

# 2006 ARRL Phone Sweepstakes Results

Kelly Taylor, VE4XT  
ve4xt@mts.net



The Sweepstakes contest has its roots in the earliest days of Amateur Radio. Its exchange — made to resemble a message header — harkens back to the birth of the American Radio Relay League. And yet, almost a century later, the radios may have changed — with digital IFs replacing the galena crystals and drifty regens of old, when computers do in less than a second what took weeks before, when hundreds of stations can fit in the bandwidth of a single spark gap — one of Amateur Radio's oldest contests remains one of its most popular.

This year, a combined 1541 stations racked up a total 505,065 QSOs. And this isn't even a busy year, with the sunspots still on vacation. Much of that must be due to the accessibility of Sweepstakes. It's not a DX contest, so it's one of few majors where a New England location can actually be a hindrance. That it's not a DX contest means many superstations are at a disadvantage. And that it's not a DX contest means even modest stations can rack up impressive — and competitive — scores.

That it's domestic also means that winners can come from all over. Art Hambleton, K1BX, drove his New Hampshire station to the top of Low Power. Al Sinopoli,

KC5R, won QRP from Louisiana, with Doug Zwiebel, KR2Q, from New Jersey right behind him. Mitch Mason, K7RL, took Unlimited from Washington, and the Mount Frank Contesters at K9NS won Multioperator from Illinois. The Hesston College Amateur Radio Club, KØHC, rang up its second consecutive school club victory from Kansas. And, of course, Rich Boyd, KE3Q, operating WP3R in Puerto Rico claimed his eighth High Power victory.

## High Power

With another Sweepstakes comes another WP3R victory. Rich, KE3Q, has again proven his operating skills. His Arecibo location has what it takes to be top of the field, having won every Sweepstakes since he started going down there in 1999.

Rich's own prediction that 2006 was the year he'd be most vulnerable just didn't come true. Granted, it was a prediction dismissed out of hand by challengers George Fremin, K5TR, and Bill Kollenbaum, K4XS, but Rich thought the absence of high bands last year would give the Gulf Coast stations (such as Pat Sonnier, W5WMU, or K5TR) an advantage on 40 and 80 meters.

As far as single operators go, George, K5TR, is once again the winner of the "every-

body-except-Rich" category, placing second in the B category as he has done regularly for some time. In third place was another Caribbean station, this being KP2TM (Tim Mitchell, K9TM, op) from the US Virgin Islands. With Tim only 3200 points, or 20 contacts, behind George, 2007 could shape up as the key battle in all of Sweepstakes.

## Affiliated Club Competition

Category/Club	Score	Entries
<b>Unlimited</b>		
Potomac Valley Radio Club	20,585,820	290
Northern California Contest Club	20,016,034	260
Society of Midwest Contesters	12,620,118	220
Minnesota Wireless Assn	6,829,358	104
Yankee Clipper Contest Club	5,484,622	83
Mad River Radio Club	4,765,040	57
Florida Contest Group	3,266,336	56
<b>Medium</b>		
South East Contest Club	3,062,328	36
Southern California Contest Club	2,832,074	31
Western Washington DX Club	2,257,670	26
Tennessee Contest Group	2,037,186	30
Central Texas DX and Contest Club	1,991,826	22
Frankford Radio Club	1,978,064	34
Contest Club Ontario	1,930,868	40
Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	1,659,776	18
Hudson Valley Contesters and Kentucky Contest Group	1,114,126	21
Oklahoma DX Assn	1,058,512	14
Rochester (NY) DX Assn	1,033,270	11
Motor City Radio Club	829,742	13
Motor City Radio Club	786,766	25
CTRI Contest Group	734,520	14
Central Arizona DX Assn	655,536	11
Order of Boiled Owls of New York	541,142	11
West Park Radiops	272,248	15

