

# Results, 1981 ARRL September VHF QSO Party

By Bill Jennings,\* K1WJ and Mark Wilson,\*\* AA2Z

Uhf operation during the vhf contests is becoming an ever-increasingly important part of the serious vhf contester's operating strategy. Gone are the days when just a very few vhf contesters, those who were considered uhf experimenters — pioneers if you wish — would spend a good portion of a vhf contest weekend lovingly tuning a homebuilt converter, hoping to hear something more than that sterile "hiss" of a dead 220- or 432-MHz band.

Time was in a September VHF QSO Party when you could rely on those few extra multipliers found on 6 meters to nullify your crosstown rival's superior 2-meter QSO total in a heated competition for an ARRL Section contest award. Times *have* changed. Nowadays, a serious vhf contester has to have more ears than a Kansas cornfield and more arms than an octopus to make sure that he/she is on the "right" band to maximize the QSO rate *and* to work all possible multipliers on each band used.

Let's use the results of the 392 entries received for the 1981 September VHF QSO Party, held on the weekend of September 12-13, and the numbers from the 372 logs submitted for the 1980 September contest, to illustrate the increasing use of the uhf bands in the vhf contests. In 1980, 37% of the entrants indicated any type of activity on the 220-MHz band, while in 1981 that percentage crept up to 40%. The 432-MHz band was used by 45% of the 1980 entrants, and the numbers crossed the half-way barrier to better than 52% usage by those stations reporting their activity in 1981.

It was in part because of his use of the 220-MHz band that Bill, K5MAT, was to break the long-standing Rocky Mountain Division single-operator record for the September contest, one of 12 new division records set in 1981 (seven single operator and five multioperator). The old Rocky Mountain Division Record of 546 points, set by W0EVZ in 1964, was remarkable in that it stood for 17 years. Had K5MAT not included 220-MHz capabilities in his contest arsenal, his score would have fallen 47 points short of setting a new record.

If we compare multipliers and numbers of QSOs per band for the top scorers in both the 1980 and the 1981 September contests (see January 1981 *QST*, page 82, for the 1980 contest results), we find a noticeable increase in the numbers of QSOs and multipliers worked by stations in call areas where uhf participation in the past has been very light or nonexistent. In Nevada, where in contests past 10 or so QSOs would have been the limit on 432, we find WA7JUO with 19 70-cm contacts in the log. And K0TLM's two multipliers on 220 MHz are

two more than the top W0 station had even one year ago. Well done.

WA4WZQ sums up the vhf contester's attitude toward the seemingly perpetual advancement in utilizing ever-higher frequency bands with this statement: "We want to thank all of our 'four-band' contacts. Please, let's make it 'five-band' QSOs with 1296 next time."

You've probably noticed that with the results of each successive recent vhf contest, a few more stations have those E, F, G, H and I designators indicating the use of the microwave bands at 1296 and above. It is probably safe to say that in studying the recent past history of the use of uhf bands in vhf contesting, we would be seeing a parallel to the near future use of the microwave frequencies by vhf contesters.

The VHF Sweepstakes is on for the weekend of January 12-13. See the December 1981 issue of *QST* for details. Good luck.



WA8ONQ (N8BPB in background), leader of the multiop group of the same call sign in Ohio that now holds the all-time multioperator division record for the September contest in the Great Lakes Division.

## Division Leaders

Single-Operator	Division	Multioperator
WA2DPU*	Atlantic	K3YTL
K9RO	Central	W9IP
W0VB*	Dakota	WB0ZAH
WA5FDF	Delta	W4BFB*
W8DJY*	Great Lakes	WA8ONQ*
WB2WIH	Hudson	WA2SNA
K0TLM	Midwest	WB0ZKG
K1PXE	New England	W2SZ1*
WB7JUP	Northwestern	WA7ECY
K6GSS	Pacific	W9DHK
WA2FGK/8*	Roanoke	K3LNZ/8
K5MAT*	Rocky Mountain	AA0P
WA4NJ*	Southeastern	WB4NMA
N6NB	Southwestern	N6MI*
KC5WX*	West Gulf	N5CG
VE3CRU	Canadian	VE3LNX
C6ADV	DX	XE2XW*

