Score" (N)	10 O'Clock News	11 O'Clock News	2 Broke Girls		11 O'Clock News	2 Broke Girls
11	KPDx	(6) Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	FOX 12's 8 O'Clock News on PDX-TV	FOX 12's 9 O'Clock News on PDX-TV	Family Guy	Family Guy	American Dad		Cleveland Show	Q13 News
12	KCPQ	(13) Modern Family	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	New Girl (N)	The Mick (N)	Bones "The Scare in the Score" (N)	Q13 News at 10	Q13 News		The Simpsons	
13	KIRO	(20) Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory		Conan (N)	Friends
14	KZJQ	(22) Two and a Half	Two and a Half	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Modern Family	Modern Family	Q13 News at 9	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory		Friends	Friends
15	ESPN	(29) NCAA Basketball	Ohio State at Michigan State (L)	SportsCenter	College Basketball	Jalen & Jacoby (N)	NFL Live	Jalen & Jacoby	Mike & Mike: ICYMI (N)	NCAA Basketball		NCAA Basketball	
16	NICK	(31) Nickelodeon's Not So	NickyRickyDicky	Henry Danger	Ride	Game Shakers	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House		Friends	Friends
17	DISN	(32) Bunk'd	Bizaardvark	Good Luck Charlie	Stuck in Middle	Good Luck Charlie	Live and Maddie	Live and Maddie	Bunk'd	Bunk'd		Jessie	Jessie
18	FAM	(34) (5:00) ★★ Twilight (2008, Drama)	Robert Pattinson, Billy Burke, Kristen Stewart.	The Fosters "Cruel and Unusual" (N)	Switched at Birth "Surprise" (N)	The Fosters "Cruel and Unusual" (N)	Switched at Birth "Surprise" (N)	The Fosters "Cruel and Unusual" (N)	The Fosters "Cruel and Unusual" (N)	The Fosters "Cruel and Unusual" (N)		The 700 Club	
19	FMC	(35) (4:30) About Time (2013, Romance)	Rachel McAdams, Bill Nighy, Domhnall Gleeson.	(10) FXM Presents	★★ Chicago (2002, Musical)	Renée Zellweger, Richard Gere, Catherine Zeta-Jones.	(45) FXM Presents	★★ Two Weeks Notice (2002, Comedy)	Hugh Grant, Alicia Witt, Sandra Bullock.	★★ Two Weeks Notice (2002, Comedy)		Hugh Grant, Alicia Witt, Sandra Bullock.	
20	LIFE	(36) Dance Moms "Battle of the Blondes"	Dance Moms "Breathless in Denver"	Dance Chat "Leaving La La Land" (N)	Dance Moms (N)	Dance Moms (N)	★★ Two Weeks Notice (2002, Comedy)	Hugh Grant, Alicia Witt, Sandra Bullock.	★★ Two Weeks Notice (2002, Comedy)	Hugh Grant, Alicia Witt, Sandra Bullock.		Hugh Grant, Alicia Witt, Sandra Bullock.	
21	ROOT	(38) NCAA Basketball	Colorado State vs. Wyoming (L)	Mark Few (N)	Charlie Moore	Destination (N)	Focused	Mark Few	NCAA Basketball	Wake Forest vs. Clemson		Wake Forest vs. Clemson	
22	F51	(39) (5:00) Dog Show	Westminster Kennel Club (L)	WKC Post Show	TMZ Sports	Speak for Yourself	Speak for Yourself	Skip and Shannon: Undisputed	Opinions on the biggest sports topics of the day.	Skip and Shannon: Undisputed		Opinions on the biggest sports topics of the day.	
