

February 2002 CW Sprint Results

Boring Amateur Radio Club
15125 SE Bartell Rd
Boring, OR 97009
k7rat@kkn.net

One morning, while sleeping in after a 160-meter contest, one of the newer Sprint operators had a dream. This operator lived in the "black hole," in Indiana, where RF signals seem to have a hard time going very far. In this part of the country, many of the Sprint participants start the contest on 40 meters. After 15 minutes of operating, he had 27 stations in the log...an hourly rate of 108. After another nine QSOs, he switched his single transmitter to the 20-meter band and kept right on running them. After one hour, he had 97 QSOs! Not quite 100, but close, and very competitive from the black hole.

Since this is just a fantasy, let's pretend 20 meters stays open well into the second hour, and an hour of 82 follows. Multipliers like Mexico, Utah, Alaska, Vermont, Wyoming, Grenada, VE2 and Maine make it into the log. Near the end of the hour, he switches back to 40 meters and experiences a nice bump in the rate—20 QSOs in just 10 minutes! That's an average rate of 120 per hour. The whole third hour is spent on 40 meters and nets 79 QSOs and the only error that will be logged during the contest. He switches to 80 meters (only his third band change) to finish out the last hour and come in with an awesome 94 QSOs. The final score at the end of the contest is 351 QSOs and 50 multipliers. This produces a score that would have won all but seven of the previous 49 Sprints.

Log checking? OH yeah, lots of people have had dreams about that. Let's say that he lost just one QSO. Too good to be true? Well...okay, let's make it a not-in-log, so it takes the score down two QSOs.

Is this your idea of the "perfect" Sprint? Or a near perfect Sprint? Well, this is exactly what happened to Mike Tessmer, K9NW, who was shooting for his first

Top 10 Scores

| | Score | Band Changes | QSOs Lost | 00Z | 01Z | 02Z | 03Z |
|-------|-------|--------------|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| N6TR | 19800 | 109 | 2 | 101 | 99 | 98 | 99 |
| N9RV | 19240 | 93 | 1 | 106 | 83 | 86 | 95 |
| W4PA | 19012 | 116 | 0 | 113 | 94 | 79 | 102 |
| W6EEN | 18616 | 103 | 3 | 94 | 92 | 82 | 90 |
| K4AAA | 18550 | 118 | 6 | 100 | 81 | 92 | 99 |
| N2NT | 18326 | 138 | 4 | 106 | 93 | 82 | 94 |
| N2IC | 17983 | 57 | 1 | 100 | 86 | 82 | 99 |
| N5RZ | 17850 | 124 | 4 | 101 | 87 | 74 | 89 |
| N6MJ | 17800 | 39 | 4 | 104 | 82 | 80 | 91 |
| N2NL | 17689 | 75 | 8 | 97 | 84 | 92 | 89 |

Top 10 QSOs

| | |
|-------|-----|
| N6TR | 396 |
| W4PA | 388 |
| N2NT | 374 |
| K4AAA | 371 |
| N9RV | 370 |
| N2IC | 367 |
| N2NL | 361 |
| W6EEN | 358 |
| N6MJ | 356 |
| N6ZZ | 356 |

Top Mults

| | |
|-------|----|
| N9RV | 52 |
| W6EEN | 52 |
| K9AA | 52 |
| K3WW | 52 |
| N5RZ | 51 |
| K1KI | 51 |
| K6LL | 51 |
| K6XX | 51 |

Top 10 Low Power

| | |
|-------|-------|
| N0AX | 13104 |
| K1HT | 13064 |
| K5AF | 12831 |
| W7UQ | 12800 |
| K1BX | 12643 |
| N8AA | 11880 |
| N8NA | 11790 |
| K4FXN | 11430 |
| N7LOX | 11295 |
| K9TM | 11178 |

Top 10 QRP

| | |
|--------|-------|
| K7RI | 10800 |
| W5YA | 9408 |
| KG5U | 8648 |
| K6III | 7344 |
| N9NE | 6240 |
| K7UP | 5966 |
| WD7Z | 2816 |
| WA2NYR | 1196 |
| WO3B | 1035 |

Top 10 Golden

| | |
|--------|-----|
| W4PA | 388 |
| K4BAI | 314 |
| K1HT | 284 |
| K9BGL | 269 |
| K8JM | 175 |
| K0EJ | 105 |
| W6CT | 8 |
| DJ1YFK | 1 |

Top 10 Band Changes

| | |
|-------|-----|
| N2NT | 138 |
| N5RZ | 124 |
| K9AA | 119 |
| K4AAA | 118 |
| W4PA | 116 |
| N6TR | 109 |
| W6EEN | 103 |
| K5GN | 94 |
| N9RV | 93 |
| K9XW | 77 |

ever top-ten appearance in the CW Sprint using the station of K9UWA.

He didn't make it. Mike is certainly one of the best operators to have never made the top ten in the CW Sprint. The competition for those coveted ten positions is fierce. This is the first time in Sprint history someone making it to "page 7" didn't end up in the box. Totally inconceivable. Mike ended up 11th and sets a new record for the highest score not to make the top-ten. Phil Goetz, N6ZZ and Bob Wilson N6TV, came in just behind Mike, both using page seven as well and setting records for their respective positions.

Perhaps this helps paint the picture of how competitive the 50th running of the CW Sprint was. The weekend of February 10 brought better than average conditions to 20 meters, average conditions to 40 (with a little QRM from the RTTY contest, but more about that later) and slightly below average conditions on 80. However, the extreme activity level enabled a record 49 stations to finish with 300 or more QSOs. The previous high was 38 stations set two years ago.

QRP Category

Operating QRP in the Sprint is a little like showing up for the Indy 500 in a VW. Typically, Dale, KG5U, has been the only soul willing to try. However, mostly thanks to Team Elecraft, there were nine scores in the QRP box this time around. Danny, K7SS, operated K7RI to set a new QRP score record. Fred Maas, KT5X operated from New Mexico to finish second and leaving 3rd place KG5U feeling like he wasn't so sure he wanted all of this company. We hope to see continued growth in the QRP category during the upcoming events. It appears that most of the new operators had a good time and were able to make some pretty nice scores. Congratulations to each of you.

