

Results, 37th ARRL VHF Sweepstakes

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The cold winds of January on the 14th and 15th blew in a weekend change of pace in the form of the 37th ARRL VHF Sweepstakes. It was an opportunity for winter-weary VHFers to stir up some excitement and fill the void between the fall and spring VHF/UHF Sprints, and find some contest competition to help ease the wait until the June VHF QSO Party. What better way to get those competitive juices flowing than to have a go at the SS?

VHF SS number 37 started the 1984 VHF contest season in grand fashion with 782 of the faithful submitting entries for individual honors and helping to bolster the aggregate club scores. Although the number of entries was down from the 950 logs received in the aftermath of the 1983 contest, the contest excitement and enthusiasm ran at its usually high pitch. The seeming lack of official entries in no way hampered the efforts of the top-scoring stations. The average score among the Top Ten Single Operator stations in 1984 was 5 kilopoints higher than the comparable scores of the same group in 1983.

The single operators were led by WA3AXV (yes, Ron, you still are the king!). Ron's 101k single-op score comes as no surprise to those who have followed his progress in the SS. He has been in the single-operator Top Ten listings each year except 1974 since 1972. 'AXV is the only single operator in the 1984 contest to earn a new division record, thus bettering his own Atlantic Division record set in 1983. Ron's secret? Sharpen your operating skills and maximize your station capabilities. WA3AXV uses a 6-element beam on 6 meters, a 19-element beam on 2 meters (7 elements on FM), a 12-element beam on 220 MHz (a Super Station Master on FM), 19 over 19-element beams on 432 and 45 over 45 loops on 1296. Good job, Ron. Other single-operator stations who made the Top Ten list in 1984 as well as 1983 were WA2DPU, N2ASC, W3HQT, W3HFY, WA3NUF and W2EIF. Congrats!

Hard work and patience paid off for the multioperator stations, too. It took an average score of 10,000 points more to make the multioperator Top Ten listings this year than in 1983. The folks at W1VD did it again. They



AA4Q and KA6VRW operated 144, 220 and 432 MHz from this Santa Barbara mountaintop.

came up with the right combination and led all multiop stations with their fine 167-kilopoint score, setting a new multiop New England Division All-Time record and bettering their 1983 division record by nearly 50k points. WA2OMY, W3KKN and WB3CZG are all stations on both the 1983 and '84 Top Ten multiop list. N2SB and friends added 32 kilopoints to the one-year-old Atlantic Division multiop record set by WA2OMY, and they are now the mark to shoot for in that division. W0RGU and W0VB out in Minnesota broke the old 1979 Dakota Division record. The nine operators at K2XR worked hard for their 1014 QSOs to break their own 1981 Hudson Division record. W4IY had five hard-working operators who, after the smoke had

Affiliated-Club Competition

Club Name	Score	Entries	Single-Op Winner
Unlimited Category			
Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club	1,558,994	72	WA3AXV
Rochester VHF Group (NY)	449,802	100	K2YCO
Medium Category			
South Jersey RA	172,284	16	N2FY
Warminster ARC	171,695	30	N3DQZ
Hampden County RA	132,984	31	K1FO
West Jersey Radio Amateurs	94,772	15	KX2W
Mt. Tom Amateur Repeater Assn.	57,204	11	K1ZJH
Rochester ARC (MN)	28,098	40	K0TS
Six-Meter Club of Chicago	24,538	11	WA9FIH
Mobile Sixers RC	22,770	13	WA3JMM
Local Category			
Delaware Valley VHF Society	251,354	10	K3HP
Potomac Area VHF Society	124,332	10	W3IP
Suburban ARC	96,536	7	WB2YEH
Meadowlands ARA	80,460	9	KA2BTD
Ramapo Mountain ARC	73,498	6	WB2QOQ
Murgas ARC	64,594	4	WA3YON
Dutchess County VHF Society	63,536	7	WA2TIF
Penn Wireless Assn.	38,278	7	KC3FT
Yankee Clipper Contest Club	33,814	4	W1XX
Drumlins ARC	30,572	8	KC2GZ
Wellesley ARS	29,208	5	W1CGI
Anne Arundel RC	27,766	3	WA3KCY
Wheaton Community RA	19,928	8	KR9K
Granite State ARA	16,938	6	AC1J
Chicago Suburban RA	10,978	5	KC9NF
Mitre-Bedford ARC	7844	3	W1FM
Keystone VHF Club	7754	4	WB3FLD
Northern New Mexico ARC	2446	4	K5MAT
Birmingham ARC	1944	6	WA4QLA