## Local

New Mexico Big River Contesters	1,085,752	10
Saskatchewan Contest Club	944,164	10
Florida Contest Group - Panhandle	799,042	8
North Texas Contest Club	777,082	8
Utah DX Assn	700,682	6
Maritime Contest Club	665,680	7
Spokane DX Association	630,146	6
North Coast Contesters	525,350	9
Willamette Valley DX Club	516,210	9
Kansas City DX Club	491,680	4
Alberta Clippers	420,662	3
Northern Rockies DX Association	344,100	4
Carolina DX Assn	334,942	6
East Coast Canada Contest Club	333,026	6
MIT Radio Society	329,636	5
Lincoln ARC	267,278	3
BC DX Club	258,120	3
Dominion DX Group	245,948	9
Northern Arizona DX Assn	230,392	5
Bay Area Wireless Assn	217,096	3
North Hills Amateur Radio Contest	216,272	3
Medina 2 Meter Group	208,802	3
Alabama Contest Group	151,440	3
Cherryland ARC	149,992	3
University of Pennsylvania ARC	141,250	3
Sussex County ARC	123,808	5
Fort Smith Area ARC	123,306	3
Northeast Maryland Amateur Radio	122,310	6
Sterling Park ARC	120,532	4
Caribbean Contesting Consortium	119,700	3
Green River Valley ARS	119,474	4
Western New York DX Assn	103,638	4
Woodbridge Wireless	100,380	3
Radio Club of Tacoma	98,410	4
Bergen ARC	95,830	7
Meriden ARC	93,992	4
Southern California DX Club	79,612	4
Portage County Amateur Radio	78,240	3
Redmond Top Key Contest Club	75,446	3
Eastern Iowa DX Assn	70,264	3
Texas DX Society	65,508	4
Southwest Ohio DX Assn	61,914	3
South Jersey Radio Assn	60,672	3
Trojan ARC	59,380	3
Great South Bay ARC	46,908	3
Hazel Park ARC	33,528	3
Downey ARC	30,038	3
Alexandria Radio Club	23,794	3
East Coast DX Assn	6,640	3

## Top 10

### Single Operator, QRP

KC5R	100,800
KR2Q	82,082
N8IE	73,872
K8IR	66,676
NA4BW	64,834
KØFRP	63,048
NX9T	54,604
VE6CNU	52,822
KØHW	52,500
KA1LMR	52,140

### Single Operator, Unlimited

K7RL	282,240
NI1N	264,640
W7RN	246,880
WB1GQR	242,880
K6XX	241,120
W4NF	229,760
W8MJ	228,000
K3MM	227,520
N3KS	221,760
K7OX	211,224

### Single Operator, Low Power

K1BX	199,520
KØUK	197,600
N4PN	196,320
VE6EX	190,880
AJ9C	190,240
WA3A	188,160
N6NF	183,040
ACØW	164,800
NØKK	162,240
K1HTV	162,240

### Multioperator

K9NS	321,440
W6YI	299,200
N2NT	289,280
K8BB	250,720
KTØR	246,720
KØFJ	228,640
K2NNY	225,120
NI7T	221,120
KA1ARB	212,640
N3OC	212,000
NK7U	212,000

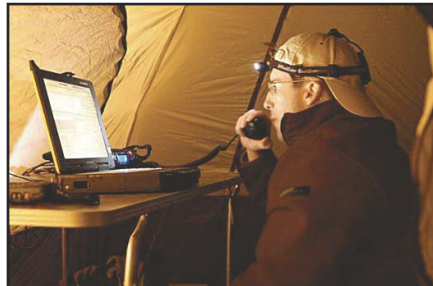
### Single Operator, High Power

WP3R	364,800
K5TR	314,400
KP2TM	311,200
KDØS	295,840
W7WA	295,840
W6NL	282,720
K6NA	276,800
W5KFT	271,520
N6BV	271,200
N5AA	260,960

### School Club

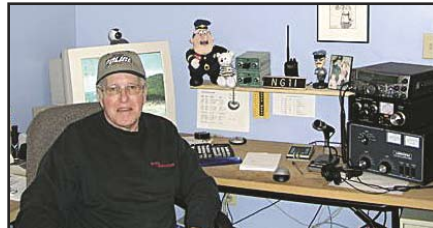
KØHC	222,400
N9UC	109,280
W5YM	104,438
W8SH	93,170
W6RFU	69,264
K4KDJ	60,372
W3ABT	51,948
KD5VVI	47,196
WA5BU	42,712
KU5B	37,762

COURTESY ROBERT HIGLEY, NY4Q



Robert Higley, NY4Q, and Daniel Mitchell, KG4ADS, operated Sweepstakes from a tent with battery power.