Low Power

Last September, we were impressed with the fact that you almost needed 10K points to make the top-ten low power. This time, you needed over 11K and even at that, Sprint founder Rusty Epps, W6OAT, missed out making the box with a score of 11,040. The winner was Ward Silver,

Stations Making Top Ten more than Five Times (50 total CW Sprints)

| | | | | | |
|------|----|------|----|-------|----|
| N6TR | 37 | N5RZ | 16 | W0UA | 11 |
| K5ZD | 29 | N5KO | 15 | K5LZO | 9 |
| N5TJ | 28 | N6TV | 13 | W3LPL | 8 |
| N2IC | 28 | N6RO | 13 | W2GD | 8 |
| K1KI | 25 | K3LR | 13 | NT1N | 7 |
| K5GN | 23 | K3UA | 12 | K5GA | 7 |
| K6LL | 22 | K6NA | 12 | K7SS | 6 |
| N2NT | 18 | N6AA | 11 | W4PA | 6 |
| W4AN | 17 | K1TO | 11 | | |

Wyoming Wind Festival

Wyoming Wind. Yes, that is part of the plan too. The plan to have fun and hand out a large number of contacts in the CW Sprint. When the weather forecaster pronounced the impending high wind warning, and predicted 1 to 2 inches of snow, I breathed a brief sigh of relief.

No guilt!

While doing the Sprint this weekend, I couldn't be doing stuff outside during a blizzard. So, the plans are coming together. My wife agreed that I could swap time with her to take care of our 4-month-old son, so I could have the contest time uninterrupted. He will become a productive member of the multi-op team here one day, but for now, he does give comic relief, and makes one take a break from an intense effort during a contest. Neither of which is known to improve one's score a great deal.

The previous week had been spent checking the radio and computer after dark and the antennas before sundown. The rhombic finally being tamed, and proven to be better than the inverted V, on all three bands, 80, 40 and 20, was a big check off the "to do" list. The verticals (a phased pair) were tuned to the CW portion of the band, but they were better on the long haul and not so great stateside.

Sunrise brought a bit of concern because overnight the wind had wiggled the only temporary corner of the rhombic low, but that was easy to fix. The light dusting of snow, wasn't a problem, and the horses were fed before the wind and snow dropped the visibility to less than 300 feet. As the day wore on, with the baby having his time, I was interrupted by only quick glances outside.

I could hear the wind whistle around the verticals and parachute cord. Oops! There is one of the cords whipping past the window. Well, I have to bundle up, scoot outside and then take off my gloves to tie a knot in the parachute cord guy line. Ever notice how cold your fingers become while tying knots in a blizzard, yet you don't feel the pain until you get back inside? It causes one to consider that

antennas stay up better when fixed in a blizzard! An undisputed law?

One last look about. Uh-oh! The corner of the rhombic that was hung temporarily is sagging again. Some more quick repair work, another last look—now the top of the vertical is threatening to topple. That would just about cut my contest career mighty short—not that I'd lose an antenna, but that it would drop on my wife's new SUV. Not a good plan. I had to brave the bitter wind to move the SUV and my pickup, too.

Back inside, I take a deep breath, cozy up to the wood stove, and try to calm down. How about one last check of the last two antennas? Great, the rhombic isn't tuning properly. Do I fix on it or start with just the inverted V? Oh well, the V was pretty good, it would take a while to find the problem and even longer to warm up again.

My wife is calling. What is it? The horses? Yes, one of them is out and chewing up the haystack. I grab my parka, look for the halter and can't find it. I run out to see how the young filly will respond. Look at that, she is following me right into the corral. All that time spent training does pay off! The fence is intact, so I'm left pondering how she got over it. I resign that question for another day. On the way back into the house, I check the inverted V and the rhombic. Both look good now.

Final checks on the computer and antennas. The rhombic is still not tuning well at all. Now one could re-bundle, go back out and try to repair it. OR...run with the V. In the contest, every minute lost can be a big loss. Run with the V wins.

S&P, that is the ticket, although, the very occasional CQ is rewarded by mostly silence. The wind tearing around the corner of the house doesn't help either. Sometimes it is the same tone as in the earphones. That is only a little distracting. The occasional hope that the wind doesn't take down the last antenna, and the wish that the other antennas had stayed up, only slow S&P. Sometimes

a second or third call is required, and with 5-W output it feels good to hear high-power stations repeating their calls after my call was answered. Got a call from one of the team, that feels good too.

"Try to stay on 20, longer than most, maybe go check 40 before the crowd." Yes, that advice paid off. A quick scan of 40 only 30 minutes into the fray netted three Qs. I bounced back to 20 and that didn't look so good. My son is calling. He needs a diaper change and a bottle. My rate isn't so hot, taking a break might be good. There isn't a score that melts one's heart like a 4-month-old when his diaper gets changed. Figure it as training for the multi-op effort in a few years.

Back to the radio, with my son's eyes blissfully shut. Back to 40 and, three minutes later, 20. Eighteen band changes later I was half way through the 'test with 50 Qs and 21 mults. That was somewhat less than I had hoped for, although I must keep in mind, my call is not K7SS, and I am still ahead of last time when I ran 100 W. In the next hour I netted 18 Qs and 5 mults. At 30 past, a quick check of 80 reveals a few strong signals and some very good ears. The last half-hour saw 6 band changes, 2 mults and 17 Qs.

Some lessons learned: S&P works fine. With an average rate of 24, peaks of 27 (with short runs into the 40s), this indicates that the Sprint is a contest of rates, strong signals, good ears and good operators. Those that can, do. Those that can't will always have a way to grow and learn. And, fix the antennas. There is more room for trying in this contest than in many others. I compare this year's score to last year's and take into consideration that last year was 100 W and this year was 5 W into 400 feet of coax. Totals: 90 Qs, 30 mults, for a grand total of 2700. Add one diaper, a bottle of formula and a wife still tolerant of contests. There will always be another contest next year and more Wyoming Winds.—*Dale Putnum, WC7S*

N0AX, with a commanding lead of about 3/4 of a QSO over Dave, K1HT. Dave had a golden log with 11 more QSOs, but Ward held on with two extra multipliers and only one QSO lost in the log checking process. In 3rd place, Paul, K5AF (ex KB8N), had a fractional QSO lead over 4th place W7UQ, operated by Chris, KL9A. Art Hambleton, who we remember from way back as K1LL, used his new call K1BX and finished 5th with a score over

12K. K1HT, N7LOX and WA7BNM claimed their 8th LP Top Ten and are tied for second most LP Top Ten. Congratulations to K0UK and N8NA for their first trip to the LP Top Tens.