\*Indicates new division record

## Top 10

Single Operator	Score	Multioperator	Score
WA2DPU	64,504	W2SZ1	205,530
WA2FGK/8	50,298	WA2SNA	95,504
WB3CDE	47,502	W4BFB	86,880
W8DJY	38,226	K1TR/1	86,031
K1PXE	31,533	WA8ONQ	77,952
KA1BRD	30,660	W8VP	72,770
K3SXA	29,877	W9IP	69,276
WB1CJT	26,688	K9HMB	68,684
K1FWF	23,973	K3YTL	68,580
WB2WIH	21,888	K3MTK	67,760

## Call-Area Score Leaders QSOs/Multipliers per Band

	50 MHz	144 MHz	220 MHz	432 MHz	1296 MHz
K1PXE	20/8	132/20	49/15	75/19	19/7
W2SZ1*	382/38	472/23	123/22	173/25	33/12
WA2DPU	133/27	251/21	104/12	188/19	19/9
WA2SNA*	198/22	356/23	105/19	96/22	20/8
WB3CDE	111/23	270/21	59/16	55/18	—
K3YTL*	234/30	290/23	64/20	55/17	—
WA4SBC	21/10	88/18	28/14	62/17	—
W4BFB*	281/33	599/22	46/10	57/15	—
KC5WX	30/5	140/6	15/1	51/7	3/1
N5CG*	121/27	182/16	—	15/5	—
N6NB	46/11	165/11	61/6	37/10	14/6
N6MF*	87/8	357/11	72/5	30/5	8/5
WA7JUO	14/5	67/6	—	19/6	—
WA7ECY*	7/1	3/1	2/1	2/1	—
WA2FGK/8	131/26	387/32	28/15	16/10	—
WA8ONQ*	204/37	343/30	62/11	48/11	7/4
K9RO	51/20	161/15	20/8	17/6	3/1
W9IP*	160/36	374/25	36/16	74/15	—
K0TLM	43/15	59/10	5/2	17/8	—
W0RT*	10/4	104/11	2/2	16/7	—
VE3CRU	51/10	114/20	30/10	41/9	9/5
VE3LNX*	73/12	109/17	30/11	31/10	—

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\*\*Assistant Communications Manager, ARRL

