

# Results, August 1998 NAQP SSB Contest

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Although scores for the August running of the NAQP SSB contest were down from the January edition, everyone seemed to have a great time. Actually, this is typical of the August contest since it is also prime vacation season and many parts of the country experience noisy band conditions. As KG2AU stated in his soapbox comments, one of the enjoyable aspects of operating in the NAQP is that participants don't have to compete for frequencies with other contesters running high power. Even though activity on 10 meters continued to grow with increasing solar flux, 20 meters was the "money" band with 38% of the contest activity.

The place to be for this NAQP was the Southeastern US, preferably Florida. Bob, N4BP, took first place among Single Ops and was the only entrant to break 200,000 points. Fellow Floridan, Jeff, WC4E, took second place with a score some 30K behind. Don, N4ZZ, nipped Mike, W9RE, by a mere 200 points for third place. Bill, K4XS, returning from a contesting hiatus, took fifth to make three of the top five scores from Florida. From the band breakdowns for the Top 10 single ops, it's interesting to note that N4ZZ (3rd) and W7GG (9th) minimally used 10 meters, whereas many others took advantage of the 10-meter openings to add significant numbers of QSOs and multipliers to their totals.

In the Multi-Two category, the K5TM operators powered their way to a first place finish over their fellow Texans at N5XJ by a margin of over 60K points. NM6Q, the top January 1998 multi-team, took third.

Led by three Top 10 scores (N4BP, WC4E and K4XS), the Florida Contest Group #1 team took first-place team honors by almost 100K points. As they did during the January 1998 contest, the Tennessee Contest Group #1 team once again came in second. The Southern California Contest Club #1 team took third.

In addition to his fourth-place overall finish, W9RE broke his own record from 1996 by 15K points to set a new standard for Indiana. Likewise, AB5SE had another record-setting performance by beating his 7-month-old Arkansas record by 13K points.

The NAQP is successful because of participation by both hardcore contesters and casual operators looking to confirm new band-states. Many of the major contest clubs support this contest by

putting together teams, but I'd like to specifically recognize the efforts of the Tennessee Contest Group in encouraging participation in the NAQP. The TCG fielded three complete teams for this edition of the contest, and all of these team members submitted logs! This is the norm for the TCG, not an unusual occurrence. Thanks.

Have you wondered whether you've picked the right off times during the NAQP? The Relative Band Activity chart shows the relative activity for each band for each hour during the August contest. Obviously, activity varies from contest to contest as conditions vary. However, by examining the chart for this edition of the contest, you may gain some insight into when activity changes from band to band. For example, it is readily apparent that the best hour to have been on 160 meters was during the period from 0400Z to 0459Z.

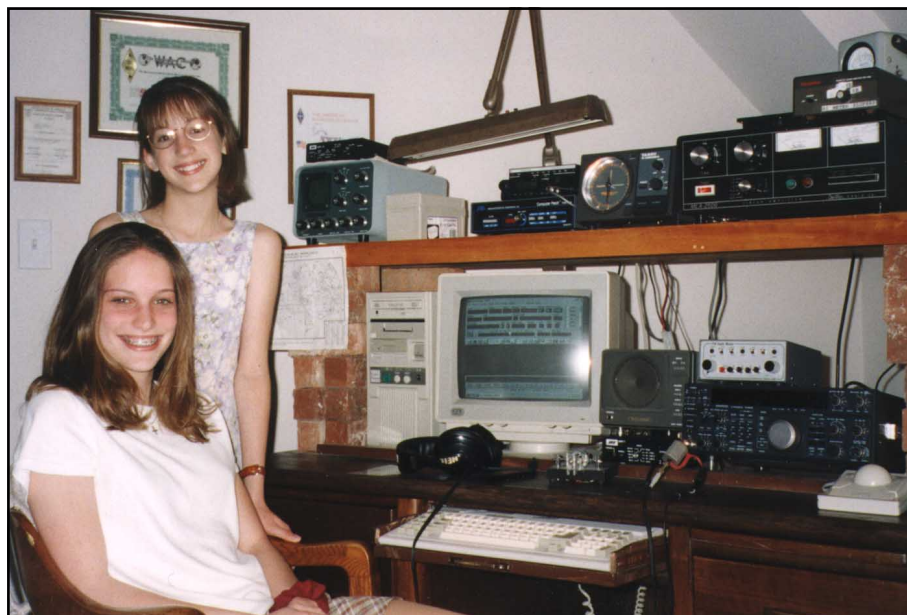
As a reminder, the simplest way to increase your final score is to make sure you copy the entire exchange correctly: call sign, name and QTH. If you have any doubt, ask the other station to repeat their exchange.