23	SPIKE	(43) Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops		Campus PD	Campus PD
24	COM	(44) ★★ 50 First Dates (04, Romance)	Drew Barrymore, Rob Schneider, Adam Sandler.	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0		Detroiters (N)	The Daily Show (N) @midnight (N)
25	HIST	(45) Curse Oak Island "Presidential Secrets"	Oak Island "Hyde Park and Go Seek"	Curse of Oak Island "One of Seven" (N)	Oak Island "Of Sticks and Stones" (N)	Oak Island "Of Sticks and Stones" (N)	(05) Forged in Fire "Redemption" (N)	(05) Detroit Steel "All In the Family"	(10) To Be Announced	(10) To Be Announced		(10) To Be Announced	
26	A&E	(46) The First 48 "Bound and Burned"	Intervention "Eric"	Intervention "Samantha"	Codependent "Krysten and Spencer"	Codependent "Krysten and Spencer"	(10) Escaping Polygamy (N)	(10) Escaping Polygamy (N)	(10) Escaping Polygamy (N)	(10) Escaping Polygamy (N)		(10) Escaping Polygamy (N)	
27	TLC	(47) Say Yes-Dress	Say Yes-Dress	My Big "Immaculate Misconception"	My Big Life "Baby Fat"	My Big Life "Baby Fat"	Big Fat Fabulous "Judging Whitney" (N)	Tattoo "Tattooing Your Entire Face"	Killing Fields "The Takedown" (N)	Killing Fields "The Takedown" (N)		(10) Big Fat Fab. "Judging Whitney"	
28	DISC	(48) Moonshiners: Distill My Heart	Moonshiners: Distill My Heart	Moonshiners: Distill My Heart	Moonshiners (N)	Moonshiners (N)	UncensoredW "Africa's Last King" (N)	The Real Suddam Hussein	The Librarians	The Librarians		The Librarians	
29	NGO	(49) Facing "Saddam"	Bones "Judas on a Pole"	Bones "The Man in the Cell"	★★ Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (2011, Action)	Penélope Cruz, Ian McShane, Johnny Depp.	Titanic (1997, Drama)	Billy Zane, Leonardo DiCaprio. Two social opposites meet and fall in love while on Titanic's maiden voyage.	Titanic (1997, Drama)	Titanic (1997, Drama)		Titanic (1997, Drama)	
30	TNT	(50) Bones "Judas on a Pole"	Bones "The Man in the Cell"	★★ Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (2011, Action)	Penélope Cruz, Ian McShane, Johnny Depp.	Titanic (1997, Drama)	Billy Zane, Leonardo DiCaprio. Two social opposites meet and fall in love while on Titanic's maiden voyage.	Titanic (1997, Drama)	Titanic (1997, Drama)	Titanic (1997, Drama)		Titanic (1997, Drama)	
31	AMC	(51) (2:30) Titanic (1997, Drama)	Kate Winslet, Billy Zane, Leonardo DiCaprio.	Two social opposites meet and fall in love while on Titanic's maiden voyage.	WWE Smackdown! WWE superstars do battle in long-running rivalries.	WWE Smackdown! WWE superstars do battle in long-running rivalries.	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family		Modern Family	Modern Family
32	USA	(52) Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	WWE Smackdown! WWE superstars do battle in long-running rivalries.	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family		Modern Family	Modern Family
33	FOOD	(53) Chopped Junior "Goat Gumption"	Chopped Junior "Basket Brawl"	Chopped Junior "Rise and Cook!" (N)	Chopped "Fried Chicken Time"	Chopped "Fried Chicken Time"	Chopped "Blue Plate Fate" (N)	Chopped "Mac and Cheese"	Chopped "Mac and Cheese"	Chopped "Mac and Cheese"		Chopped "Mac and Cheese"	
34	HGTV	(54) Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper	
35	FX	(56) (4:30) Green Lantern	Ryan Reynolds.	★★★ X-Men: Days of Future Past (2014, Adventure)	Ian McKellen, Patrick Stewart, Hugh Jackman.	Taboo	The East India Company declares war on James. (N)	Taboo	Taboo	Taboo		Taboo	
36	CNN	(57) Anderson Cooper 360	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	Anderson Cooper 360	Anderson Cooper 360	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	
37	FNC	(58) Tucker Carlson Tonight	Hannity	The O'Reilly Factor	Tucker Carlson Tonight	Hannity	The First 100 Days	Hannity	The First 100 Days	The First 100 Days		The First 100 Days	
38	61	CNBC	(61) Shark Tank	Billion "My Guests Are Number One" (N)	Billion "My Guests Are Number One" (N)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Billion "My Guests Are Number One" (N)	Paid Program	Paid Program		Paid Program	
39	BRVA	(63) Beverly "Boys, Blades, and Bag of Pills"	The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills	Beverly Hills Social (N)	Beverly Hills "Backed Into a Corner" (N)	Imposters "My Balls, Dickhead" (N)	WatchWhat (N)	Beverly Hills	WatchWhat (N)	Beverly Hills		Beverly Hills	
40	TCM	(64) (5:00) The Lady Eve (1945) ★★ Libeled	Lady (1936, Comedy) Myrna Loy, Spencer Tracy, Jean Harlow. (45) ★★ Lili (1952, Musical) Mel Ferrer, Leslie Caron.	(15) ★★ The Little Fugitive (1953) Ruth Orkin, Morris Engel.	Movie	Movie	Movie	Movie	Movie	Movie		Movie	
41	SYM	(65) Face Off "Beyond the Expanse"	Face Off "Death Becomes Them"	Face Off "Monster High"	Face Off "Snow Queens" (N)	★★ Resident Evil: Afterlife (10) Wentworth Miller, Ali Larter, Milla Jovovich.	Product Showcase	Product Showcase	Product Showcase	Product Showcase		Product Showcase	
42	RFD	(162) (5:30) Cattlemen	Tractor Pulling	Downunder Horseman.	Chris Cox	Rural Eve. News	Ag PhD	Cattlemen to Cattlemen	Tractor Pulling	Product Showcase		Product Showcase	




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