Top Ten

Single Operator	Multioperator
WA3AXV	101,188
WA2DPU	83,300
N2ASC	72,160
W3HQT	69,510
W3HFY	47,808
WA3NUF	47,040
WB3YD	44,660
K3MTK	42,408
K3HP	41,720
W2EIF	41,094
W1VD	167,972
N2SB	117,546
WA2OMY	108,592
K2XR	96,018
N2BOW	60,608
W3KKN	57,780
WB3CZG	48,816
WA3YUE	44,040
W2DMC	41,974
W8DJY	39,032

Division Leaders

Single Op	Division	Multiop
VE3ASO	Canadian	VE3LNX
WA3AXV*	Atlantic	N2SB*
WB9NTL	Central	W9RVG
W0XG	Dakota	W0RGU*
W5RCI	Delta	N4VC
WD8ISK	Great Lakes	W8DJY
N2BJ	Hudson	K2XR*
WA0NOK	Midwest	WA0DCB
K1FO	New England	W1VD*
WA6NHB	Northwestern	WB7DTI
K6GSS	Pacific	—
K2UOP/4	Roanoke	W4IY*
KA0MQA	Rocky Mountain	KX0O*
WB4NMA	Southeastern	—
WD6AUP	Southwestern	WA6PZL
WB5KTC	West Gulf	WA5VJB

*new all-time record

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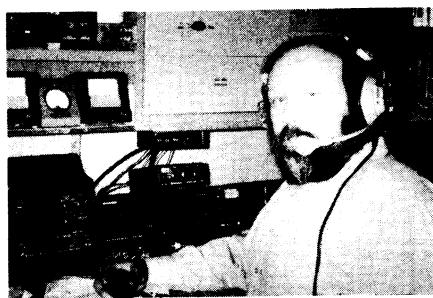
WA0DCB, N0CIH and WD9FSA made the highest score in the Midwest Division.



N2SB, WB2NPE and WB2RVX were working hard to break the Atlantic Division multiop record. Did they succeed? You betcha! They also ended up in the number two slot in the Top Ten listings for multioperator stations.



Steve, WD4GDF, in Tennessee, is stirring up the 220-MHz ether.



WA3AXV, "King Ron," is again the top single operator in the VHF SS.

All-Time Division Leaders

Single Operator

Call	Score	Year	Division
VE1ASJ	21,156	79	Canadian
WA3AXV	101,188	84	Atlantic
K9RO	32,220	83	Central
WB4JGG	16,000	81	Dakota
K8LEE	16,884	80	Delta
WB2WIK	41,080	76	Great Lakes
WB0ZKG	63,070	80	Hudson
WA1MAO	16,776	81	Midwest
WA7KYZ	55,130	81	New England
WA6JUD/6	10,296	79	Northwestern
K3ICH/4	23,868	76	Pacific
N6NB/7	23,744	80	Roanoke
W4GDS	6120	80	Rocky Mountain
N6NB	26,400	73	Southeastern
K5CM	25,880	79	Southwestern
C6ADV	14,100	78	West Gulf
	320	82	DX

Multioperator

Call	Score	Year
VE3LNX	27,420	83
N2SB	117,546	84
K9HMB	72,424	81
WB0RGU	9016	84
WB4HEL	8880	73
K8III	80,984	79
K2XR	96,018	84
N0IS	16,030	83
W1VD	167,972	84
WB7DTI	10,008	81
WA6BMV	24,814	77
W4IY	31,784	84
KX0	11,200	84
W4VO	18,968	78
N6NB	46,750	81
N5KW	16,844	82
—	—	—

Single Operator Call Area Leaders — QSOs per Band

Call	50	144	220	432	1296
K1FO	—	457	—	—	—
WA2DPU	216	426	107	109	29
WA3AXV	175	413	134	123	33
K2UOP/4	36	185	11	30	3
WB5KTC	19	90	—	12	—
K6GSS	38	126	28	42	12
WA6NHB	59	186	—	22	—
WD8ISK	65	173	3	20	2
WB8NTL	38	118	5	10	—
W8XG	52	58	—	16	—
VE3ASO	22	180	—	16	—

Multioperator Call Area Leaders — QSOs per Band

Call	50	144	220	432	1296
W1VD	441	653	105	205	—
N2SB	329	482	138	142	34
WA2OMY	230	466	129	104	18
W4IY	127	231	27	68	—
WA5VJB	—	92	1	—	1
WA6PZL	42	82	4	2	—
WB7DTI	52	69	11	14	1
W8DJY	123	213	21	43	—
W9RVG	18	134	17	30	—
KX0	48	114	—	31	—
VE3LNX	76	179	21	51	7

cleared, found themselves in possession of the new Roanoke Division multiop record. Last, but certainly not least, KX0 and ND2X jumped on the "time machine," went all the way back to 1968 and bettered that 16-year-old mark in the Rocky Mountain Division by 3000 points.

