

## Breed First - Utility Dog Tracking (UDT)



### Schon Hiedie Von Toro CD, CDX, UD, TD, (UDT)

Ken Nelson

#### By Ken Nelson

Hiedie was whelped on May 4, 1963, but CH Zwinghof Toro-Rock V Zwingo x Royal Heidi. The breeder was Wesley Wyse, but she was an 8-week old puppy when we bought her from H.N. Pangle.

Since we knew nothing about dogs in general, and Saints in particular, she just grew up-- untrained and uncontrollable—and became a big enough problem that we considered finding her another home. Fortunately, someone suggested Obedience classes for her (to be honest, the neighbors insisted on it!).

The first night was a total disaster. She was “jumped” by an Irish Setter as we walked in, and Hiedie decided to get her revenge by attacking every other dog in the place. Since this attitude lasted for several weeks we were not very popular, and I did overhear a few conversations in which tar and feathers were mentioned. However, I decided to ignore such comments and keep trying to convince Hiedie that she should show some tolerance for other animals. After about 6 weeks, Hiedie seemed to decide to go along with the foolishness, and a few weeks later we had our first blue ribbon for placing first in the graduation class.

Ignoring those muttering about a “fix” and accusing me of switching dogs, we moved on to the next class. Three months later Hiedie had her Companion Dog (CD), all legs around 195. Then it was off to Open and before too long Hiedie had her Companion Dog Excellent (CDX) title. Life was easy and everything was going to be smooth sailing to the coveted Utility Dog (UD) title.

By this time Hiedie was a joy to own; obedient, friendly, and everything you could want in a dog. Except she still wanted to eat every Irish Setter in sight. Needless to say, this added a little excitement to every “stay” exercise if a Setter was in the class. Fortunately, Hiedie managed to restrain herself, and it was on to Utility.

Utility was a little slower, but Hiedie was finally ready to show when disaster struck. She developed an inner ear infection that nearly killed her. Recovery was slow, and the infection left her with a permanently impaired sense of balance. It was hard for her to walk a straight line, and she was completely unable to jump. All her previous training was out the window, and we had to go back to Novice work and train all over again, while Hiedie learned to compensate for her balance problem.

We decided to try Tracking while she was recovering, since there was no jumping involved and her lack of balance would be less of a handicap. The work was fun and Hiedie both enjoyed it and learned it easily. Four months after we started Tracking, Hiedie had her “T”.

By now Hiedie was again ready for Utility. Three shows later we had two legs toward the UD, and seventeen shows later we still had the same two legs. It seemed like we blew every exercise in the book, and then invented new ones to mess up. But, finally, at the twenty-first show, Hiedie decided to have pity on me and she earned her third leg and the UDT. And I swear she was laughing at me all the time.

Hiedie was the **FIRST** UDT Saint Bernard, but more importantly she was our first Saint. We've owned many since her, but none have been as smart, stubborn, devious, loving, sneaky—or as special—as Hiedie. To the day she died she never admitted she was a dog or that I was her master. And she never stopped trying to eat Irish Setters.

If I could be granted one wish in dogs, it would be that someday I have another dog like Hiedie.

**Schon Hiedie Von Toro**  
**CD, CDX, UD, TD, (UDT)**

**Ken and Bette Nelson**



**First Saint Bernard to Earn a Utility Dog  
Tracking Title (UDT)**

**July 28, 1968**

# First Saint Bernard To Earn a Utility Dog (UD) & Tracking Dog (TD) Titles--(UDT)

## *Saint Bernard National Archive's AKC Obedience/Performance Record For:*

### **Schon Hiedie Von Toro UDT**

**Ken & Bette Nelson**

CH	Titles	Date	Trial or Test	Track	NA	NB	OA	OB	UA	UB	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	UDX	HIT	A	N	S	#	M	F
		October 18, 1964	Dayton DTC, OH		191.50																	
		November 08, 1964	Hamilton DTC, OH		197.00									4								
		November 15, 1964	Central Ohio KC, OH		195.00								3									
CD		October 10, 1965	Queen City DTC, OH					193.50														1
CD		October 24, 1965	Dayton DTC, OH					187.00														2
CDX		November 14, 1965	Hamilton DTC, OH					191.50														3
CDX		November 21, 1965	Central Ohio KC, OH					194.50				2										4
CDX TD		October 07, 1967	Queen City DTC, OH	TD (1)																		
CDX TD		October 08, 1967	Queen City DTC, OH					190.50														5
CDX TD		February 03, 1968	Muncie OTC, IN					193.50														6
CDX TD		February 18, 1968	Middletown DTC, OH							189.50												7
CDX TD		February 25, 1968	Louisville KC, KY							191.00												8
CDX TD		June 02, 1968	Cincinnati KC, OH					197.50														9
UDT		July 28, 1968	Marion Ohio KC, OH							189.00												10
<b>Class score averages and placement totals:</b>					194.50	ERR	ERR	192.57	189.83	ERR	0	1	1	1	ERR	0	0	0	0	10		
<b>Qualifying Scores:</b>				14	1	3	0	0	7	3	0											

\*Code\* A = All Breed Trial; N = SBC of America's Trial; S = Saint Bernard Independent Specialty  
 # = Number of Qualifying Scores in the Classes of Open and/or Utility

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