The January 1999 NAQP SSB Contest should be another great one! See you then.

## Soapbox

First time over 100,000 for me! Need to put

up a summertime 160 antenna. Spent the first hour on 10 which hasn't happened for a while.—KE2VB What a blast, best NAQP ever for me. My goal was 500 Qs, 120 mults and 60k points. Beat the mults and total points, so was only slightly disappointed to miss 500 Qs. I love the low power contest, I could actually hold a run frequency for more than 5 minutes without the high power stations everywhere. The inverted Vs at 40 feet really play well on 40 and 80 in domestic contests. Gotta get up a Yagi for the high bands.—KG2AU I missed the first hour and I never did get back in the groove.—N9VVV I've got to get the 40/80/160 antennas back up again. The vertical on the roof just doesn't cut it and the QSOs on those bands prove it. Thanks to everyone who worked me.—VE3FU Our first NAQP from WB4MSG's sprouting wire antenna farm. (Gene has a very patient wife!) WX good, but 80 sure stunk. Logging network died in first 5 minutes, lost a rig at the same time. (How do rigs know just when to go belly up?) Nice 10-m openings. Broke in two new contesters! See you next year for sure!—W4WS This contest is such a blast! 15 m was just great, acted like 20 m. 20 m was slow until very late in the contest. 40 m really let me down, but that was likely due to operator error in not reading the openings correctly. Who cares, let's do this again!—KB3A. 10 m open to upper Midwest, but nobody home.—N8VW Had a great time!—AE5T A lot of fun. Qs were down some for me but still had a great time. Can't wait until next time—NX9T Started several hours late. Fifteen was in pretty good shape. Had very high local QRN. Would like to have tried 10 m but station had



Laura, AD4PU, age 14 (foreground); Erin KE4RHU, age 12.

no antenna. Had to shut down early. Worked only the two bands. Lots of EU on 15 m.—*W5ASP* New antenna system worked beautifully. 34% increase in score over January 1998—*W6XK* 10 m a disappointment! Open on Friday but not on Saturday. 15 m pretty good even snagged a few EU stations there. 20 m the money band this time. Kept second radio busy on other bands. Should have gone to 40 m sooner. Early rate best of the test for me then it petered out. 80/160 m lacked activity for me. All in all fun and my first effort using two radios on phone!! It may be easier and more productive than on CW!!—*W7GG* When the last hour is the 2nd best rate of the contest on QRN-laden 40 and 80 m there's definitely room for improvement! Also, getting my neighbor to turn off his electric fence 2½ hours into the contest was quite helpful!—*N4VI* Another fun contest! I improved on my last year's score and met lots of interesting folks in the process—*VE3BUC* Lots of fun even with all the summer storms and local power line noises—*N4ZZ* Thought 20 would never kick in. Good thing 15 was hot from the start—*K5ZM* One has to have priorities set correctly, so I went to a barbecue/picnic before the contest started and played during the first few hours of the contest, and took the next hour or so to drive to the site, lay in supplies, and make sure everything was set and ready to run. I really enjoy the NAQP tests... the 10 operating hours in a 12 hour period is the best... not too short, and not the incredible endurance run of a 48 hour weekend... just right—*W4KH* Had fun as always.. Didn't work the low bands this time, too much QRN. Old age I guess!!—*N2LQQ* Overall very good band conditions for August.—*K4OGG* Had to climb 100-foot tower at 1830... 20-m beam stuck north. Much easier in August.—*K3MD* Conditions were much improved over the CW test two weeks earlier. Was great to hear EU on 10 m, even though it was a NA contest. Hoping this is a sign of things to come.—*K4RO* Interesting conditions and less activity (it seemed)...things started slowly but 10 m showed some life after a bit. January should

be fantastic!—*K5OT* This is the only phone contest that I will make an honest effort in. Had a ball once again.—*K7SV* Only part-time but sure was fun!!—*K0EJ* First time to operate full time in this one! Had fun and luck (mostly) moving mults but just needed some more Qs. When I can work short skip on 20 from here at least I have a chance in a domestic contest (such was the case in this one. Normally I can't do much on 20 from here!—*W9RE* Thanks for a wonderful contest!—*K3PP* Always fun but man the noise level !!!!!—*VE7NF* Another personal best in this game. Discovered 14.292 is the "Alaskan Calling Frequency" when I worked AK. Some wild 10-m openings to EU, PAC, etc. Checked my e-mail after the game to find several e-QSLs! Is this a new trend? Had FUN despite the 20-m and 75-m jammers.—*W04O* That was a lot of fun. I thought I would just make a couple of contacts just to see what this contest was like. I liked it so much I spent the rest of the evening having fun. I'm sure I didn't break any records. Next year for sure I'll be on for the CW and Phone too.—*AA7TR* Should have