In the affiliated club competition (the reason so many VHFers make the SS their only contest of the year), the Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club (Pack Rats) found 10 entries and 200k points to add to their 1983 totals and again take the gavel (is that 23 or 24 wins, 'Rats?) in the unlimited category and lay claim to the title of Top Club in the SS. In the medium club category, The South Jersey Radio Association, number two in their class in 1983, soared to the heights in 1984 and will receive a gavel as the top medium class club. It looks like the Delaware Valley VHF Society is out to start a dynasty in the local category to rival the record of the Pack Rats. With the same number of entries, they added 20 kilopoints to their 1983 aggregate score and hammered their way to the top of the local class heap.

All in all, the '84 SS was a pretty good show — nothing spectacular in the way of conditions or participation, mind you, but a pretty good time and a chance to beat the winter doldrums with a little friendly competition.

Certificates are due to hit the mails on or about the 15th of June.

Good luck and CU in SS '85!

SOAPBOX

I worked the contest with an indoor 4-element broomstick Yagi and 30 W and managed to get three new states. Of course, being on the 5th floor at 7200 ft at the U.S. Air Force Academy didn't hurt (KX7V/0). We thought the squeaking was a sick linear amp blower, but it turned out to be a field mouse finding a home in the shack (W1QK). WD9FSA offered a surprise challenge, teaming up with WA0DCB in eastern Iowa, but it was his surprise when they found out we lost 2 and 43 towers and antennas to an ice storm. Well, Pete, maybe next time, hi hi (WB0ZKG). This year, I ran enough power to melt the snow off my Yagis. Next year, I'm buying an amplifier to unfreeze my rotator (WA2BYX). In my first contest on VHF,

I noticed some other stations were going at it tooth and nail for any contact. I learned some things and made mistakes on most things, but had fun anyway (N2ESI). With N6ICV right on my tail, I hated to quit early, but rain, cold and 40-MPH winds dictated an early exit from my 3500-ft mountain (K6GSS). One can't do much with a whip antenna mounted on a card table in an apartment, but W1VD in Burlington, Connecticut, acknowledged my signal (W1JVV). I know what it feels like to contest, but I wonder what it feels like to win (KA6VVD). Murphy came to call several hours into the contest and zapped my amplifier. It was a real challenge to work the last 3/4 of the contest barefoot ... I gotta get that 220 beam up! I turned green listening to others work stations I couldn't hear even though I was closer (WA3UFE). I still think grid squares would precipitate more activity away from the northeast VHF sector. I have to go over 400 air miles to get out of the state of Florida to get my third section with only one station on the air in southern Georgia. It would be more fun with more activity and more incentive (W3ZR). I recommend the exchange and logging of "handles." There is always plenty of time for this, plus about half of the exchanges already do this. Such use encourages more friendliness in the ham community (W3JPT). Conditions were terrible on 6 meters. I'll have to acquire 432 SSB to stay with the "big boys," hi hi (W6PFE). I appreciate ops who have patience with QRP CW (KL7GLL/4). I could not get rid of Murphy. The power amplifier, microphone, headset and XYL all took their toll. I lost seven hours of operation. Please incorporate grid sections as multipliers next year. This would encourage more operators and enthusiasm. It is now a matter of ax grinding for contacts only (KC2PX). Is there an award for working stations of seven call areas, but all operating portable in Florida? How about extra points for utilizing airline aeronautical radio on 2 1/2 meters over VE3, W4 and 6Y5 during the contest? I missed morning scatter due to airline flying and military reserves again. Activity was stinko on Saturday night and not much better on Sunday. I only worked two stations in greater Miami (K1FJM)! Can we get the boys in WPA to wake up and get on? Every contest there is only a handful of ops on from WPA. Also, Ohio should be a local contact. Why don't they turn their antennas out this way more often (WA2FXB). This contest is boring. I much prefer the June and September VHF contests (N4MM). I just got a TR-9130 for Christmas and put up an 8-element quagi three days before VHF SS. I found out that I could work off the back of my beam better than the front (broken reflector). What a way to win a contest, hi (WB6COT). So many stations asked if I had 432 that I may just get it for the June Party (WB3BGU). Scatter signs were booming Saturday night. I had four brief E openings during the contest to WØ and W4. I suggest replacing signal reports with consecutive serial

