

# ARRL January 2001 VHF Sweepstakes Results

**S**uper Sunday has become engrained in the American psyche. It is the day legends are made, or are extended. We know the names and deeds of the heroes from that day. It hasn't always been the last Sunday in January. It has been played as early as January 9 (1977—Raiders over Vikings) and as late as January 31 (198—Washington over Denver, 1993 Dallas over Buffalo, and 1999 Denver over Atlanta).

The Super Bowl has worked its way even into Amateur Radio and the ARRL's contest schedule. Rule 2 of the ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes rules read, in part "The weekend before the NFL Super Bowl." So as the 'Monsters of the Midway' or 'America's Team' spend the weekend in preparation for the final clash on the field, the "denizens of the VHF/UHF/Microwave" go to full battle. Whether in the monsoons of Miami, the frozen tundra of Lambeau Field, or the sunshine of Pasadena, while the All-Pro linemen get ready to block All-Conference linebackers, the *real* players—the VHF/UHF contesters—carry out their well-designed game plans. Their goal is simple: defeat the competition and winning the ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes.

A total of 799 logs, representing 1043 participants, were received for the 2001 VHF Sweepstakes. This is a decrease of about 2% from the number of logs received in 2000. Judging from the Soapbox comments, a substantial part of the decline is due to the third consecutive year of severe weather in parts of the US over the contest weekend. Nonetheless, log after log commented on the fun participants enjoyed for the weekend.

The Single Operator Low Power category, which was added to the event in 2000, again proved to be the most popular category, with 53% of the participants (420 of 799) claimed this entry level. Just like NFL training camps, the category attracts rookies, veterans looking to extend great careers, and those seeking a

new challenge. Being relatively new, it is also the category with the best chance to see records fall. This proved to be the case as the overall category mark and eight Division records were set. Bob, K2DRH, led the way with a new category record of 142,975 points (which also sets a new Central Division record). Bob easily outdistanced Fred, N1DPM, by a comfortable margin of 35,359 points. Congratulations are also in order to the seven others who set new Division category marks: KU4R (Delta), WA8RJF (Great Lakes), N0IS (Northwestern), K6MI (Pacific), W6OAL (Rocky Mountain), W4EUH (Southeastern) and K5LL (West Gulf).

While not setting an overall category or division record, perennial Top Ten VHF contesteer Jeff, K1TEO, took no prisoners as he blitzed his way through the

Single Operator High Power category. Like a linebacker taking aim on the opposing quarterback, Jeff sacked the opposition by a nearly 2 to 1 margin. His score of 377,580 topped the excellent effort of 190,800 posted by Dale, K1UHF. Division category records were set by KM0T (Midwest), NU7Z (Northwestern) and N6AJ (Pacific) during this year's contest.

Occasionally an athlete will change their name, but it doesn't change their ability (ask Lew Alcindor a.k.a. Kareem Abdul Jabbar). Similarly, the old QRP Portable category saw a name change to Single Operator Portable. It did not change the requirements for entering the category. It is still a limited power station (no more than 10 W), requires a portable power source, and the operator still must abide by the 500-meter circle

## Top Ten

Single Operator, Low Power		Limited Multioperator	
K2DRH	142,975	W2ODH	129,260
N1DPM	107,616	AA4ZZ	101,320
AF1T	91,258	K8EB	87,345
W3KM	53,475	N2BJ	85,272
K1JT	51,310	N8KOL	84,227
N3FUJ	51,300	W1QK	58,302
K9YR	45,936	W3IP	52,190
WA8RJF	44,619	W2FU	44,745
WA3GFZ	39,870	W2SAG	42,336
K9VHF	37,145	W1VHF	27,755
Single Operator, High Power		Multioperator	
K1TEO	377,580	K8GP	501,416
K1UHF	190,800	N2PA	366,120
K2AXX	168,454	W0RSJ	323,070
W3RW	156,416	W2UR	289,651
KE8FD	151,074	K2TVI	196,321
WA3NUF	141,882	N3YMS	76,798
WZ1V	133,198	WA2OMY	53,880
K1RZ	130,696	N1JOY	43,878
WA2FGK	124,754	W6TOI	43,818
WW8M	120,250	K3EOD	35,563
Single Operator Portable		Rover	
N8XA	21,356	N2JMH	144,534
N9MYK	6,600	W5DF	140,336
K6LMN	4,922	K2TER	140,250
VE7DXG	4,256	N6DN	128,480
KA9BXG	2,496	K0DAS	120,564
N8KWX	2,466	NA0IA	104,310
KQ6EE	2,204	N6TEB	96,903
N2IM	1,632	(WB6JDH,op)	
WB2AMU	697	KF6GYM	74,184
N3FTI	676	WO2P	48,990
		K7XC	47,085

