



DOG OF THE WEEK

Meet Finnegan ... week of January 10, 2005

Finnegan is an Airedale Terrier who is just shy of his first birthday. He is a handsome and stately fellow who has just a little mischief up his sleeve. The staff at We Call Rover Over Ltd. have had the distinct pleasure of knowing Finnegan since he was four months old and have enjoyed watching him grow up. He has become a polite and dignified dog who is a pleasure to take care of.



The Airedale Terrier, also known as the King of Terriers, originated in Yorkshire when working men in Leeds crossed the Old English Broken Haired terrier with the Otterhound. Although the breed is too large to technically follow the definition of “terrier” which means “of the earth” which refers to the ability to go underground, the Airedale still has the personality and gumption of its terrier relatives. The Airedale Terrier is a tough and faithful dog which makes a keen watchdog and has been used as a police dog, sentry dog and messenger. They are a stubborn yet loyal and intelligent pet.

When Finnegan was a young man, he was full of the devil. He liked to test the boundaries every day like all intelligent puppies. However as he grew and his parents spent plenty of time working with him and giving him positive attention, he has grown into a polite and friendly dog. He is the Prince William of beasts. He is handsome, well-mannered and seems to have a more dignified way of carrying himself than most puppies we meet. He has always been a handsome dog but as he filled out and his hair grew a little longer, he became quite striking and virile. Finnegan is always in the mood to play, especially when his littermate Piper’s family brings her in for the day, and he is always one of the first dogs to make friends. Male dogs are drawn to his quiet confidence which requires no displays of dominance on Finnegan’s part to solidify. Female dogs are drawn to his good looks and gentle courtship. Not to say Finnegan doesn’t also still know how to stir things up, but royalty would be no fun if there weren’t a story or two for the tabloids every now and then. Even so, like Prince William he is well raised, well socialized royalty and he would be ready and able to rule the roost at any time with a gentle dignity and endless charm. He is even a humanitarian at heart. We are told he pulls children in a sled during the winter months using a special harness, much to the delight of the kids and Finnegan himself. A dog of the people, that’s our Prince Finnegan.

Above and beyond all of Finnegan’s positive traits, nothing speaks more volumes than his eyes. All dogs have fantastic eyes; it is nature’s way of giving them a way to speak without speaking. However, Finnegan’s eyes hold a special kind of warmth and kindness not usually acquired by a dog until they reach ripe old age and have seen it all. When you get his attention, he looks you right in the eye with a gaze that carries no defiance, no distrust and no attitude. He is such a respectful and friendly dog, we find ourselves wishing all dogs could carry themselves with such grace. He is a tribute to his challenging breed and to responsible ownership. We at the kingdom of We Call Rover Over Ltd. are pleased to have Prince Finnegan at the helm and know he will make a great king some day.