\*Multioperator stations

## All-Time Division Records

Single-Operator				Multioperator			
		Call	Score	Year	Call	Score	Year
Atlantic	Jan.	WA3AXV	80,770	81	W3KKN	52,272	81
	June	K3SXA	45,144	81	W3CCX	240,380	81
	Sept.	WA2DPU	64,504	81	K3MTK	74,046	80
Central	Jan.	K9RO	30,080	80	K9HMB	72,424	81
	June	W9IP	90,797	81	K9HMB	136,656	81
	Sept.	GW3NJY/W9	35,310	79	W9IP	84,739	79
Dakota	Jan.	W0RGU	16,000	81	K0VXM	7830	79
	June	K0VXM	29,127	80	W0SD	89,782	81
	Sept.	W0VB	3276	81	K0SE	10,492	79
Delta	Jan.	WB4JGG	16,884	80	WB4HEL/4	8880	73
	June	WB4JGG	36,936	80	W4BFB/4	74,404	78
	Sept.	WB4JGG	28,424	79	W4BFB	86,880	81
Great Lakes	Jan.	K8LEE	41,080	76	K8III	80,984	79
	June	WA8TTS	38,064	79	WA8ONQ	111,111	80
	Sept.	W8DJY	38,226	81	WA8ONQ	77,952	81
Hudson	Jan.	WB2WIK	63,070	80	K2XR	76,000	81
	June	WA2FGK/2	61,903	81	K2XR	203,218	81
	Sept.	WB2WIK	54,202	79	K2XR	142,006	80
Midwest	Jan.	WB0ZKG	16,776	81	K0VUY	14,196	76
	June	W0TEM	30,304	80	W0OHU	68,796	79
	Sept.	N0IS	24,119	79	K0TLM	7470	79
New England	Jan.	WA1MAO	55,130	81	WA1RWU	76,416	81
	June	N6NB/1	86,254	80	W1FC	315,582	81
	Sept.	N6NB/1	102,795	79	W2SZ/1	205,530	81
Northwestern	Jan.	WA7KYZ	10,296	79	WB7DTI	10,008	81
	June	KB7WW	26,649	81	N7DB	42,210	81
	Sept.	WA6JUD/7	4056	76	WA7NAN	8759	75
Pacific	Jan.	WA6JUD/6	23,868	76	WA6BMV	24,814	77
	June	N6NB	69,184	77	WA6JUD/6	81,213	76
	Sept.	WA6JUD/6	24,640	77	WB6KBZ/6	31,995	78
Roanoke	Jan.	K3ICH/4	23,744	80	W4BFB/4	27,392	80
	June	N6NB/8	84,780	81	W2CNS/8	152,934	81
	Sept.	WA2FGK/8	50,298	81	W4BFB	190,210	79
Rocky Mountain	Jan.	N6NB/7	6120	80	WA0PHZ/0	8062	68
	June	WA0TVZ	22,935	77	N0BRI	33,930	81
	Sept.	K5MAT	900	81	N0KV	2970	79
Southeastern	Jan.	W4GDS	26,400	73	W4VO	18,966	78
	June	WB4OSN	55,380	80	WA4OYH	85,500	80
	Sept.	WA4NJP	13,939	81	W4VO	24,426	79
Southwestern	Jan.	N6NB	25,880	79	N6NB	46,750	81
	June	K6YNB	60,342	76	W6AMT	105,080	76
	Sept.	K6YNB/6	34,013	76	N6MI	22,848	81
West Gulf	Jan.	K5CM	14,100	78	K5CM	14,910	81
	June	WA5HMK	34,151	77	K5LZO	92,106	80
	Sept.	KC5WX	6220	81	K5CM	18,630	78
Canadian	Jan.	VE1ASJ	21,156	79	VE1DXA	13,266	79
	June	VE2DFO	37,410	81	VE3ONT	82,188	74
	Sept.	VE3ASO	18,816	73	VE3ONT	43,413	74
DX	Jan.	C6ADV	120	81	—	—	—
	June	W2BN/C6	18,700	77	VP5AA	29,526	80
	Sept.	JA1RJU	8	79	XE2XW	114	81



AAZZ gave up the creature comforts of beautiful Connecticut to try his hand at mountaintopping from the wilds of western Massachusetts.



The WA2FGK mobile, ready to roll into West Virginia and to roll out again with the number two single-operator score in the contest.

## SOAPBOX

Having worked the last four vhf contests exclusively on 2-meter cw and ssb running about 80 watts, I feel that the scoring system is not fair to the single operator. I think that awards should be made to those stations that score the most points on each band (VE3BZE). Worked three "new" states on 220 — TN, MA and KY (N4CD). A grid locator system would encourage vhf enthusiasts to aim their antennas this way! 90% of those stations that I worked were off the back or side of their antennas. Think what would have happened had there been an incentive to point those antennas into the "wilderness" (KA1SY). No Es or extended tropo — really the pits! (W5UWB). Since my station is weighted toward the uhf side, I was very happy to see 6 meters dead in this area and pleased to

be on hand for a modest opening on 1296. Best DX — W2SZ/1 at 496 miles on the 23-cm band (WA8TXX). This contest can be summed up in three letters — UGH! Oh, the sections were there for the taking — I had 19 sections in less than four hours. I seem to be quite lucky in getting Maine (I even wound up with two Maine QSOs) (WB2CUT). I am still patiently waiting for 6 meters to open up — 9/23/81 (WD4PKZ). The enclosed log sheets for the recent September VHF QSO Party are just another piece of evidence to prove the "Black Hole" theory that exists between Lake Michigan and the Missouri River (AE9M). I believe that there should be no time limit on 220-MHz fm. There is not enough activity on 220 to justify this limitation (WA1PLS). Sure would be nice if more vhfers realized that there are Minnesota stations north of Mpls./St. Paul. We do have several

## FEEDBACK

Please refer to page 82 of January 1981 QST for the following corrections. In the Washington Section, KB7G/7 should be listed as the multiop section winner (not single operator), with KB7B, N7AYI and WB7RTG assisting KB7G. In the Ohio listings, adjust the linescore of KD8Z to read 3243-141-23-AB.