## Affiliated Club Competition

	Score	Entries
<b>Unlimited Category</b>		
Mt Airy VHF Radio Club	2,009,231	52
<b>Medium Category</b>		
North East Weak Signal Group	1,450,110	30
Rochester VHF Group	1,163,954	30
Potomac Valley Radio Club	979,007	23
Northern Lights Radio Society	371,850	29
Badger Contesters	246,378	24
Murgas ARC	205,600	5
Green River Valley ARS	143,356	3
Downey ARC	141,241	3
Society of Midwest Contesters	109,516	8
Six Meter Club of Chicago	70,294	23
South Jersey Radio Assn	62,738	6
Crawford County ARC	50,974	12
Bergen ARA	48,752	6
Quaboag Valley ARC	14,794	5
Yankee Clipper Contest Club	13,240	5
Burlington County Radio Club	8,137	6
Warminster ARC	4,199	9
Bears of Manchester	4,004	7
Mobile Sixers Radio Club	2,468	4
Rochester (MN) ARC	1,397	14
Ventura County ARC	1,219	3
<b>Local Category</b>		
Cedar Rapids Microwave Society	225,090	3
Clear Lake ARC	141,380	4
Delaware Valley VHF Society	72,528	4
Rocky Mountain VHF Plus	42,518	3
Schenectady Museum ARA	31,306	10
Hudson Valley Contesters and	23,650	4
Thomson ARC	12,586	3

as required in the general rules. Axel, N8XA, hunkered down like a lineman in the trenches and set a new Great Lakes Division record while winning the overall category with a final score of 21,356. Axel was joined as a new division record setter by category runner-up Dick N9MYK (Central) and VE7DXG (Canada).

The two multioperator categories only comprise 8.5% of the total entries for the contest, but account for over 25% of the participants. Working with one of the established multioperator stations could be said to be similar to being a special teams players. Just like punters, kickers, and return men, those who man the stations at the various multioperator sites play a valuable role in the overall contest. It is a great way to introduce newcomers to the finer points of VHF contesting, and allows them to hone the specialized talents, while learning some of the special nuances required to become a top flight VHF/UHF devotees.

Close games going down to the last minute are always fun for both the audience as well as the participants. The Limited Multioperator category was such a contest. The operators at W2ODH/6, operating in the Los Angeles section edged out a solid effort by the AA4ZZ operators, working from their QTH in NC by a final of 129,260 to 101,320. The ops at fourth place finisher N2BJ ground out the local yardage, and gained a few more "first downs" among the QSO total (564 to 522), but the long distances accumulated by K8EB (135 mults to 114) al-

lowed them to sneak into third place in a very close finish.

Of course you do have the dynasties – those franchise multi-multioperator stations that are always at or near the top of the boxes annually. They never seem to lose a beat when one of their ops moves on—they just simply reload. Few are more prolific in scoring performance or consistency than the established crew at K8GP. Operating from the old Fairfax (VA) dump (instead of their usual roost on Spruce Knob, VW), the Grid Pirates broke through the line and ran away from opposition, as they posted a winning score of 501,416 In the process they established a new Roanoke Division record. Runner-up in the category was N2PA, operating from the snowy area around Lake Ontario.

In football, they say that it takes a special breed of player to be a kick returner. The closest they come in VHF contesting is probably the rover, especially in January. Maximizing grids and QSOs in a short period of time in snow, sleet, ice or storms shows a bit about living on the edge (just like not fair-catching a punt with those 240 pound defensive backs closing in on you at full speed). The top rover entry in 2001 was from Jim, N2JMH, (with Todd, N2WVK, as the "blocking back"). This duo outpaced the West Gulf category record setting effort of Dan, W5DF, (with John, AB5SS, handling the cohort duties). New division records were also set by K0DAS (Midwest), N6DN (Southwestern), and VE3OIL (Canada).