COURTESY FRANK MACKENZIE-LAMB, NG1I



Frank Mackenzie-Lamb, NG1I, worked the contest with only a G5RV on high power. He says it was his best effort yet and he looks forward to next year.

## Low Power

Art Hambleton, K1BX, was “blown away” to hear he outlasted Bill Brown, KØUK, to take top spot in Low Power. “I don’t know what happened to KØUK, because he was about 50 contacts ahead of me,” Art said.

With his win, Art has gone against history. Typically, New England stations do not place well in Sweepstakes. While they can often crack the Top 10 or even Top 5, it isn’t often a K1 has claimed the Number 1 spot. Bill’s Colorado location is usually an advantage, so Art’s accomplishment is even more impressive. But it was hard-fought to the last contact, with Art finishing with just a 1920 point lead. That’s a mere 12 contacts.

The fight for second was won by an even

smaller margin, with Bill edging out Paul Newberry, N4PN, by only eight contacts. Two stations fought to the closest of margins — zero points. Both Kirk Pengelly, NØKK, and Richard Zwirko, K1HTV, scored 162,240 points (a similar draw decided the bottom of Multioperator Top 10).

## Unlimited

Notable by his absence was Dave Hachadorian, K6LL, who has had a stranglehold on this category for a number of years. Coming up strong in his place, however, was Mitch Mason, K7RL, whose 282,240 points beat second place Tom McAlee Jr, N11N, by roughly 18,000 points. “With so many great ops and competitive stations around the country, I am very grateful to achieve my first

Sweepstakes win,” Mitch said.

Mitch explains why this is one of his favorite contests: “Sweepstakes, in my opinion, is the most challenging contest of them all with the long exchange,” he said. “Add that to a solar cycle low, with extremely crowded 20 and 40 meter bands, and you have the perfect ingredients to test the abilities of an operator physically, mentally and emotionally.”

Mitch’s aluminum farm is impressive. He’s grown a 135 foot rotating monopole with three tribanders, and two 40 meter beams and an 80 meter beam at 100 feet. Another tower holds another 40 meter 2-element Yagi and a 3-element multibander. A pair of 140 foot trees provided support for a cage vertical for 160 meters, fed against five elevated radials.

## 2006 ARRL November Phone Sweepstakes Plaque Winners

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of numerous clubs, individuals and ICOM — principal awards sponsor for the 2006 ARRL November Sweepstakes— we are pleased to announce that the Overall and Division leaders in each category receives a sponsored Sweepstakes plaque. Many thanks to the sponsors for their continued commitment to the ARRL Plaque Program. Without their support and dedication, the Plaque program would not be possible.

