

Results, 1986 ARRL UHF Contest

Number nine was really fine!

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Contest Manager, ARRL HQ

One hundred and seventy-three grid swappers took to the hills on the weekend of August 2-3, 1986 to celebrate the ninth birthday of the ARRL UHF Contest.

Since the contest's earliest beginnings, the August event has been a "fun" time. For most, activity isn't quite as "go get 'em" as the June and September QSO parties, giving station owners a little time to "tweak" things a little here and there in anticipation of the September VHF QSO Party. For others, the UHF Contest is a time to check the effectiveness of equipment and antennas for 220 MHz and above, without the distractions afforded by 6 and 2 meters.

And what a celebration it was! The northeastern portion of the country was plagued with persistent thunderstorms on Saturday, which wreaked havoc with the top single-op scores. Some who braved the storms were treated with some unexpected "off time," while others were a little luckier.

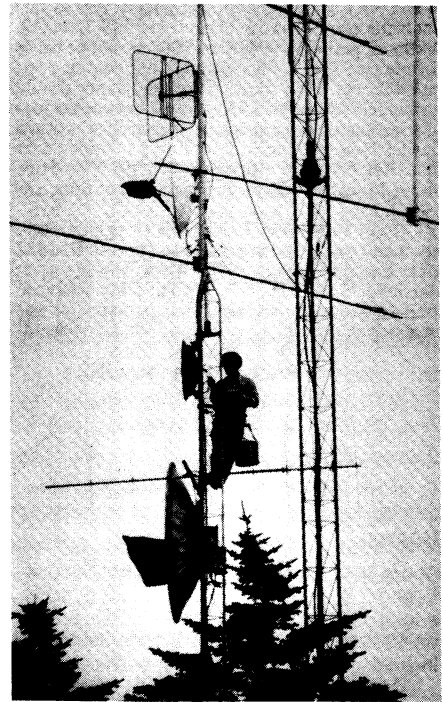
The Atlantic Division took top single-op honors this year, with K2SMN reeling in 31 QSOs and 18 multipliers on 220, 93/29 on 432, and 47 contacts in 23 grid squares on 1296. Wow! New Englander K1PXE finished second with 32k, followed very closely by N2BJ (29k) and AA2Z (28.8k).

The multioperator top-five box represents as many call areas this year. An outstanding effort by the crew from the Tektronix Employees' RC in Oregon treated K7AUO to a number-five finish. Numbers two, three and four were separated by *less than 600 points*, with AB4L's 20.7k just squeezing by K6TZ (20.5k) and WB5LUA (20.16k). The Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute gang, W2SZ/1, took top slot again this year, while setting an all-time multioperator record in the process. Their 137k effort, set just last year, has already fallen by the wayside. Not too shabby considering the "flat" conditions. Way to go, guys!

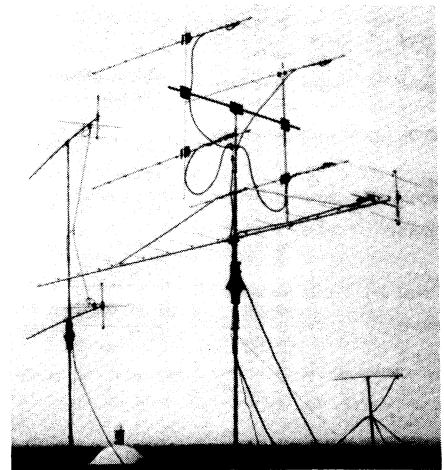
Some folks have suggested some rules and time changes for this operating activity. What do you think? Send your ideas and comments to the ARRL Contest Branch at HQ. While you're at it, mark



W1UUQ adjusts the 432-MHz quagis used at K6TZ.



WA2AAU putting the finishing touches on W2SZ's 35-foot rotating tower, which allows their microwave antennas to be pointed to within a half-degree.



The antenna system used at K1DS played—to the tune of 13k.

Single Operator Top Five

K2SMN	45,780
K1PXE	31,659
N2BJ	29,322
AA2Z	28,836
WB8BKC	24,924

Multioperator Top Five

W2SZ/1	205,884
AB4L	20,709
K6TZ	20,544
WB5LUA	20,163
K7AUO	8,844

your calendar to celebrate this contest's 10th anniversary, August 1 and 2, 1987. CU then! Thanks to Billy Lunt, KR1R, who helped in the preparation of this report.

SOAPBOX

No band openings. Nuts! Weather was a real, literal washout on Saturday ... rain, rain, rain ... I'm sure looking forward to September! (K2SMN). Propagation was poor on all bands. Activity? Many stations were heard (K2GK). Activity on 220 was very slow, but I guess everyone was enjoying the sun. Hope for more activity in September

(VE3LNX). Best activity of any UHF test so far, but better conditions would really help! (WB9MSV). A contest period of 0000Z to 0000Z would be better for me (W9YCV). This was my first contest ever, and 432 was stone dead. Also, everybody should try homebrew on this mess, and experience the joys of a rather flaky transmit converter that worked flawlessly before the contest, and a reliable linear that shot fire on the first QSO (KA9LNV). How about Friday and Saturday nights local time, say 0000Z to 1200Z each day? (K5YY). "Yawn" (KC4EG). Lightning, four inches of rain, a flash flood and two downed power lines forced this 432 MHz backpacker out of the Black Mountains in Harriman State Park, NY. The lightning produced some fine loud signals, for a few seconds, but was extremely dangerous to operate in. What a weekend!