Once again the Affiliated Club competition saw the PacRats of the Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club place first among all scorers. They were also the only club submitting sufficient entries to qualify in the Unlimited category. A good battle was staged for top honors Medium Club category, with the North East Weak Signal Group beating out the Rochester VHF Group. The Local Category crown was captured by the Cedar Rapids Microwave Society. A total of 48% of the logs received were from entries participating in this annual Club competition.

The 2002 January VHF Sweepstakes will be contested this coming January 19-22. We don't know right now which two NFL franchises will have fought their way through the tough battle to get to the Super Bowl the following weekend. But we do know that hundreds of gladiators of the VHF/UHF airwaves will have prepped themselves and be ready for solemn battle of the Grid(square) iron.

## SOAPBOX

Way too cold for driving around on frozen mountaintops! (AC4LS/R)... First contest for me, first 1.2 GHz contest contact and did it roving (AH6RH)... NA0IA/R and I came across KB0DCO/R out in EN24 for an impromptu rover convention at 2:00 AM under a crystal clear star-lite sky and a temperature of minus 7 degrees (K0DAS/R)... Big snowstorm on Sat night almost kept us from getting home to recharge our batteries! The NJ Turnpike was down to 35mph on Sunday and we were unable to head to the northern grids (K1DS)... Poor tropo, no

## Region Boxes

Northeast Region (New England, Hudson and Atlantic Divisions; Maritime and Quebec Sections)			Southeast Region (Delta, Roanoke and Southeastern Divisions)			Central Region (Central and Great Lakes Divisions; Ontario Section)			Midwest Region (Dakota, Midwest, Rocky Mountain and West Gulf Divisions; Manitoba and Saskatchewan Sections)			West Coast Region (Pacific, Northwestern and Southwestern Divisions; Alberta, British Columbia and NWT/Yukon Sections)		
N1DPM	107,616	A	W4EUH	23,636	A	K2DRH	142,975	A	K5LLL	31,755	A	K6MI	27,466	A
AF1T	91,258	A	KU4R	17,750	A	K9YR	45,936	A	W6OAL	19,459	A	KC6ZWT	13,772	A
W3KM	53,475	A	K1LH	16,344	A	WA8RJF	44,619	A	KB0ZEV	17,343	A	W6IT	11,475	A
K1TEO	377,580	B	K4QI	86,139	B	KE8FD	151,074	B	W0GHZ	70,228	B	N6AJ	51,543	B
K1UHF	190,800	B	KD4K	16,445	B	WW8M	120,250	B	KM0T	63,140	B	W6KBX	35,568	B
K2AXX	168,454	B	KU4WW	13,731	B	K8MD	77,423	B	W0ZQ	62,322	B	KJ6KO	30,912	B
N2IM	1,632	Q				N8XA	21,356	Q				K6LMN	4,922	Q
WB2AMU	697	Q				N9MYK	6,600	Q				VE7DXG	4,256	Q
N3FTI	676	Q				KA9BXG	2,496	Q				KQ6EE	2,204	Q
W1QK	58,302	L	AA4ZZ	101,320	L	K8EB	87,345	L	W0JH	18,361	L	W2ODH	129,260	L
W3IP	52,190	L	K8JF	6,811	L	N2BJ	85,272	L	N5XU	5,811	L	K6QG	3,944	L
W2FU	44,745	L	N4ION	5,412	L	N8KOL	84,227	L	AD5V	5,586	L	AD6IJ	3,146	L
N2PA	366,120	M	K8GP	501,416	M				KA0MR	10,553	M	W6TOI	43,818	M
W0RSJ	323,070	M	K4RF	20,169	M				K0NY	6,320	M	K6WLC	12,740	M
W2UR	289,651	M	KV4T	2,590	M									
N2JMH	144,534	R	W3IY	9,400	R	N9YZK	38,936	R	W5DF	140,336	R	N6DN	128,480	R
K2TER	140,250	R	N4OFA	8,512	R	KB9WVL	29,184	R	K0DAS	120,564	R	N6TEB	96,903	R
WO2P	48,990	R	(+KB4NVD)			K0PG	28,413	R	NA0IA	104,310	R	(WB6JDH,op)		
			NJ4I	3,570	R							KF6GYM	74,184	R
			(KF4VZQ,op)											