Division/Plaque	Winner	Plaque Sponsor	Division/Plaque	Winner	Plaque Sponsor
<b>Overall</b>					
Single Operator High Power Phone	WP3R (KE3Q, op)	Mike Fatchett, W0MU	Single Operator High Power Phone	KK1L	ICOM
Single Operator Low Power Phone	K1BX	Ken Adams, K5KA	Single Operator Low Power Phone	K1BX	CTRI Contest Group
Single Operator QRP Phone	KC5R	QRP Amateur Radio Club International	Single Operator QRP Phone	KA1LMR	ICOM
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	K7RL	ICOM	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	WB1GQR (W1SJ, op)	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	K9NS	ICOM	Multioperator Phone	W1AW	ICOM
School Club Phone	KØHC	ICOM	School Club Phone	W1AF	ICOM
<b>Atlantic</b>					
Single Operator High Power Phone	KD4D	ICOM	Single Operator High Power Phone	W7WA	ICOM
Single Operator Low Power Phone	WA3A	Potomac Valley Radio Club	Single Operator Low Power Phone	N7WI	ICOM
Single Operator QRP Phone	K3SWZ	ICOM	Single Operator QRP Phone	N4SL	ICOM
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	K3MM	ICOM	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	K7RL	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	K2NNY	Mark Sickmeyer, KB3GJ Memorial	Multioperator Phone	NK7U (+KL2A)	ICOM
School Club Phone	W3ABT (K3BHX, op)	ICOM			
<b>Central</b>					
Single Operator High Power Phone	K9BGL	ICOM	Single Operator High Power Phone	W6NL (N6KT, op)	ICOM
Single Operator Low Power Phone	AJ9C	ICOM	Single Operator Low Power Phone	N6NF	ICOM
Single Operator QRP Phone	KC9AMM	ICOM	Single Operator QRP Phone	N6WG	ICOM
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	K9CT	ICOM	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	W7RN (WX5S, op)	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	K9NS	ICOM	Multioperator Phone	W6YX	ICOM
School Club Phone	N9UC (WO9S, op)	ICOM			
<b>Dakota</b>					
Single Operator High Power Phone	KDØS	Minnesota Wireless Association	Single Operator High Power Phone	NN3W	Potomac Valley Radio Club
Single Operator Low Power Phone	ACØW	Minnesota Wireless Association	Single Operator Low Power Phone	KZ2I	Raleigh Amateur Radio Society - W4DW
Single Operator QRP Phone	KØHW	Tod Olson, KØTO	Single Operator QRP Phone	NX9T	NoVa QRP Group
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	KØHB	Minnesota Wireless Association	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	N11N	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	KTØR	In Memory of Jim Dokmo, KØFVF Minnesota Wireless Association	Multioperator Phone	KA1ARB (+WB1ADR)	ICOM
			School Club Phone	K4KDJ	ICOM
<b>Delta</b>					
Single Operator High Power Phone	W5WUM	ICOM	Single Operator High Power Phone	K5TA	ICOM
Single Operator Low Power Phone	AE5T	ICOM	Single Operator Low Power Phone	KØUK	ICOM
Single Operator QRP Phone	KC5R	ICOM	Single Operator QRP Phone	KØFRP	Colorado QRP Club
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	N4OGW	ICOM	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	WØZA	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	KG5VK	ICOM	Multioperator Phone	NI7T	ICOM
School Club Phone	W5YM	ICOM			
<b>Great Lakes</b>					
Single Operator High Power Phone	K8AO	ICOM	Single Operator High Power Phone	K6NA (N6ED, op)	ICOM
Single Operator Low Power Phone	K8BL	Mad River Radio Club	Single Operator Low Power Phone	WAØKDS	ICOM
Single Operator QRP Phone	N8IE	Mad River Radio Club	Single Operator QRP Phone	KE6K	ICOM
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	W8MJ	ICOM	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	W6TK	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	K8BB (+WD8S)	ICOM	Multioperator Phone	W6YI	ICOM
School Club Phone	W8SH	ICOM	School Club Phone	W6RFU	ICOM
<b>Hudson</b>					
Single Operator High Power Phone	W2OIB	ICOM	Single Operator High Power Phone	K5TR	Ken Adams, K5KA
Single Operator Low Power Phone	W2ID	ICOM	Single Operator Low Power Phone	WD5K	Ralph “Gator” Bowen, N5RZ
Single Operator QRP Phone	KR2Q	ICOM	Single Operator QRP Phone	WA8ZBT	ICOM
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	NN2W (NY6DX, op)	ICOM	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	N5ZC	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	N2NT	ICOM	Multioperator Phone	KBØHH	ICOM
School Club Phone	K2GQ	ICOM	School Club Phone	KD5VVI	ICOM
<b>Midwest</b>					
Single Operator High Power Phone	WØCEM	ICOM	Single Operator QRP Phone	VE6CNU	ICOM
Single Operator Low Power Phone	NØAC	ICOM	Single Operator High Power Phone	VY2TT (K6LA, op)	ICOM
Single Operator QRP Phone	K1ØOV	ICOM	Single Operator Low Power Phone	VE6EX	ICOM
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	KØOU	ICOM	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	VE5UF	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	KØFJ	ICOM	Multioperator Phone	VO2WL	ICOM
School Club Phone	KØHC	ICOM			
<b>New England</b>					
Single Operator High Power Phone	WP3R (KE3Q, op)	Mike Fatchett, W0MU	Single Operator High Power Phone	KK1L	ICOM