I'll try this again in the VHF QSO Party in September (WA2PIV). Doesn't anybody work 220 MHz except for the June contest? (WA0NOK). I had a fun time despite the electrical storm Saturday evening (W1RIL). I don't recommend operating during a lightning storm. The flashover in my shack scared me half to death, and it took 12 hours to replace all the blown semiconductors and components! Needless to say, it kind of killed my overall score and operating time (W1JR). I was amazed at the great activity on 902 and 1296 MHz! (AF1T). I worked two stations on 220 MHz with 10 watts and a shorted connector. One was 35 miles away! I only managed 15 more contacts without the short (VE3BFM/W1). If it wasn't for equipment failing, loss of ac power and lightning on Saturday, oper-

ating from Mt Equinox might have been fun! (WA1ZMS). Halfway through the contest, lightning took out my 432 transverter. Murphy's law at its finest! Oh well, next time (WA4PFN/1). Activity was disappointing—I only worked my own grid square once (W7PUA). I had difficulty making contacts from my new "under a hill" QTH (NR6E). Conditions were very good into New England. Missed a few new 23-cm QSOs because of QRM! Sure enjoy the reduced TVI problems on the UHF bands! (W3IY/4). Three gridpositions were out covering all of eastern Colorado. There wasn't much activity, but I tried (WD4AHZ). I made two more X-band contacts after the contest ended! (W6OYJ). A thunderstorm came up and blew down my 432 antennas (WB7OHF). Activity was better than last year (WB5AFY). Where was everybody? (K5IS).

Scores

Score lines indicate call sign, total score, QSOs, multipliers and bands operated (C = 220 MHz, D = 432 MHz, 9 = 902 MHz, E = 1296 MHz, F = 2.3 GHz, G = 3.4 GHz, H = 5.7 GHz, I = 10 GHz, J = 24 GHz, K = 48 GHz) and ARRL Section. Example: K2SMN had a total score of 45,780, with 31 QSOs and 18 multipliers on 220 MHz, 93 QSOs and 29 multipliers on 432 MHz and 47 QSOs and 23 multipliers on 1296 MHz. He is located in the Southern New Jersey Section. Call signs of Division leaders and band indicators of band winners are printed in bold type.



