

Results, 1982 Novice Roundup

Beginner's Luck

By Bill Jennings,* K1WJ

The Novice Roundup is unique among Amateur Radio contests. It is a contest in which everyone who participates is a winner. There are no losers in the NR.

The Novice Roundup provides a medium in which the "newly" licensed ham can share and enjoy the "Novice Experience," enter into friendly competition with her/his contemporaries or, in the true spirit of friendly amateur cooperation, jump in to give a QSO or two to those who are participating in the NR.

It takes a little more than luck to come out of the NR with one of the ARRL Section Winner awards. Those valued hunks of wall-paper are earned by those operators who work at developing their operating skills and take the time to fully utilize their station equipment. The 200 QSO Award and even the score listing for the Novice Roundup in *QST* are no lesser achievements. The very fact that one's score is listed shows that there was a certain resolve to undertake operation in the NR and to wade through the paperwork necessary to see that resolve through to its logical conclusion.

Can any of those who entered the Novice Roundup and put in their best effort, no matter where they ended up in the score listings, say they didn't come out a winner? We think not. Don't believe it? Drop on by next year for NR '83 and give it a whirl. You'll be glad you did.

There were 469 entries received in the wake of NR '82 — 362 from Novices and Technicians, the other 107 coming from non-Novices and in the form of check logs. Even though this is not a record number of entries for the Novice Roundup (615 entries were received as a result of NR '81), it's still a pretty fair showing.

The checking of this year's NR entries revealed a diverse group of entrants. There was one Novice operator aged 10 years and a couple of Novice/Technician ops in their early 60s. At least one Novice received her new ticket as the '82 NR was half over, while more than just a few of the Novices and Technicians entered in this year's NR have been licensed more than five years.

The station equipment used showed the same span of diversity as that of the operators themselves. Homebrewed transceivers and crystal-controlled transmitters hooked to simple wire antennas performed quite well for their operators, as did those brand new, fancy, state-of-the-art kilobuck transceivers coupled to multi-element quads and Yagis. The point is that if you are on the air or plan to be, and if you have the interest, there is a place for you, the Novice or Technician operator, in the Novice Roundup.

CU in NR '83.

*Communications Assistant, ARRL



Debra, KA40TP/T, with 567 NR QSOs, was the number three Technician in the 1982 NR.



KABLTO/N from the Ohio section.



Ten-year-old Annie, KA3IHU/N, after only three months on the air, made 200 QSOs and led the Maryland-DC section.



Tobl, KA9MMY/N, received her license on Thursday, February 4 — right in the middle of the contest — and still managed to make a respectable 117 NR QSOs. No, the amplifier in the photo was not used in the contest. It belongs to Tobl's OM, K9WZB.



Brian, KA0LAE/N, 11 years old, made 420 QSOs in the NR, and is pictured enjoying some heavy reading when the QSO rate dropped during the contest.

Top 10 Novices

Call	Score
KA2BNF/N	82,875
KA0GFA/N	69,445
KA5GW1/N	65,110
WA4PGM/N	65,075
KA4VNS/N	61,404
KA7HJQ/N	53,856
KA5KPE/N	50,544
KA4IOU/N	49,118
KA7HBK/N	48,626
WB5LUU/N	48,438

Top 10 Technicians

Call	Score
WB2DNP/T	52,624
KA7LGC/T	52,104
KA40TP/T	48,762
KA8IPG/T	37,425
WD4RAF/T	35,364
KA9KAW/T	31,668
KA9EKG/T	26,496
WD5AFR/T	23,363
N8CVY/T	22,555
WD8NHN/T	21,886

SOAPBOX

This was my first contest. Prior to this year's Novice Roundup, I only had a total of 14 contacts logged. Thus my 32 contacts in the contest more than doubled my previous total (KA6JMS/N). TNX to PY1VT for sitting on 15 meters and calling CQ NR. He was my first South America (KA7IZO/N). May I suggest that in the future you designate LAC for Los Angeles Section. This would eliminate any doubt as to whether you are talking to Louisiana or Los Angeles (KA2NID/N). [Bruce, we now recommend LAX for the Los Angeles Section. — Ed.] I often caught myself listening rather than operating. This was probably because I was an SWL for so long. Hard to break old habits — Hil (KA4UTB/N). I went into the NR operating at approximately 10 wpm and came out the other end at about 15 wpm (KA5MSV/T). Was happy to see the number of General class and above operators that ended up in my log. I estimate 50%. TNX to the OM! (KA1GPG/N). None of the KL7s appeared to be informed of my crystal frequencies . . . Had to choose between staying home and contesting or going to a high school invita-

tional meet on the first Saturday of the NR. I chose to stay home, but Mom chose the invitational. Since she's the only one in the family who can cook, guess which one I went to? (KA5LYG/N). I'm looking forward to NR '83 from the other side of the fence. I plan to reciprocate for the help that I received from the higher class licensees this year (WD5DOB/N). I worked KH6 and KL7 for the first time and my antenna was only a dipole on the den floor (WB4CVH/T). Did not take QSO point credit for dates on CD — 48 (Hil). 87 QSOs + 4 days = 91 x 43 sections + 3913? (WA6YKW/N). [Don't rub it in, Dave. So we made a little mistake on the sample log sheet in *QST* (hi). — Ed.] The highlight of the event for me was working WA3ZMY/3G in Delaware the day after I read his Soapbox entry in the results of the 1978 Novice Roundup (WA2KRO/N). A little confusion in the rules for the NR on the starting date. Was Friday evening January 29 or January 30? (WD0GZE/N). [The first Friday evening of the Novice Roundup was January 29 in local time and after 2359 became January 30 in UTC — Ed.] I had fun, and that is what counts. I wish more people would think that way (KA4UBN/N).