## QSO Leaders By Band

Single Operator, Low Power	Single Operator, High Power	Multipoperator	
50 MHz	50 MHz	50 MHz	432 MHz
K1JT 188	K1TEO 281	K2TVI 432	K8GP 202
N3FUJ 161	K8TQK 200	K8GP 346	W2ODH -L 181
N1DPM 138	N2WK 196	W0RSJ 314	W0RSJ 166
AF1T 137	K1UHF 175	W1VHF -L 304	K2TVI 144
KØVXM 124	K1RZ 174	W1QK -L 262	N2PA 125
<b>144 MHz</b>	<b>144 MHz</b>	<b>W2UR</b> 249	N2BJ -L 119
KBØLYL 326	K1TEO 377	N2PA 224	W2UR 109
N3FUJ 246	K3TV 360	W2ODH -L 221	N3YMS 103
WB2CUT 216	K1UHF 353	W2FU -L 218	AA4ZZ -L 102
K2DRH 197	K1RZ 242	AA4ZZ -L 204	W6TOI 90
K1JT 191	K1FO 241	<b>144 MHz</b>	<b>902 MHz</b>
<b>222 MHz</b>	<b>222 MHz</b>	K8GP 507	W2UR 38
N3FUJ 86	K1TEO 108	W0RSJ 429	K8GP 32
K1JT 81	N3EXA 88	W2UR 408	W0RSJ 30
W3KM 69	K1UHF 86	N2PA 336	N2PA 29
WA3GFZ 67	K1FO 85	K2TVI 321	WA2OMY 19
N2SCJ 66	WA3NUF 83	W2ODH -L 295	N3YMS 12
<b>432 MHz</b>	<b>432 MHz</b>	W1QK -L 270	WA3ZKR 11
N3FUJ 138	K1FO 166	K8EB -L 262	K2TVI 9
KE6GFF 134	K1TEO 152	N3YMS 240	N1JOY 8
K2DRH 99	W3RJW 95	N2BJ -L 231	N3ADC 8
K1JT 96	KE8FD 95	<b>222 MHz</b>	<b>1296 MHz</b>
K9YR 89	K1UHF 94	W0RSJ 128	W2UR 55
<b>902 MHz</b>	<b>902 MHz</b>	W2ODH -L 123	K8GP 48
N1DPM 25	K1TEO 40	K8GP 120	W0RSJ 39
W3KM 21	WA3NUF 35	N2PA 115	N2PA 36
WA3GFZ 19	W3RJW 35	K2TVI 108	W6TOI 30
AF1T 18	N3EXA 35	W2UR 89	WA2OMY 30
AA3RE 17	WZ1V 32	N2BJ -L 65	N3ADC 23
<b>1296 MHz</b>	<b>1296 MHz</b>	WA2OMY 61	K3AX 19
WA3GFZ 38	K1UHF 32	N3YMS 60	K2TVI 19
K2DRH 35	W2SJ 32	W6TOI 60	WA3ZKR 17
W3KM 31	K1TEO 53	W2EA -L 60	
N1DPM 29	W3RJW 53	W3IP -L 60	
N2SCJ 29	N3EXA 48		
	WA3NUF 44		
	K1RZ 43		

-L denotes Limited Multipoperator

aurora, little sporadic E, so I expect scores in the Northeast to be down from last year. I was 0-for-3 in getting new bands on the air at the 11th hour. Lots of fun, anyway!(K1JT)... 10 GHz finally playing like it should. Need more than 10 mW to make it more fun though! (K2AXX)... What a weekend! Rain, Snow, Ice, and wind! Even had a smoking coax relay due to a Murphy visit. (K3TV)... What a trip! Thanks to Tim - NS9E for braving the unknown world of ROVER contesting with me (K7XC)... This is the first time I have submitted a log for a contest, even though I have participated in several previous contests (KBØDCO)... Nearly double my best score ever (KBØOBT)... The "upside" to the poor 6M conditions was that the other bands got a more thorough workout than usual for me, and total QSOs were the highest I've ever had in any contest. (KBØZEV)... We introduced several new club members to VHF contesting! (KCØAHN)... New definition of Clean Sweep is working Northern Lights Radio Society fixed stations on all 3 bands in the Rover Mobile from the 6 grids activated. This must mean we need to drive to grids further away (KCØP)... Not bad for a dual band mobile into a body-mounted,  $\frac{1}{4}$ -wavelength whip! (KK7GP)... Had a great time although propagation was pretty poor. Was great to see some of the new guys on! (NØVSB)... Spent too much time shoveling snow after a storm (N3FNE)... I should be able to complete a VHF contest without blowing up something N3RN)... Kept hearing "little" burst on 6M, but it never opened up to us. Same on 2 and 432. Loneliest contest I have ever worked. Where were you DM93 and 95? We ALWAYS can hear you.(N5YYX)... Achieved personal goal of 300 min. QSOs! Even with lousy band conditions. Six meters tried to open Sunday early morning and I heard N2PA & W3EP on bursts (N9TF)... Twenty-five hours of operation and 1100 miles driving activates 15 grids with over 600 QSOs. Operation was with omni antennas and Run and Gun or as we call it Rover-A-Go-Go. We never got out of the vehicle except for gas, food, sleep and impromptu rover conventions (NAØIA/R)... After 15 years off the air, comparing then and now, I found the characteristics of the contest very positive... more activity, great operators, dedicated rovers, and when aurora arrived - the flame burned very brightly. Gobs of fun! (WØVB)... My Leonids Kids (twins born during Leonids '99) took an appreciable portion of my time, but my wife gave me enough time to make a decent effort (W2EV)... Contests... a good way to make those station upgrades happen (WJ7L)... First attempt at VHF contesting. Lots of fun, but had the trouble deciding between NAQP on Saturday or VHF (WM3T)... A real snow job!