Section	Call Sign	Score	QSOs	Multipliers	Bands				
Atlantic Division	K2SMN	45,780	31-18-C-SNJ	18	93-29-D				
	KB3QM	21,840	35-20-C-DE	23	20-12-E				
	N2WK	11,685	41-20-C-WNY	13	50-19-D				
	W2EIF	10,989	36-16-C-SNJ	15	9-E				
	K2GK	8,658	26-13-C-WNY	8	6-E				
	N2AHN	4,392	61-24-D-SNJ	6	4-E				
	W3CL	4,140	28-13-C-EPA	3	10-D				
	WA3JUF	2,808	6-6-D-EPA	2	2-F				
	AC3T	2,142	18-9-C-DE	24	8-D				
	K3AKR	1,632	12-8-C-MDC	20	9-D				
Canada	VE3LNX	16,218	25-18-C-ON	13	13-10-E				
	VE3EYR	1,782	10-8-C-ON	23	10-D				
	VE3ASO	1,440	7-6-C-ON	17	9-D				
	VE3DDW	1,344	28-16-D-ON	1	1-F				
	Central Division	WB9SNR	8,295	41-23-D-IL	13	10-E			
		WB9MSV	5,670	70-27-D-IL	3	2-F			
		WB9WMM	2,415	35-23-D-IL	1	1-F			
		KR9G	1,071	21-17-D-IL	4	9-D-WI			
		K9RRS	432	16-9-D-WI	21	9-D-WI			
		W9YCV	216	9-8-D-WI	3	4-D-IL			
KA9LNV		36	4-3-D-IL	8	7-D-MN				
WB0HU		420	8-7-D-MN	3	3-E-MN				
Delta Division		K5UR	7,580	18-15-C-AR	13	13-D			
		W5RCI	2,673	6-6-C-MS	5	5-E			
	K5YY	1,482	28-19-D-AR	8	5-C-MS				
	N4VC5	1,026	6-5-C-MS	13	13-D				
	WBSLUA (+K5ASZ, KD5RO, WA5TKU)	20,163	13-9-C-AR	40	18-D				
	Great Lakes Division	W8BKC	24,924	26-17-C-MI	25	16-E			
		N180	10,200	43-25-D-OH	21	15-E			
		K88ZW	6,042	20-14-C-OH	33	24-D			
		K8TL	1,782	21-14-D-OH	6	4-E			
		KC4EG	1,716	11-9-C-KY	15	13-D			
WD8IFC		3	1-1-D-OH	Hudson Division	N2BJ	29,322	50-18-C-ENY	83	23-D
W1XX/2		24,768	39-15-C-ENY		73	20-D			
W2VC		15,006	64-25-D-NNJ		29	16-E			
K2BJG		2,079	14-10-C-NNJ		19	11-D			
WA2PIV		570	19-10-D-NJ		4	2-E			
WA2EUS	482	11-7-E-NJ	360		12-10-C-ENY				
WA2RUW	360	12-10-C-ENY	Midwest Division		W8RHP	7,035	41-27-D-IA	13	8-E
WA0NOK	2,250	8-5-C-MO			24	20-D			
WD0FLJ	1,326	22-15-D-MO			2	2-E			
KF0M	780	7-7-C-KS			10	8-D			
N0LL	450	15-10-D-KS		324	12-9-D-MO				
W0JRP	324	12-9-D-MO		72	1-1-C-NE				
WD0BQM	72	1-1-C-NE		5	3-D				
NJ0X (+N9BD, K0TLM)	8,844	12-10-C-MO		40	26-D				
New England Division	K1PXE	31,659		40-19-C-CT	69	27-D			
	AA2Z	28,836		44-17-C-CT	32	15-E			
	Roanoke Division	W3IY/4	22,308	31-16-C-VA	50	21-D			
		K4QIF	10,179	55-29-D-VA	13	3-C-EMA			
		WA4SBC	3,456	16-10-C-VA	16	10-E			
		N4HB	1,125	25-15-D-VA	3	3-9			
		N4WI	168	8-7-D-VA	333	22-5-D-NH			
		AB4L (+WA4IVF)	20,709	27-17-C-VA	10	7-D			
		Pacific Division	W6RXQ	6,984	8-7-C-SCV	51	11-D		
			K6HCP	4,416	8-5-C-SCV	32	12-D		
KE6ZE			1,110	37-10-D-SCV	432	18-8-D-NV			
K7ICW			432	18-8-D-NV	252	3-2-C-EB			
NR6E	252		3-2-C-EB	5	2-D				
W8LLY	90		10-3-D-SF	72	8-3-D-SCV				
N8NRQ	72		8-3-D-SCV	3,825	16-5-C-SCV				
KU6U (+KG6MW, W6YLL)	3,825		16-5-C-SCV	35	9-D				
Rocky Mountain Division	NK0P (+KX0O)		5,348	11-8-C-CO	40	15-D			
	WS4F		2,888	9-9-C-GA	20	14-D			
	WB4HXE	150	1-1-C-GA	9	4-D				
	K4DZP	120	8-3-D-SFL	1	1-E				
	WD4AHZ	42	7-2-D-SFL	Southeastern Division	W7PUA	528	5-2-C-OR	7	3-D
	K7RUN (DN02)	270	1-1-C-OR		1	1-D			
	K7RUN (DN03)	54	1-1-C-OR		1	1-D			
	K7HSJ	252	4-2-C-OR		6	2-D			
	N7DB	30	5-2-D-OR		4	9-C-OR			
	K7AUO (NA7T, W7UDM, W7W3RMX, W7W3R3)	9,333	4-9-C-OR		5	9-D			
Southwestern Division	W6CPL	10,584	46-8-C-LAX		57	10-D			
	K6LMN	6,552	33-7-C-LAX		31	8-D			
	WA5BNH	3,360	10-2-C-SDG		32	8-D			
	K6IBY	1,395	12-7-C-ORG		19	8-D			
	WA6OYS	1,008	21-8-E-SB	918	8-3-C-SDG				
	W6OYJ	918	8-3-C-SDG	14	5-D				
	WB6FCS	744	31-8-D-LAX	3	1-I				
	W6YLZ/m	464	18-3-C-SB	11	5-D				
	WA6SNN	180	12-5-D-ORG	180	12-5-D-ORG				
	WB7OHF	63-13-D	19	8-E					
K6PFW	27	3-3-D-ORG	20,544	101-9-C-SB					
K6TZ (K6e DDO, SPK, W1U1UQ, WA6e MBZ, VNN, WB6e HOZ, OBB, WB9KMO, oprs)	20,544	101-9-C-SB	63	13-D					
West Gulf Division	K5SW	5,610	12-10-C-OK	23	16-D				
	WA5VJB	5,250	12-5-C-NTX	10	8-E				
	WB5AFY	5,208	8-6-C-NTX	24	11-D				
	WB5AGO	459	13-8-D-OK	1	1-I				
	WB5AFY	5,208	8-6-C-NTX	24	15-D				
	WB5RYY	4,836	52-31-D-OK	5	5-C-OK				
	W5NZS	1,286	5-5-C-OK	10	7-D				
	W5AGO	459	13-8-D-OK	1	1-I				
	K5IS	96	4-3-D-NTX	1	1-I				
	CHECKLOG	N2EA/m							