High Power

Tree, N6TR, pulled off the hat trick and won his third consecutive Sprint. He joins K5ZD and N5TJ as the only ones with three wins in a row. Second place went to

Pat Barkey, N9RV, who combined his 370 QSOs with a contest high 52 multipliers for a new score record in Indiana. Third place went to Scott Robbins, W4PA, operating at K4JNY. Scott finished with 388 QSOs—the third-highest QSO total ever in a CW Sprint. His first hour of 113 is the best hour ever seen in this contest and he had a golden log to boot. Fourth place went to Doug Brandon, N6RT, operating in the California desert at W6EEN. Fol-

Team Scores

| SSC#1 | Dead Lizards | SCCC | MRRC |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| W4PA 19012 | N9RV 19240 | W6EEN 18616 | K9NW 17450 |
| K4AAA 18550 | K9AA 17264 | N6MJ 17800 | K8MR 14688 |
| N5RZ 17850 | AG9A 16317 | K6LL 16779 | KW8N 14602 |
| N2NL 17689 | W9RE 16250 | K6NA 15181 | K8MK 13340 |
| NY4A 16368 | WE9V 15168 | K6LA 15092 | N8EA 13244 |
| N4ZZ 15322 | WB0O 14946 | N6AA 14736 | K8ND 12103 |
| W9WI 14640 | KA9FOX 14335 | W6UE 14640 | K9TM 11178 |
| K4BAI 14444 | WT9U 13728 | AC6T 14448 | K8JM 7700 |
| KT3Y 13950 | N9CK 13332 | N6VR 12330 | WX3M 6808 |
| K3MM 13420 | K9ZO 10752 | XE/1N6AN 8775 | |
| 161245 | 151332 | 148397 | 111113 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 5. NCCC (N6TV, K6XX, N6XI, K6AW, W6RGG, K5RC, K6CTA, N6PN, N6ZFO) | 108158 |
| 6. YCCC #1 (K1KI, K2UA, W1WEF, K11G, W1UK, N2GC, K2SX) | 101061 |
| 7. SSC #2 (K4RO, N4ZR, W4MR, N4AO, W4OC, W5WMMU, K9AY, W4AU) | 100967 |
| 8. Azenmokers (N6ZZ, N7FO, K5KA, K5YAA, KC7V, K7UAZ, W5TM, K7UP, W0ZZ) | 99131 |
| 9. FRC (N2NT, N2RM, K3WW, AA3B, N8NA, N2NU) | 87208 |
| 10. SMC #1 (K0OU, K9BGL, K5OT, KJ9C, W19WI, K9MMS, W0UY, W8LVN, W9TN) ... | 86195 |
| 11. SSC #3 (WQ5L, K5KG, KO7X, W2CS, K4MX, K4MA, K9GY, K0EJ, AE4Y) | 79180 |
| 12. Corner Pocket (N6TR, N0AX, W7UQ, N7LOX, K7RI, K17Y) | 78014 |
| 13. YCCC #2 (K1DG, KM3T, K1HT, K1BX, WC1M, K1PQS, KR1G) | 74681 |
| 14. Grand Mesa CC (N2IC, W0ETT, N4VI, K0UK) | 37745 |
| 15. Texas DXS (K5AF, KG5U, K8IA, N1LN) | 34243 |
| 16. MWA (N0AT, K0SR, KT0R, AC0W) | 32338 |
| 17. Elecraft (W5YA, N0SS, K6III, N9NE, WO3B) | 32295 |
| 18. SMC #2 (KA0GGI, K9XW, N9JF, K9KM) | 25795 |
| 19. NCC (N8AA, ND8L, KL7WV) | 22692 |
| 20. Austin Powers (W5KFT, N5DUW) | 17380 |
| 21. SSC #4 (W4NZ, NS4W, N5PA) | 14698 |
| 22. SSC #5 (W4SAA, NP4Z) | 8330 |
| 23. EU LiDz (LY1DS, DJ1YFK) | 1793 |
| 24. AMCS (WA2NYR) | 1196 |

Guest Ops

| | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| K7UAZ (N4OGW) | W1UK (NT1N) |
| KL7WV (W3YQ) | W4MR (AA4NC) |
| W7UQ (KL9A) | WE9V (KO9A) |
| W5KFT (K5PI) | K7RI (K7SS) |
| W6EEN (N6RT) | N2RM (N2NC) |
| W8KW (W8UE) | N6MJ (at K6RO) |
| NY4A (N4AF) | W6UE (W4EF) |
| W5YA (KT5X) | K9AA (K9PG at K9XD) |
| KR1G (W1AAX) | K9GY (at K4JA) |
| K8MK (KU8E) | K5OT (at W9OP) |
| N4AO (WC4E) | K6AW (at N6RO) |
| K4AAA (W4AN) | |

lowing Doug was a pack of four Sprint veterans clogging up the middle of the top ten. Bill, W4AN (using K4AAA), led this group with his 17th top-ten showing followed by N2NT (18th time), N2IC (28th time) and N5RZ (16th time). Making just his third appearance, Dan Craig, N6MJ, came in ninth and big welcome to first timer Dave Mueller, N2NL, who squeezed in ahead of K9NW. It is nice to see some new blood seeping in and the N6MJ/N2NL team will be one to keep an eye on during the upcoming WRTC event in Helsinki.

Team Competition

What do you get when you put together a team that has four of the top-ten scores on it, and the bottom score is over 13K? How about a new team record? Congratulations to the Southern Sprint Coalition who not only beat the Southern California Contest Club, but also eclipsed their score record from two years ago. Second place went to the Dead Lizards with the SCCC on their tails. The Mad River Radio Club came in 4th. A total of six clubs finished over 100K. Remember that forming a team is a great way to introduce new operators to the Sprint.