done a few things different. West 15-m antenna was not working. The main thing is that we had a good time. Thanks to Bob for doing some of the operating despite not feeling well and particularly for the use of his station.—*N5XJ* Was a good contest but didn't make my personal goal of 200 contacts. I learned a lot and will be pushing harder next time. Watch out for Nebraska in upcoming contests!—*KB0WHY* I am normally CW only, but thought I'd give this a try. It was nice to hear the voices of my CW friends—*KG0KR* Exactly the same number of Qs as I made on CW. 10 m sounded good to a few places at a time. Most of the stations I moved to 10 were actually loud there.—*KM0L* Late start due to a customer company picnic. Good opening on 10 m late, spent a lot of time alternating CQs and picking up new mults on 10 m kept the rate down, but the fun factor high!—*K1KY* Much harder to work from home, too few antennas and not enough power. I am a regular member of the VE6JY contest team. In any event I had fun in the contest. Looking forward for the January version in 1999.—*VE6LDX*

### Single Op Breakdowns

Call	Score	QSOs	Mults	160	80	40	20	15	10	Team
N4BP	220,904	1042	212	7/5	66/27	167/44	429/58	239/50	109/28	FCG #1
WC4E	187,440	880	213	22/13	68/26	102/38	242/55	138/39	250/42	FCG #1
N4ZZ	181,356	889	204	55/24	131/42	163/42	325/51	181/37	13/8	TCG #1
W9RE	181,125	805	225	54/27	121/38	156/46	234/50	146/39	71/25	SMC #1
K4XS	170,170	910	187	11/6	36/17	107/40	400/54	154/44	169/26	FCG #1
K5NZ	168,800	800	211	14/10	52/27	105/40	227/52	185/49	203/33	TDXS
AD6DO	154,973	917	169	1/1	57/18	141/42	392/55	236/38	83/15	SCCC #1
AB5SE	140,140	770	182	38/19	46/21	103/38	295/51	158/33	111/20	
W7GG	134,136	828	162	5/5	20/10	118/43	443/57	213/43	5/4	
K5OT	133,127	697	191	23/12	69/30	158/47	183/48	67/30	192/24	

### Multi-Two Breakdowns

Call	Score	QSOs	Mults	160	80	40	20	15	10
K5TM	398,028	1618	246	32/18	112/37	143/43	589/60	341/48	351/40
N5XJ	333,450	1482	225	22/13	74/33	181/46	612/63	351/47	194/23
NM6Q	213,380	1135	188	15/8	70/22	236/47	310/57	429/53	3/1

### Relative Band Activity

This table shows the relative activity, based on submitted logs, for each band during each hour of the contest. A score of 100 is assigned to the most active band-hour, in this case 15 meters during the 18Z hour. As an example, 20 meters/22Z had 70% of the activity of 15 meters/18Z.

Hour/ Band	160	80	40	20	15	10
18Z	0.1	0.1	0.8	53	100	39
19Z	0.1	0.1	6	60	80	48
20Z	0.1	0.1	6	62	64	27
21Z	0	0	13	60	48	16
22Z	0	0	13	70	44	9
23Z	0.1	0.5	18	80	30	11
0Z	0.1	0.5	29	74	32	20
1Z	0.1	1	53	97	13	13
2Z	0.1	21	65	76	5	7
3Z	5	56	55	51	0.4	6
4Z	23	46	52	25	1	0.3
5Z	10	46	25	9	0.4	0.4

### Team Scores

#### 1. Florida Contest Group #1

N4BP	220,904
WC4E	187,440
K4XS	170,170
N4GI	72,048
AJ4Y	4,356
Total	654,918

#### 2. Tennessee Contest Group #1

N4ZZ	181,356
K4RO	121,667
N5HV	112,875
W04O	87,842
N4VI	55,626
Total	559,366

#### 3. Southern California Contest Club #1

AD6DO	154,973
WA7BNM	104,650
N6ED	97,920
N6MU	97,149
KQ6ES	7,380
Total	462,072

4. Texas DX Society (K5NZ, K5DX, W5ASP, N5DU) .....	335,120
5. Society of Midwest Contesters #1 (W9RE, N9VVV, WT9U) .....	303,558
6. Weekend Warriors #1 (KB3AFT, WA3HAE, KB3A, W3TWI) .....	245,723
7. Tennessee Contest Group #3 (K0EJ, KE4OAR, N4PQV, NN4T, KU4LL) .....	200,409
8. Tennessee Contest Group #2 (NY4T, K1KY, W9WI, W4KH, W4PA) .....	176,188
9. Southeastern Contest Club #1 (AD4J, K4OGG, K4BAI) .....	161,760
10. Non Active QSO Participants (N8VW) .....	98,460
11. Hot North West (K5ZM, KI7Y) .....	81,560
12. Southern California Contest Club #2 (WN6K, W6KY) .....	71,832
13. Florida Contest Group #2 (KR4YL, WD4AHZ) .....	60,661
14. Southeastern Contest Club #2 (AA4GA) .....	17,394
15. Weekend Warriors #2 (WA3SES, N3QVI) .....	16,472

