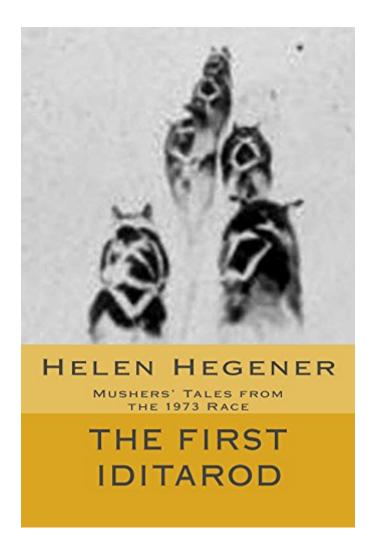
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The First Iditarod





Synopsis

â œMusher after musher agrees that no one â " racers or officials â " knew what to expect.â • ~Bill Sherwonit in Iditarod: The Great Race to Nome (Alaska Northwest Books, 1991) This book is the result of several years of researching, interviewing, and writing, beginning with an idea which took shape in 2007. But one could really say it began long before that, because my first interest in the Iditarod came in late 1972, when, as a sprint-racing fan, I began hearing thin reports of some mushers in Wasilla meeting to discuss an unprecedented 1,000 mile race across Alaska. The very idea was astonishing, unbelievable, incomprehensible. Who in the world would race their sled dogs one thousand miles? Was it even possible? Would the dogs survive? Would the mushers? Over the years an aura has developed around that first race, and most fans know the lore and the rudiments of the story, how it was Joe Redington Sr.â ™s pie-in-the-sky dream, how he wrangled others into sharing the dream with him and doing the groundwork necessary to make it happen. The history of how the race began can be found in almost every book about the event, because itâ ™s a darned good story, colorful and compelling and full of true-life characters and exciting adventures. But the mushersâ ™ unique individual stories are little-known. Several years ago I set about tracking down and visiting the remaining mushers from the 1973 race who would share their stories, their memories of what it was like to be one of the original pioneers setting out on what has since become known as â ceThe Last Great Race on Earth.â • This book is comprised of the verbatim words of mushers who made that first journey to Nome in 1973, captured through recorded and videotaped interviews conducted over a span of several years.

Book Information

File Size: 2607 KB

Print Length: 154 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publication Date: March 5, 2015

Sold by: A Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00UB9P07I

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #206,186 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #12 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Iditarod & Dog-Sledding #25 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > Americas > United States > State & Local > Pacific Northwest #193 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Winter Sports

Customer Reviews

For those of us that love the Iditarod, what an informative book.

The book is one who nothing about Alaska mushing.

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