New Records

With the increased activity, it only follows that the record books will have some fresh ink in them. Congratulations to Rick, K11G, who erased the previous Rhode Island record held by K5ZD. Chris, KL9A, erased the W7ZRC record for Idaho with a low power effort from W7UQ. Jim, K8MR, set a new mark in Ohio, just ahead of KW8N, erasing K3UA's score from September 1991. Pete, N4ZR established a new high in West Virginia removing WA8WV's score from two years ago. Sprint animal Paul, K9AA, beat out the old Illinois record held by ex CW Sprint Editor AG9A. Paul now has the record for both Wisconsin and Illinois. G4BUO had a great effort with 6400 points from England to set a new high from the UK. Typically, the big scores from Europe come in September. Phil, NP4Z, submitted only the first log ever from KP4.

N0AT, WB0O, K1DG, N2NT, K2UA, W4PA, W4AN, N4AF, W4OC, N6ZZ, N6TR and N9RV all propped up their own existing records for Minnesota, North Dakota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Tennessee, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, New

Mexico, Oregon and Indiana.

The all-time QSO record was pushed up by N6TR from 393 to 396, inching closer to the magic 400 mark and just missing the all time score record held by Jeff Steinman, N5TJ. By the way, Jeff also holds the low power record with 15,272 points from an effort back in September 1998. A new QRP record was established by Danny, K7SS at K7RI. We haven't really kept track of the low power and QRP records, but we will add that category to the records moving forward. The Southern Sprint Coalition pushed past the Southern California Contest Club's two-year-old club record. We had 49 scores with over 300 QSOs, breaking the previous total of 38 established two years ago.

Cabrillo Logs

We probably don't have to explain what Cabrillo logs are. Only three logs were received that were not Cabrillo. This makes the log processing a *lot* easier and we feel very confident that all of the low power and QRP logs were flagged as a result. We are happy to introduce a "robot" to process your e-mailed log and give instant feedback if

there is anything wrong with the log. Many thanks to Trey Garlough, N5KO, for programming the robot and providing the Internet service for receiving the logs. Again, we really appreciate all of the extra effort you have made to submit your log in the Cabrillo format.

Log Checking

There were 170 logs received—all but two of them in electronic format. All of the logs were fully crosschecked using the software written by N6TR. If you are interested in seeing a report of how your log fared during the log checking process, send an e-mail to tree@kkn.net. The average error rate in the CW Sprint has to be one of the lowest of all of the contests—somewhere between 2 and 3 percent. Congratulations to the following stations who had no errors in their logs: W4PA with 388 QSOs, K4BAI with 314, K1HT, K9BGL, K4MX, K8JM, K0EJ, W6CT and DJ1YFK.

There did seem to be a number of logs that would have been golden logs except for a not-in-log. I suspect that the increased activity level had something to do with that. As the band gets more crowded, it is easy to get confused on who is working whom. This is why the rule exists to send both call signs during the exchange. Verified cases of non-compliance to this rule will result in QSOs being removed from your log. Over the years, most people have found it best to send your call sign at the end of the exchange when you are about to inherit the frequency—and near the front if you aren't. This helps keep the QRM down when you are trying to receive an exchange.

One final point, when hearing someone finishing up with their call sign, it is polite to give the station they are working the opportunity to ask for fills and properly finish the QSO before pouncing in with your call sign. A little courtesy will help make the Sprint enjoyable for all. It is very frustrating to need a fill and not be able to get through the pileup to ask for it. This will often result in the QSO being scratched and a 2-QSO score reduction for the other party. One suggestion to those trying to ask for a repeat—send a long string of dits to get the attention of the station you just worked.

February CW Sprint Date

There was a lot of concern about the possible QRM between the CW Sprint and the RTTY WPX contests. It seems that both contests established themselves on this weekend about 7 years ago. A plea from one station to ask for the Sprint operators to remember that a small part of the band was useful for international RTTY QSOs sparked a heated debate on the CQ-CONTEST e-

mail reflector.

As a result, the activity on 40 meters did seem to shift down about 10 kHz, with many stations heard down below 7015 kHz. There was a hole around 7040 and some stations could be found up above 7045.

The reason the CW Sprint was moved to the second Saturday in February was due to a conflict with the FOC Marathon. There are many Sprint operators who are also members of the FOC and it was felt that moving the two apart was the right thing to do.

After soliciting input from a number of you, it was decided to leave the CW weekend on the second weekend of February. We encourage everyone to take steps to eliminate QRM to the RTTY stations that we are sharing the band with.

Remember the Sprint Web pages at n6tr.jzap.com/Sprint.html and www.contesting.com/articles/198 which both have helpful tips for new Sprint operators. Also, check out the new improved NCJ web page at www.ncjweb.com where you can find rules, results and records. Mark your calendars now and plan to join the fun on September 8 UTC for the 51st CW Sprint.

Soapbox

Personal best for me. As usual I missed KY.—K4FXN. My CW was terrible...not getting on the air really shows in this contest. Thanks to those with patience.—K0UK. First time over 200 QSOs. Sorry for being a bigger Lid than normal on 40 meters. RF was getting into the keying line sometimes—K4MA. Rig was Elecraft K2, 4.9 W—K6III. Bruised and beaten in the pileups. Gotta get better antennas.—K8KFJ. My first real Sprint effort ever. It took me a long time to get the hang of things, but it was fun. I sure hope to get better in the future.—KC7V. I was practicing rig switching before the contest and forgot to purge the logs before starting out. Oops. Well, that's one way to feel really loud—make your first QSO #18. It sure shakes up the big guns when you are 20 QSOs up on them about 5 minutes into the contest. Sorry about that guys.—N0AX. First time back in the Sprint for probably 10-15 years. Felt like I was 'back home' again. Sure was great to work so many old friends. Ran my Elecraft K2 at 12 W output into an 80/40 dipole and a Bencher Skyhawk tribander.—N0SS. Once again I found out how much more work I need to do with my CW capabilities. Another humbling experience—N1LN. Personal best!—N4CW. Late start getting home, then slow to get into the rhythm. Lots of fun—one of my first Sprints to do, but a lot of fun!—N5DUW. First time to run CW Sprint. QSY rule makes it more difficult.—N5PA. Wow, big scores from the gang. Hope to be back in September from a competitive QTH—