## Multiplier Leaders By Band

Single Operator, Low Power	Single Operator, High Power	Multipoperator	
50 MHz	50 MHz	50 MHz	432 MHz
K2DRH 33	K1TEO 57	K8GP 57	K8GP 36
WA8RCN 27	K8TQK 55	W2FU -L 50	N2PA 34
K4TO 26	N2WK 45	N2PA 48	K8EB -L 32
N1DPM 26	WB8XX 36	N8KOL -L 42	W0RSJ 30
K1LH 25	KE8FD 36	AA4ZZ -L 41	AA4ZZ -L 30
<b>144 MHz</b>	<b>144 MHz</b>	W2ODH -L 41	N8KOL -L 28
K2DRH 42	KE8FD 65	W1VHF -L 40	K2TVI 23
VE3TMG 33	K4QI 48	K2TVI 39	W2UR 22
K4TO 33	KMØT 46	W0RSJ 37	W2SAG -L 21
WA8RJF 32	K1TEO 44	W2UR 35	K3MJW -L 20
KC8CCD 32	K2YAZ 43	<b>144 MHz</b>	<b>902 MHz</b>
<b>222 MHz</b>	<b>222 MHz</b>	K8GP 58	N2PA 18
K2DRH 31	KE8FD 36	N2PA 53	K8GP 16
WA8RJF 21	K1TEO 31	N8KOL -L 49	W0RSJ 10
WA1MKE 19	K9EA 26	K8EB -L 49	W2UR 10
K9YR 18	K2AXX 26	W0RSJ 48	WA3ZKR 6
AF1T 18	K1UHF 24	W2UR 46	K2TVI 6
<b>432 MHz</b>	<b>432 MHz</b>	W2FU -L 42	N1JOY 5
K2DRH 38	K8MD 24	AA4ZZ -L 40	WA2OMY 5
K4TO 25		W2ODH -L 37	N3YMS 5
WA8RJF 23	KE8FD 44	N3YMS 35	W6TOI 4
K9VHF 22	K4QI 37	<b>222 MHz</b>	<b>1296 MHz</b>
VE3TMG 21	K1TEO 30	N2PA 39	K8GP 19
	K9EA 29	K8GP 33	N2PA 17
<b>902 MHz</b>	<b>902 MHz</b>	W0RSJ 31	W2UR 14
N1DPM 13	K2YAZ 27	K8EB -L 26	W0RSJ 12
K2DRH 9	<b>902 MHz</b>	AA4ZZ -L 25	K2TVI 11
K5LLL 9	K1TEO 14	N8KOL -L 24	W6TOI 7
AF1T 7	WA2FGK 13	W2SAG -L 22	WA3ZKR 6
WA1MKE 6	K1UHF 12	N2BJ -L 21	WA2OMY 6
K6MI 6	WW8M 12	W2UR 21	N1JOY 6
	K5IU 11	K2TVI 20	K6WLC 6
<b>1296 MHz</b>	<b>1296 MHz</b>		
K2DRH 22			
N1DPM 11	KMØT 17		
AA2WV 8	K1TEO 17		
K5LLL 8	WA2FGK 15		
K6MI 8	WW8M 14		
	K8MD 14		
	K9KL 14		
	K4QI 14		

-L denotes Limited Multipoperator