Please refer to page 82 of September 1981 QST for the following correction. N7DB/7 (not K7AUO), with a score of 42,210, should be listed as the multiop leader and the new all-time division record score in the Northwestern Division. The All-Time Division Leader Box with this report reflects this change.

Scores are listed in order, single-operator stations first within each section. From left to right: call, score, number of QSOs, number of multipliers, bands operated (A-50 MHz, B-144 MHz, C-220 MHz, D-432 MHz, E-1296 MHz, F-2.3 GHz, H-5.7 GHz, I-10 GHz, J-24 GHz).

## U.S.A.

AK4L/1	8988-183-42-ABCDI
KA1BXB	8918-157-49-ABCD
K1EM	6513-145-39-ABD
W1FAJ	5280-120-32-ABCD
WA1ZNT	2668-116-23-AB
WB1EY1	2574-138-18-BC
WA1GTP	1242-54-23-AB
WA1ZEK	684-76-9-B
W1GNC	510-51-10-B
W1AW (AAZ2, opr.)	204-27-6-BD
WA1POI	125-21-5-ABC
K1WJ	54-9-3-C
KA1IGY	35-7-5-A
W1VD (+K1JX, K1ZZ)	51,136-673-68-ABCDI
W1LQK (+KA1TD, W1PV, WA1WXV, WB1S CVW EZL)	34,221-480-61-ABCD
K1MUJ (K1S GX UQE, KB1H, WA1S B2S DWE HYN, opr.)	10,592-331-32-AB
W1BVR (+KA1SK)	444R-208-31-AB
K1CE (+KB2GG, N1XZ, WA1VEI)	936-47-18-ABD

## Eastern Massachusetts

K1FWF	23,973-315-61-ABCD
N1AIS	8525-242-31-BD
W1GXT	6897-153-33-BCDE
WB1FKF	6346-113-38-BCDE
KA1DHO	4350-127-30-ABCD
K1GVM	3828-116-29-ABD
WA1JOF	3060-170-18-B
W1FM	2244-95-22-ABD
KA1AMR	744-62-12-B
WA1YKN	624-52-12-B
W1XM (W1XG, N2ME, WA4TTG, opr.s.)	39,075-399-75-ABCD
N1BLI (+N1BCG)	2070-138-15-B

## Maine

K1TOL	5511-167-33-A
W1BJ	1540-97-14-BD
K1BZ	126-21-6-B
KA1SY	114-19-6-B

## New Hampshire

WB1CJT	26,688-322-64-ABCD
W1EJ	18,966-241-58-ABCD
AF1T	17,287-229-59-ABCD
AC1J	3404-133-23-ABCD
KA1CDZ	2134-97-22-AB
W1HNZ	350-35-10-B
WA1GDR	350-35-10-AB
W1ICU	242-22-11-B
KA1FTG	234-26-9-B
WA1YKM/1	6-3-2-A

## Rhode Island

KB2M/1	14,664-246-52-ABCD
W1AJR	4674-105-38-ABCD
W1BAT (K8BGZ, opr.)	3740-187-20-B
K1DS	588-42-14-AB
K1WJ/1	16-4-4-B
AJ1E/1 (+KA1CXC, WA1AYS, WA2JHR, WB4RVA)	21,420-307-60-ABCD

## Vermont

K1LPS	5017-173-29-AB
W1AIM	4956-99-42-ABCD
W1TKZ (K1S OGF TK UR, N1ACN, N2AWG, WA1S PQY ZL Q, WB1BUM, opr.s.)	60,138-658-78-ABCDI

## Western Massachusetts

AC1T	6882-152-37-ABCD
WA1PLS	4840-180-22-BC
AA2Z/1	3968-107-31-ABCD
WA1VCU	2280-101-20-BD
W1JP	960-60-16-AB
K1BE	884-52-17-AB
WA1UOL	434-31-14-AB
K1GXU	220-22-10-B
W2SZ/1 (K1DH, WA1UE, WB1CBH, AG2X, K2S MM UF, WR, WA2S AAU SPL, WB2S, CFP JLR PKO GCJ, KL7JT.	