N5TJ (You might be the only one who wishes that). 80 meters was a lot tougher than normal.—N6TR. Best effort so far, activity keeps building.—N8NA. All dipoles and low power on 20 made it more challenging—W2CS. Tried to switch to 80 and I had RF into my keying circuit and couldn't get the computer to work. Good lesson to check every band before the start.—WD7Z. First Sprint! The format really redefines contest operating, but I suppose everyone says that the first time. I figured out the "call him, inherit his frequency" routine using the TR simulator ahead of time. However, what I failed to realize is that "he" may come back to someone else, who will then own the frequency and is the one you need to call next. Had to leave at 0330Z to watch the home area Olympian (Shannon) in the women's moguls. I was somewhat surprised at the CW speeds. They're always high in a contest, but in this one many seemed to feel that "Sprint" was equivalent to "send fast." A hundred years ago, as an older teen and commercial op at KOK, I established a moderately good code speed at mill copy of text you couldn't predict in advance. With the computer putting up many names and states, I do wonder how many of those speed racers could make a record copy of real CW at those speeds. Probably doesn't encourage new blood in the contest arena. I worked a small number of stations who did not QSY. They may have been in the Utah QSO Party, and their and the Sprint exchanges gave enough info to complete a contact in either contest. At any rate, I logged them and moved on. All in all, it was really fun, and I look forward to the RTTY session in March, assuming I can get my RTTY stuff hooked back up by then.—K6DGW. I spent most of Saturday afternoon putting up the stealth 40 and 80 bent dipoles in the back yard and didn't have any time left to check out the software. Sure enough, Murphy struck and I spent the first hour and a half trying to get the PC to talk to the keyer. After getting that late start I did manage to have my best Sprint so far and figure if I had been on the entire contest, I could have broken my next goal of 150 Qs. It's a great contest and so enjoyable to hear everyone doing S&P rather than sitting on a frequency. 73s and look for me again in September. As Tree has eloquently stated, "It's the best four hours short of..."—NO5W. 30 WPM never seemed slow, until this contest!—W4NZ. The multiplier gods finally looked down on me in this Sprint!—W6EEN. After 7 years and 14 Sprints, it was a real thrill to finally break 300 QSOs. I wanted to do it before someone broke 400. Better luck next time, Tree! I hope my accuracy has improved. See you all in September.—K4RO. Second CW Sprint...hooked for life!—KM3T. FB conditions. Looks like a lot of records were broken. Wish I could have picked up more sections. Howie—NY4A. My favorite contest! Great condi-

tions.—W1WEF. Didn't do any worse QRP than when I ran QR0. I'll catch on some day, if I live long enough. Had fun, K2s worked well.—K7UP. A humbling experience as usual! I thought after the phone Sprint I had the hang of this test. Guess not!—N4VI. Note—some serial numbers skipped because of my inability to figure out *Writelog*.—K1KI. Started on 40—the 40-meter tower, that is. High winds slowed antenna work during the morning, ended up still on the tower at 0000Z. Started more than half an hour late, but had to get in and keep going. What a great job by all entrants!—K5GN. The bands were the best I have ever heard them; activity was awesome! Personal best in QSOs and mults (by a lot)—congrats to many others for the same achievement. See you in September!—K2UA. Shooting for 10K points, next time 300 QSOs. Gaps in the log due to beer.—KJ9C. Two hours before the contest I began to unpack some dipoles and my station in an attempt to get ready for the Sprint. I had to solder a 20-meter wire to my 40-meter dipole. Considering the time I decided to forego the 80-meter wire. At 2355 I came bursting through my front door to set up the station after finishing

hanging the 40/20 dipole. A little over 10 minutes later I hit 20 meters, making my first contact at 0009Z. Wow! What fun! After spending all day trying to sell my things as I clear out my rental apartment, this was a sensational way to change gears. I was really focused despite my antenna limitations. What a thrill to make 200 QSOs by 45 mults with just a dual band dipole I put up at the last minute. Good for 9k! On the other hand, it looks like the top scores are through the roof! Congratulations to the QSO kings. Without a doubt, the CW Sprint is much more civilized than phone! I heard 3 mults that went unworked, AK, AL and NV. I wonder how many I didn't even hear?—N6AN. The competition for first place in CA is tougher than ever.—N6TV. Decided to form a team of AZ, NM and OK ops, hence the team name of Azenmokers. Fun to compare conditions and results with semi-locals. Heard a lot of new calls in this Sprint, hope y'all will be back again!—N6ZZ. Good conditions, so I decided to do the full four hours. One day I hope to enter the NA Sprint without the disadvantage of an ocean in between me and most of the activity!—G4BUO. 150W sure doesn't seem like high power!—

W4AA. Personnel Best. Almost everybody is getting the placement of the call in the correct spot of the exchange.—W9RE. First time I've ever done the CW Sprint. This score is what happens when you put a non-CW op into the most intense 4 hours of CW contesting anywhere.—NS4W. Missed the first hour due to computer problems.—K9ZO.

This thing gets bigger every year. Some great activity out of Illinois and Tennessee. First 80-meter QSO was W6EEN.—N9RV. Good conditions produced a photo-finish in the low-power category: a scant 227 points separated the #5 claimed score from the #1 claimed score, representing WA, MA, NH, ID and TX. It will be interesting to see what emerges from the log checking! I don't think I've ever worked three ID stations in the Sprint before, but I usually don't miss SC.—K1HT. Hey...this is like homework! Where's my pencil and paper...—K7RI. Note to log checkers—sent #69 to K4FXN instead of #68 by mistake—W6UE (*Well, we won't hold it against him*—Ed). Best ever score!—K9AA. First time. Lots of fun, but will be a while before I master this one.—W8LVN.