Single Operator Low Power Phone	K1BX	Ken Adams, K5KA	Single Operator Low Power Phone	K1BX	CTRI Contest Group
Single Operator QRP Phone	KC5R	QRP Amateur Radio Club International	Single Operator QRP Phone	KA1LMR	ICOM
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	K7RL	ICOM	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	WB1GQR (W1SJ, op)	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	K9NS	ICOM	Multioperator Phone	W1AW	ICOM
School Club Phone	KØHC	ICOM	School Club Phone	W1AF	ICOM
<b>Northwestern</b>					
Single Operator High Power Phone	KD4D	ICOM	Single Operator High Power Phone	W7WA	ICOM
Single Operator Low Power Phone	WA3A	Potomac Valley Radio Club	Single Operator Low Power Phone	N7WI	ICOM
Single Operator QRP Phone	K3SWZ	ICOM	Single Operator QRP Phone	N4SL	ICOM
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	K3MM	ICOM	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	K7RL	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	K2NNY	Mark Sickmeyer, KB3GJ Memorial	Multioperator Phone	NK7U (+KL2A)	ICOM
School Club Phone	W3ABT (K3BHX, op)	ICOM			
<b>Pacific</b>					
Single Operator High Power Phone	K9BGL	ICOM	Single Operator High Power Phone	W6NL (N6KT, op)	ICOM
Single Operator Low Power Phone	AJ9C	ICOM	Single Operator Low Power Phone	N6NF	ICOM
Single Operator QRP Phone	KC9AMM	ICOM	Single Operator QRP Phone	N6WG	ICOM
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	K9CT	ICOM	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	W7RN (WX5S, op)	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	K9NS	ICOM	Multioperator Phone	W6YX	ICOM
School Club Phone	N9UC (WO9S, op)	ICOM			
<b>Roanoke</b>					
Single Operator High Power Phone	K9BGL	ICOM	Single Operator High Power Phone	NN3W	Potomac Valley Radio Club
Single Operator Low Power Phone	AJ9C	ICOM	Single Operator Low Power Phone	KZ2I	Raleigh Amateur Radio Society - W4DW
Single Operator QRP Phone	KC9AMM	ICOM	Single Operator QRP Phone	NX9T	NoVa QRP Group
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	K9CT	ICOM	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	N11N	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	K9NS	ICOM	Multioperator Phone	KA1ARB (+WB1ADR)	ICOM
School Club Phone	N9UC (WO9S, op)	ICOM	School Club Phone	K4KDJ	ICOM
<b>Rocky Mountain</b>					
Single Operator High Power Phone	K9BGL	ICOM	Single Operator High Power Phone	K5TA	ICOM
Single Operator Low Power Phone	AJ9C	ICOM	Single Operator Low Power Phone	KØUK	ICOM
Single Operator QRP Phone	KC9AMM	ICOM	Single Operator QRP Phone	KØFRP	Colorado QRP Club
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	K9CT	ICOM	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	WØZA	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	K9NS	ICOM	Multioperator Phone	NI7T	ICOM
School Club Phone	N9UC (WO9S, op)	ICOM			
<b>Southeastern</b>					
Single Operator High Power Phone	K9BGL	ICOM	Single Operator High Power Phone	WP3R (KE3Q, op)	ICOM
Single Operator Low Power Phone	AJ9C	ICOM	Single Operator Low Power Phone	N4PN	ICOM
Single Operator QRP Phone	KC9AMM	ICOM	Single Operator QRP Phone	NA4BW	ICOM
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	K9CT	ICOM	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	N4LR	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	K9NS	ICOM	Multioperator Phone	WW4LL	ICOM
School Club Phone	N9UC (WO9S, op)	ICOM	School Club Phone	KU5B	ICOM
<b>Southwestern</b>					
Single Operator High Power Phone	K9BGL	ICOM	Single Operator High Power Phone	K6NA (N6ED, op)	ICOM
Single Operator Low Power Phone	AJ9C	ICOM	Single Operator Low Power Phone	WAØKDS	ICOM
Single Operator QRP Phone	KC9AMM	ICOM	Single Operator QRP Phone	KE6K	ICOM
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	K9CT	ICOM	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	W6TK	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	K9NS	ICOM	Multioperator Phone	W6YI	ICOM
School Club Phone	N9UC (WO9S, op)	ICOM	School Club Phone	W6RFU	ICOM
<b>West Gulf</b>					
Single Operator High Power Phone	K9BGL	ICOM	Single Operator High Power Phone	K5TR	Ken Adams, K5KA
Single Operator Low Power Phone	AJ9C	ICOM	Single Operator Low Power Phone	WD5K	Ralph “Gator” Bowen, N5RZ
Single Operator QRP Phone	KC9AMM	ICOM	Single Operator QRP Phone	WA8ZBT	ICOM
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	K9CT	ICOM	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	N5ZC	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	K9NS	ICOM	Multioperator Phone	KBØHH	ICOM
School Club Phone	N9UC (WO9S, op)	ICOM	School Club Phone	KD5VVI	ICOM
<b>Canada</b>					
Single Operator QRP Phone	K9BGL	ICOM	Single Operator QRP Phone	VE6CNU	ICOM
Single Operator High Power Phone	AJ9C	ICOM	Single Operator High Power Phone	VY2TT (K6LA, op)	ICOM
Single Operator Low Power Phone	KC9AMM	ICOM	Single Operator Low Power Phone	VE6EX	ICOM
Single Operator Unlimited Phone	K9CT	ICOM	Single Operator Unlimited Phone	VE5UF	ICOM
Multioperator Phone	K9NS	ICOM	Multioperator Phone	VO2WL	ICOM