Call	Score	QSOs	Mults	Section	Team	Call	Score	QSOs	Mults	Section	Team
K1PLX	59,478	431	138	RI		KN6MK	20,402	202	101	CA	
AB1BX	24,472	266	92	RI		WA6R	17,595	207	85	CA	
KE1KD	24,153	249	97	NH		K6BZ	16,401	213	77	CA	
N4CW	16,154	197	82	ME		AD6E					
K1CN	7,424	116	64	VT		(W6CT)	12,600	180	70	CA	
WA1QVM	7,102	106	67	MA		W6KY	9,112	136	67	CA	SCCC #2
WR1P	54	9	6	MA		KQ6ES	7,380	123	60	CA	SCCC #1
						KO6IS	1,972	58	34	CA	
KE2VB	101,850	679	150	NY							
KG2AU	65,380	467	140	NY		W7GG	134,136	828	162	OR	
NI2P	21,600	216	100	NY		W7NN	122,589	771	159	WA	
KS2G	19,624	223	88	NY		K5ZM	58,295	445	131	OR	Hot North West
W5KI	6,042	106	57	NJ		N7LOX	45,625	365	125	WA	
N2LQQ	1,696	53	32	NY		KJ7TH	33,033	273	121	ID	
N2LDU	248	31	8	NJ		KK7A	30,284	268	113	ID	
						K5RC	28,980	315	92	NV	
K3PP	89,811	587	153	PA		KI7Y	23,265	235	99	OR	Hot North West
KB3AFT	79,254	518	153	PA	Weekend Warriors #1	KR7X	9,870	141	70	OR	
WA3HAE	78,498	534	147	PA	Weekend Warriors #1	WB2UFO	5,353	101	53	UT	
KB3A	73,606	494	149	PA	Weekend Warriors #1	K7MK	5,100	100	51	ID	
NY3Y	62,238	451	138	PA		W7YS	5,076	94	54	AZ	
K3MD	57,750	462	125	PA		K7BYU	3,723	73	51	UT	
NY3C	24,700	247	100	DE		WA7ITZ	2,376	66	36	UT	
W3TWI	14,365	169	85	PA	Weekend Warriors #1	AA7TR	1,920	60	32	UT	
WA3SES	8,584	148	58	PA	Weekend Warriors #2						
N3QVI	7,888	116	68	PA	Weekend Warriors #2	N8VW	98,460	547	180	OH	No Active QSO Participants
						KA8FCC	15,840	198	80	OH	
N4BP	220,904	1042	212	FL	FCG #1	KI8CS	15,834	182	87	OH	
WC4E	187,440	880	213	FL	FCG #1	K8CV	7,872	123	64	MI	
N4ZZ	181,356	889	204	TN	TCG #1	KT8X	2,112	64	33	MI	
K4XS	170,170	910	187	FL	FCG #1	N8NX	570	30	19	MI	
K4RO	121,667	637	191	TN	TCG #1						
N5HV	112,875	645	175	TN	TCG #1	W9RE	181,125	805	225	IN	SMC #1
KT4ZX	108,696	647	168	KY		N9PQU	80,008	548	146	WI	
K4MA	106,505	595	179	NC		N9VVV	74,817	489	153	IL	SMC #1
K7SV	104,500	550	190	VA		KI9A	57,565	397	145	IL	
WB4OSS	100,596	606	166	KY		WT9U	47,616	372	128	IN	SMC #1
WO4O	87,842	526	167	TN	TCG #1	K9WX	25,272	243	104	IN	
NX9T	80,640	504	160	NC		W9YS	16,965	195	87	IL	
N4GI	72,048	474	152	FL	FCG #1	N9ZUT	5,883	111	53	IL	
K0EJ	70,180	484	145	TN	TCG #3	AA9TQ	3,397	79	43	WI	
AD4J	61,490	430	143	GA	SECC #1	KB9RTM	24	6	4	IL	
K5OF	56,984	419	136	VA							
K4OGG	55,500	370	150	GA	SECC #1	N0AV	129,204	666	194	IA	</