Table 1

Scores

| Call | Name | QTH | 20 | 40 | 80 | QSO | Mlt | Score | Team | Call | Name | QTH | 20 | 40 | 80 | QSO | Mlt | Score | Team |
|--------|--------|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-------|---------|--------|--------|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-------|---------------|
| K1KI | TOM | CT | 141 | 111 | 81 | 333 | 51 | 16983 | YCCC #1 | W2CS | GARY | NC | 55 | 112 | 76 | 243 | 42 | 10206 | SSC #3 |
| K1DG | DOUG | NH | 141 | 109 | 71 | 321 | 48 | 15408 | YCCC #2 | W4NZ | TED | TN | 73 | 85 | 63 | 221 | 42 | 9282 | SSC #4 |
| W1WEF | JACK | CT | 109 | 122 | 87 | 318 | 47 | 14946 | YCCC #1 | K4MX | *JERI | VA | 52 | 80 | 69 | 201 | 44 | 8844 | SSC #3 |
| K1IG | RICK | RI | 122 | 95 | 93 | 310 | 47 | 14570 | YCCC #1 | K4MA | JIM | NC | 81 | 78 | 34 | 193 | 44 | 8492 | SSC #3 |
| W1UK | DAVE | CT | 119 | 106 | 83 | 308 | 47 | 14476 | YCCC #1 | K9GY | CZAR | VA | 74 | 67 | 65 | 206 | 41 | 8446 | SSC #3 |
| KM3T | DAVE | NH | 94 | 106 | 91 | 291 | 45 | 13095 | YCCC #2 | K4OJ | *BUBBA | FL | 90 | 54 | 32 | 176 | 44 | 7744 | |
| K1HT | *DAVE | MA | 121 | 101 | 62 | 284 | 46 | 13064 | YCCC #2 | W4AA | ART | FL | 112 | 34 | 0 | 146 | 44 | 6424 | |
| K1BX | *ART | NH | 131 | 76 | 62 | 269 | 47 | 12643 | YCCC #2 | NS4W | DAN | FL | 77 | 36 | 18 | 131 | 36 | 4716 | SSC #4 |
| WC1M | DICK | NH | 57 | 67 | 56 | 180 | 41 | 7380 | YCCC #2 | K4OGG | *JAY | GA | 53 | 27 | 40 | 120 | 39 | 4680 | |
| K1PQS | GEO | ME | 60 | 73 | 38 | 171 | 41 | 7011 | YCCC #2 | W4SAA | JOE | FL | 52 | 45 | 19 | 116 | 38 | 4408 | SSC #5 |
| KR1G | HARRY | NH | 53 | 59 | 48 | 160 | 38 | 6080 | YCCC #2 | K0EJ | MARK | TN | 15 | 61 | 29 | 105 | 37 | 3885 | SSC #3 |
| | | | | | | | | | | AE4Y | *KENT | GA | 57 | 39 | 0 | 96 | 33 | 3168 | SSC #3 |
| | | | | | | | | | | N4GI | *BLAKE | FL | 22 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 16 | 352 | |
| N2NT | ANDY | NJ | 142 | 146 | 86 | 374 | 49 | 18326 | FRC | N5RZ | GATOR | TX | 154 | 131 | 65 | 350 | 51 | 17850 | SSC#1 |
| K2UA | RUS | NY | 113 | 123 | 85 | 321 | 50 | 16050 | YCCC #1 | N6ZZ | PHIL | NM | 157 | 133 | 66 | 356 | 49 | 17444 | Azenmokers |
| N2RM | JOHN | NJ | 126 | 123 | 84 | 333 | 48 | 15984 | FRC | K5GN | DAVE | TX | 131 | 109 | 70 | 310 | 48 | 14880 | |
| N2GC | MIKE | NY | 104 | 94 | 65 | 263 | 46 | 12098 | YCCC #1 | K5KA | KEN | OK | 125 | 123 | 65 | 313 | 45 | 14085 | Azenmokers |
| K2SX | DENNIS | NY | 113 | 80 | 61 | 254 | 47 | 11938 | YCCC #1 | W5KFT | ROB | TX | 110 | 108 | 84 | 302 | 46 | 13892 | Austin Powers |
| W2LC | SCOTT | NY | 98 | 98 | 46 | 242 | 47 | 11374 | | WQ5L | RAY | MS | 116 | 118 | 45 | 279 | 46 | 12834 | SSC #3 |
| N2NU | JOHN | NJ | 80 | 89 | 51 | 220 | 45 | 9900 | FRC | K5AF | *PAUL | TX | 104 | 109 | 60 | 273 | 47 | 12831 | Texas DXS |
| | | | | | | | | | | K5YAA | JERRY | OK | 114 | 93 | 80 | 287 | 42 | 12054 | Azenmokers |
| K3WW | CHAS | PA | 114 | 104 | 84 | 302 | 52 | 15704 | FRC | W5WMMU | PAT | LA | 107 | 78 | 62 | 247 | 46 | 11362 | SSC #2 |
| AA3B | BUD | PA | 114 | 136 | 73 | 323 | 48 | 15504 | FRC | W5TM | ED | OK | 78 | 102 | 43 | 223 | 43 | 9589 | Azenmokers |
| K3MM | TY | MD | 114 | 93 | 98 | 305 | 44 | 13420 | SSC#1 | W5YA | **ED | NM | 121 | 75 | 28 | 224 | 42 | 9408 | Electcraft |
| N8NA | *KARL | DE | 107 | 79 | 76 | 262 | 45 | 11790 | FRC | KG5U | **DALE | TX | 121 | 42 | 25 | 188 | 46 | 8648 | Texas DXS |
| WA3SES | *ED | PA | 17 | 18 | 0 | 35 | 23 | 805 | | N5TJ | *JEFF | TX | 109 | 62 | 0 | 171 | 46 | 7866 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | N1LN | *BRUCE | TX | 72 | 74 | 26 | 172 | 37 | 6364 | Texas DXS |
| W4PA | SCOTT | TN | 147 | 153 | 88 | 388 | 49 | 19012 | SSC#1 | K7UP | **JOHN | NM | 88 | 57 | 12 | 157 | 38 | 5966 | Azenmokers |
| K4AAA | BILL | GA | 132 | 141 | 98 | 371 | 50 | 18550 | SSC#1 | N5DUW | *JACK | TX | 53 | 36 | 20 | 109 | 32 | 3488 | Austin Powers |
| N2NL | DAVE | FL | 154 | 132 | 75 | 361 | 49 | 17689 | SSC#1 | NO5W | *CHUCK | TX | 27 | 46 | 26 | 99 | 30 | 2970 | |
| NY4A | AL | NC | 129 | 114 | 98 | 341 | 48 | 16368 | SSC#1 | WD7Z | **DAVE | NM | 44 | 44 | 0 | 88 | 32 | 2816 | |
| N4ZZ | DON | TN | 116 | 123 | 87 | 326 | 47 | 15322 | SSC#1 | WA2NYR | **BILL | MS | 30 | 16 | 0 | 46 | 26 | 1196 | AMCS |
| W9WI | DOUG | TN | 108 | 127 | 70 | 305 | 48 | 14640 | SSC#1 | N5PA | *AL | MS | 11 | 13 | 11 | 35 | 20 | 700 | SSC #4 |
| K4BAI | JOHN | GA | 128 | 89 | 97 | 314 | 46 | 14444 | SSC#1 | W6EEN | DOUG | CA | 142 | 131 | 85 | 358 | 52 | 18616 | SCCC |
| K4RO | KIRK | TN | 109 | 109 | 96 | 314 | 45 | 14130 | SSC #2 | N6MJ | DAN | CA | 156 | 132 | 68 | 356 | 50 | 17800 | SCCC |
| KT3Y | PHIL | VA | 127 | 101 | 82 | 310 | 45 | 13950 | SSC#1 | N6TV | BOB | CA | 154 | 127 | 67 | 348 | 50 | 17400 | NCCC |
| W4MR | WILL | NC | 81 | 132 | 70 | 283 | 48 | 13584 | SSC #2 | K6NA | GLEN | CA | 145 | 109 | 69 | 323 | 47 | 15181 | SCCC |
| N4AO | JEFF | FL | 119 | 103 | 66 | 288 | 46 | 13248 | SSC #2 | K6LA | KEN | CA | 154 | 105 | 49 | 308 | 49 | 15092 | SCCC |
| W4OC | DON | SC | 106 | 109 | 73 | 288 | 46 | 13248 | SSC #2 | N6AA | DICK | CA | 135 | 121 | 51 | 307 | 48 | 14736 | SCCC |
| N4CW | BERT | NC | 114 | 97 | 50 | 261 | 48 | 12528 | | W6UE | MIKE | CA | 129 | 128 | 48 | 305 | 48 | 14640 | SCCC |
| NA4K | STEVE | TN | 105 | 105 | 67 | 277 | 44 | 12188 | | K6XX | BOB | CA | 165 | 85 | 34 | 284 | 51 | 14484 | NCCC |
| K5KG | GEORGE | FL | 107 | 110 | 42 | 259 | 47 | 12173 | SSC #3 | | | | | | | | | | |
| K4FXN | *DAN | KY | 103 | 98 | 53 | 254 | 45 | 11430 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| K9AY | GARY | GA | 83 | 95 | 63 | 241 | 47 | 11327 | SSC #2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| KO7X | AL | NC | 88 | 100 | 54 | 242 | 46 | 11132 | SSC #3 | | | | | | | | | | |
| W4AU | JOHN | VA | 62 | 103 | 70 | 235 | 44 | 10340 | SSC #2 | | | | | | | | | | |