## Top 5

Boxes list call sign, score and class (Q = QRP, A = Low Power, B = High Power, U=Unlimited, M = Multioperator)

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 Sections)		
VY2TT	257,440	B	WP3R	364,800	B	K9BGL	206,560	B	K5TR	314,400	B	W7WA	295,840	B
KD4D	249,440	B	KP2TM	311,200	B	K9GX	199,360	B	KD0S	295,840	B	W6NL	282,720	B
KK1L	228,784	B	W5WMMU	253,280	B	K8AO	197,652	B	W5KFT	271,520	B	K6NA	276,800	B
K3ZO	228,640	B	N4OX	246,400	B	N8VW	186,240	B	N5AA	260,960	B	N6BV	271,200	B
W1XX	200,772	B	NN3W	241,280	B	WB9Z	180,752	B	VE4XT	186,560	B	WC6H	256,480	B
K1BX	199,520	A	N4PN	196,320	A	AJ9C	190,240	A	K0UK	197,600	A	VE6EX	190,880	A
WA3A	188,160	A	KZ2I	150,080	A	VA3DX	154,720	A	AC0W	164,800	A	N6NF	183,040	A
K1HTV	162,240	A	K4EJ	133,440	A	N9AX	135,680	A	N0KK	162,240	A	WA0KDS	128,640	A
K1PY	131,976	A	N8II	126,126	A	K0PJ	113,920	A	N0AC	156,894	A	W7ZR	124,000	A
W2ID	114,348	A	AE5T	113,600	A	KB9OWD	107,840	A	WD5K	151,520	A	K7HP	102,700	A
KR2Q	82,082	Q	KC5R	100,800	Q	N8IE	73,872	Q	K0FRP	63,048	Q	VE6CNU	52,822	Q
KA1LMR	52,140	Q	NA4BW	64,834	Q	K8IR	66,676	Q	K0HW	52,500	Q	N4SL	34,160	Q
K3SWZ	49,950	Q	NX9T	54,604	Q	VA3JNO	45,844	Q	KI0OV	48,618	Q	N6WG	23,552	Q
NK8Q	44,696	Q	N0HT	35,140	Q	A14BJ	25,116	Q	WA8ZBT	38,908	Q	KE6K	17,400	Q
N3YD	37,762	Q	(N3JW, op)		KT8K	24,960	Q	W0ETT	26,752	Q	WA7PVE	5,616	Q	
			KI3O	30,820	Q									
WB1GQR	242,880	U	NI1N	264,640	U	W8MJ	228,000	U	K0OU	193,440	U	K7RL	282,240	U
K3MM	227,520	U	W4NF	229,760	U	K9CT	184,800	U	W0ZA	181,740	U	W7RN	246,880	U
N3KS	221,760	U	K2WK	198,720	U	N2BJ	184,640	U	VE5UF	167,840	U	K6XX	241,120	U
W3PP	203,040	U	N4LR	172,960	U	W9IU	164,160	U	K0HB	140,160	U	K7OX	211,224	U
K2PLF	188,800	U	N4BAA	161,760	U	KI9A	157,440	U	KO7X	126,880	U	N6NZ	204,800	U
N2NT	289,280	M	KA1ARB	212,640	M	K9NS	321,440	M	KT0R	246,720	M	W6YI	299,200	M
K2NNY	225,120	M	W4MYA	189,120	M	K8BB	250,720	M	K0FJ	228,640	M	NK7U	212,000	M
N3OC	212,000	M	WW4LL	172,640	M	N8HR	201,600	M	NI7T	221,120	M	N7PP	158,720	M
W1AW	183,680	M	KG5VK	165,268	M	K9ZO	198,240	M	W7TGB	187,200	M	W6YX	152,800	M
W1MKY	149,600	M	K4TS	161,120	M	ND8DX	186,400	M	K0FVF	133,280	M	WA7U	127,608	M

Mitch's advice for up-and-comers is to not focus on other people's serial number. "It may be good for gauging performance at that point in time, but with variable band conditions and time-off periods, numbers can be misleading," he said. Getting discouraged at another's early high numbers and quitting could deprive you of the opportunity to pull ahead. It's advice that has paid off.

The Nevada Association of Contest Highland Operators, club station, W7RN, was third in Unlimited, while the Vermont Contest Radio Club, WB1GQR, and Bob Wolbert, K6XX, fought one of the closest battles in Sweepstakes. WB1GQR edged out K6XX for fourth by only 1760 points.

## QRP

Another first-time winner is Al Sinopoli, KC5R, who took top spot in QRP by a large margin. For Al, it's also his first time operating with some serious hardware. "This year I was fortunate in that I got a 75 foot tower approved and finally got some aluminum in the air in April," said the perennial wire-antenna aficionado. "So it was a little more like fishing with bait, rather than a bare hook, as I could hold a frequency at certain times and get some runs — plus my 20 meter signal was significantly better."

If there's an award for "Hardest-working Player," it would have to go to someone in QRP. "As for QRP, don't kid yourself — fun in QRP is going camping and working Tahiti on 5 W sitting by a fire," he writes. "But running QRP for nearly 24 hours with people stepping all over you, working you and then sliding 0.5 KCs down from you and blasting you, having to repeat yourself half the time, and fighting static on 80 meters just to bag some close in



**With a clean sweep and over 700 contacts in the log, this year's Sweepstakes effort from the Michigan State University club station, W8SH, was a big success.**

multipliers is work. It really is more of a lesson in perseverance, survival and a bit of luck, with a moment or two of fun and relief mixed in."

Still, he's not complaining. "I am happy and feel fortunate to have gotten a sweep and a win to boot. This will be the first time I've gotten a plaque for any contest, and I do plan to try to repeat in 2007, as well as get a CW win."

## Multioperator

Dynasties come and dynasties go (unless you're KE3Q), but friendships are forever. That's what has kept K9NS at the top of the more-than-one-operator crowd for some time. Operating out of the station of Frank Miller, K9HMB, the K9NS crew (Dave Carlson, AA9D; Pete Walter, K9PW; John Kay, K9XW; Keith Moorehouse, W9RM, and K9HMB) has forged yet another impressive victory with 321,440 points. They beat their 2005 score despite arguably worse conditions.

For a category that was perennially on the

fringes, multioperator has come into its own. K9NS even beat K5TR, despite George's advantageous Texas location and time-proven ability. To do that from Illinois is doubly impressive. K9NS has been steadily improving. In 2004, the gang was Number 4 overall. In 2005, they were Number 3, and in 2006, Number 2. Is the first multioperator overall victory ahead? Just wait and see.

The nearest challenger to K9NS was James Stevenson, W6YI, at 299,200 points. At the bottom of the multi crowd is the other of the two closest fights for Top 10 this year (Low Power had a similar result). Zero points separated Brian McGinness, N3OC, and Joe Rudi, NK7U; both had 212,000 points, 1325 contacts and a sweep. It really doesn't get any closer than that.

## School

The class at K0HC, Hesston College in Kansas, continues to give a clinic in combating for top school club honors. The Hesston College crowd more than doubled their nearest rival with 220,400 points, a score good enough to even beat out the ninth place station in Unlimited. Congratulations, and... how can I enroll?

The gang at the University of Chicago ARS, N9UC, took home second with 109,280 points. Considering that only current students and staff may operate in this category, it's possibly the most important category in contesting. It has the potential to introduce new students with each graduation. Each new student exposed is possibly one more young contester in the making.

The next running of the November Phone Sweepstakes is November 17-19 — now's the time to get your station in shape!