| Call | Name | QTH | 20 | 40 | 80 | QSO | Mlt | Score | Team | Call | Name | QTH | 20 | 40 | 80 | QSO | Mlt | Score | Team | | |
|-------|---------|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-------|------------|----------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|--------------|--|--|
| AC6T | STEVE | CA | 135 | 106 | 60 | 301 | 48 | 14448 | SCCC | N9RV | PAT | IN | 137 | 144 | 89 | 370 | 52 | 19240 | Dead Lizards | | |
| N6XI | RICK | CA | 140 | 92 | 39 | 271 | 48 | 13008 | NCCC | K9NW | MIKE | IN | 126 | 130 | 93 | 349 | 50 | 17450 | MRRC | | |
| N6VR | RAY | CA | 116 | 100 | 58 | 274 | 45 | 12330 | SCCC | K9AA | PAUL | IL | 112 | 147 | 73 | 332 | 52 | 17264 | Dead Lizards | | |
| K6AW | STEVE | CA | 113 | 87 | 60 | 260 | 46 | 11960 | NCCC | AG9A | MARK | IL | 123 | 140 | 70 | 333 | 49 | 16317 | Dead Lizards | | |
| W6RGG | BOB | CA | 138 | 69 | 37 | 244 | 48 | 11712 | NCCC | W9RE | MIKE | IN | 112 | 116 | 97 | 325 | 50 | 16250 | Dead Lizards | | |
| W6OAT | *RUSTY | CA | 108 | 116 | 16 | 240 | 46 | 11040 | | WE9V | CHAD | WI | 116 | 114 | 86 | 316 | 48 | 15168 | Dead Lizards | | |
| K6CTA | ED | CA | 120 | 72 | 28 | 220 | 48 | 10560 | NCCC | KA9FOX | SCOTT | WI | 109 | 121 | 75 | 305 | 47 | 14335 | Dead Lizards | | |
| N6PN | MATT | CA | 107 | 82 | 31 | 220 | 43 | 9460 | NCCC | WT9U | JIM | IN | 94 | 117 | 75 | 286 | 48 | 13728 | Dead Lizards | | |
| N6ZFO | BILL | CA | 105 | 95 | 1 | 201 | 42 | 8442 | NCCC | N9CK | STEVE | WI | 91 | 121 | 91 | 303 | 44 | 13332 | Dead Lizards | | |
| K6III | **JERRY | CA | 122 | 27 | 4 | 153 | 48 | 7344 | Elecraft | K9BGL | KARL | IL | 103 | 107 | 59 | 269 | 47 | 12643 | SMC #1 | | |
| W6MVW | DICK | CA | 90 | 78 | 0 | 168 | 40 | 6720 | | K5OT | LARRY | WI | 98 | 108 | 65 | 271 | 45 | 12195 | SMC #1 | | |
| N6BM | *DON | CA | 55 | 66 | 21 | 142 | 38 | 5396 | | KJ9C | MEL | IN | 81 | 108 | 70 | 259 | 45 | 11655 | SMC #1 | | |
| N6TW | *LARRY | CA | 80 | 28 | 16 | 124 | 42 | 5208 | | W9WI | JIM | WI | 98 | 96 | 69 | 263 | 43 | 11309 | SMC #1 | | |
| K6DGV | *FRED | CA | 37 | 15 | 0 | 52 | 28 | 1456 | | K9ZO | RAF | IL | 65 | 76 | 83 | 224 | 48 | 10752 | Dead Lizards | | |
| W03B | **BOB | CA | 28 | 17 | 0 | 45 | 23 | 1035 | Elecraft | K9MMS | *GARY | IL | 61 | 102 | 69 | 232 | 42 | 9744 | SMC #1 | | |
| W6CT | *SCOTT | CA | 0 | 0 | 8 | 8 | 1 | 8 | | K9XW | *JOHN | IL | 50 | 90 | 43 | 183 | 41 | 7503 | SMC #2 | | |
| N6TR | TREE | OR | 172 | 147 | 77 | 396 | 50 | 19800 | Corner | N9JF | *POGO | IL | 69 | 85 | 0 | 154 | 41 | 6314 | SMC #2 | | |
| K6LL | DAVE | AZ | 172 | 105 | 52 | 329 | 51 | 16779 | SCCC | N9NE | **TODD | WI | 69 | 66 | 21 | 156 | 40 | 6240 | Elecraft | | |
| N7FO | OZ | AZ | 132 | 96 | 75 | 303 | 47 | 14241 | Azenmokers | W8LVN | BILL | IL | 49 | 46 | 46 | 141 | 35 | 4935 | SMC #1 | | |
| N0AX | *ED | WA | 150 | 91 | 32 | 273 | 48 | 13104 | Corner | W9TN | *STEVE | IN | 29 | 44 | 32 | 105 | 37 | 3885 | SMC #1 | | |
| W7UQ | *BOB | ID | 145 | 78 | 33 | 256 | 50 | 12800 | Corner | K9KM | *HOWIE | IL | 52 | 19 | 41 | 112 | 33 | 3696 | SMC #2 | | |
| N7LOX | *BRIAN | WA | 120 | 93 | 38 | 251 | 45 | 11295 | Corner | K9WX | *TIM | IN | 26 | 16 | 0 | 42 | 23 | 966 | | | |
| K5RC | TOM | NV | 111 | 74 | 68 | 253 | 44 | 11132 | NCCC | N2IC | STEVE | CO | 158 | 125 | 84 | 367 | 49 | 17983 | Grand Mesa | | |
| K7RI | **DAN | WA | 109 | 112 | 19 | 240 | 45 | 10800 | Corner | WB0O | BILL | ND | 124 | 106 | 88 | 318 | 47 | 14946 | Dead Lizards | | |
| KC7V | MIKE | AZ | 103 | 98 | 42 | 243 | 44 | 10692 | Azenmokers | K0OU | STEVE | MO | 102 | 124 | 73 | 299 | 47 | 14053 | SMC #1 | | |
| K7UAZ | *TOR | AZ | 126 | 87 | 23 | 236 | 45 | 10620 | Azenmokers | N0AT | RON | MN | 103 | 105 | 102 | 310 | 45 | 13950 | MWA | | |
| KI7Y | *JIM | OR | 129 | 73 | 25 | 227 | 45 | 10215 | Corner | K0SR | STEVE | MN | 93 | 118 | 85 | 296 | 47 | 13912 | MWA | | |
| KL7WV | TIM | AK | 87 | 45 | 0 | 132 | 37 | 4884 | NCC | W0ETT | *KEN | CO | 122 | 86 | 15 | 223 | 46 | 10258 | Grand Mesa | | |
| W0ZZ | JOHN | AZ | 26 | 54 | 40 | 120 | 37 | 4440 | Azenmokers | KA0GGI | *TOAD | MO | 74 | 83 | 45 | 202 | 41 | 8282 | SMC #2 | | |
| K8MR | JIM | OH | 94 | 132 | 80 | 306 | 48 | 14688 | MRRC | N0SS | *TOM | MO | 48 | 113 | 51 | 212 | 39 | 8268 | Elecraft | | |
| KW8N | BOB | OH | 112 | 105 | 81 | 298 | 49 | 14602 | MRRC | N4VI | *CHRIS | CO | 94 | 78 | 17 | 189 | 41 | 7749 | Grand Mesa | | |
| N4ZR | PETE | WV | 117 | 100 | 69 | 286 | 48 | 13728 | SSC #2 | W0UY | TOM | KS | 64 | 53 | 35 | 152 | 38 | 5776 | SMC #1 | | |
| K8MK | JEFF | OH | 105 | 104 | 81 | 290 | 46 | 13340 | MRRC | KT0R | DAVE | MN | 20 | 44 | 47 | 111 | 32 | 3552 | MWA | | |
| N8EA | JOE | MI | 107 | 110 | 84 | 301 | 44 | 13244 | MRRC | K0UK | *BILL | CO | 35 | 22 | 8 | 65 | 27 | 1755 | Grand Mesa | | |
| K8ND | JEFF | OH | 85 | 84 | 78 | 247 | 49 | 12103 | MRRC | AC0W | *BILL | MN | 15 | 28 | 1 | 44 | 21 | 924 | MWA | | |
| N8AA | *JOHN | OH | 112 | 82 | 70 | 264 | 45 | 11880 | NCC | VE5SF | *SAM | VE5 | 98 | 94 | 7 | 199 | 41 | 8159 | | | |
| K9TM | *TIM | OH | 89 | 95 | 59 | 243 | 46 | 11178 | MRRC | VX2AWR | *SERGE | VE2 | 67 | 44 | 24 | 135 | 41 | 5535 | | | |
| KV8Q | *TOM | OH | 70 | 66 | 47 | 183 | 44 | 8052 | | XE1/N6AN | *REX | XE | 80 | 111 | 4 | 195 | 45 | 8775 | SCCC | | |
| W8KW | *EMU | MI | 91 | 52 | 45 | 188 | 42 | 7896 | | G4BUO | DAVE | G | 45 | 84 | 31 | 160 | 40 | 6400 | | | |
| K8JM | JOHN | MI | 60 | 80 | 35 | 175 | 44 | 7700 | MRRC | NP4Z | PHIL | KP4 | 53 | 37 | 16 | 106 | 37 | 3922 | SSC #5 | | |
| WX3M | *DON | MI | 51 | 82 | 51 | 184 | 37 | 6808 | MRRC | LY1DS | DAN | LY | 55 | 0 | 9 | 64 | 28 | 1792 | EU LiDz | | |
| K8DD | DUCK | MI | 49 | 85 | 32 | 166 | 39 | 6474 | | DJ1YFK | *FAB | DL | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | EU LiDz | | |
| K8IA | *BOB | MI | 55 | 60 | 45 | 160 | 40 | 6400 | Texas DXS | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ND8L | RAY | OH | 88 | 42 | 26 | 156 | 38 | 5928 | NCC | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| K8KFJ | GARY | WV | 9 | 72 | 46 | 127 | 36 | 4572 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |