



THE BULL SHEET

OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN OF THE TEXAS DX SOCIETY

an ARRL affiliated club

VOLUME VII, NO. 8

~~SEPT.~~ **AUG.**, 1982

MEETING NOTICE: The August TDXS Meeting will be Friday, the 13th, at 7:30 P.M., at the Chimney Rock Medical Plaza, located at 6550 Mapleridge, which is near Bellaire General Hospital.

CONTEST REPORT

Well, if you haven't been operating the summer contest during the generally poor conditions, you must be saving yourself for the fall. The Radiosport weekend seemed to be more of a domestic contest with the number of flares during a contest being the only record broken. Friday night of the contest did produce a 6 meter opening desirable for any VHF contest. At one point we were hearing 8 U.S. call districts and the Caribbean. Even with poor condx some pretty amazing numbers have surfaced from the club. A few of the rumors being spread for Radiosport are:

K5GA (by K5GN)	1810 QSO / 142 ZONES CW ONLY
N5JJ	1693 / 129 CW
K5KG	2054 / 110 MIXED
K25M	2701 / 105 PHONE
KC5CP	517 / 72 PHONE

I'm sure that at the next meeting we will be able to compare logs and swap lies about our pileups, but just as a bit of trivia, I had 139 band changes during my 36 hours. I would be curious to know how many some of ya'll had and what your average points-per-QSO were overall and band-by-band.

Some rumors that showed up in the August issue of CQ are:

K5BZU	#4 / USA - 3.8 MHZ
N5JJ	#2 / USA - 7 MHZ

for the 1982 CQ WPX SSB test and the N5JJ Hitchcock team consisting of N5CDO, KN5H, K5WA, WB5WHR and N5JJ #2/USA, #12/ World with N5DU #42/World for the 1982 CQ 160 Meter Contest. These scores are of course only claimed scores and could change after verification.

Last month I neglected to include the April Open CD results that appeared in the July QST. The members listed include:

N5JJ	#2 CW
KN5H	#3 CW
N5AF	#8 PHONE.

The CD parties are rather fun, short (part of the reason for being fun) and good practice for the November sweepstakes.

A Few Final Notes...

-Don't forget, the real dates for the Work-All-Europe CW are August 14-15. The QTC's are great practice for the traffic types and a necessity to produce a winning scope.

-Be thinking as to whether you will be able to operate in the September sprint (CW - Sept. 19, SSB - Sept. 26). List for the club teams will be taken at the next meeting.

This month's column is being hastily composed between returning from a 1400 mile tour of Texas to hand out rare counties, and to leaving for Arizona to pick up N5CDO's tower. The county trip was to coincide with the CW County Hunter's contest. N5CDO and I managed to operate from 56 counties during the contest. If you were at home trying to do a serious effort in this one, it was probably fairly boring unless you needed all of these counties. From the mobile standpoint, however, it was fantastic. We finished with over 1700 QSO's and some of the pileups were unbelievable.

73's for now,
Dave, N5JJ/M

THE TDXS "ARMADILLO RUN"

This is it, troops! This is going to be the one royal sheebang of the year where anyone can be at the other end of the pile.

About eleven months from the writing of this (one of several organizational briefs to come) we, the TDXS, will find ourselves spread from one end of Texas to the other. Some members will be cruising the coastline; some will be running the Rio Grande, dodging swimmers; while still others will be roasting up in the panhandle. At least one or two car loads of members will find themselves braving the swamps to the east and ducking logging trucks further north.

We won't be doing all this blurry-eyed driving for nothing. We will be participating in the annual County Hunter's CW Contest as a club activity. The TDXS will have one major objective for this July weekend. Activate every single one of the 254 counties in Texas...and we'll do it CDO/JJ style.

Dave and Grady have made an art out of CW contesting from a vehicle in motion. They use a truck. Others may elect to use a car or maybe even an RV or trailer. (If you have a wife with a strong back, that'll do.) I will be acting as coordinator for the Armadillo Run while drawing on the expertise that Grady and Dave have to offer. I'll be putting together bits and pieces of items for use by those members who volunteer to make this the super weekend it can be with good support. This is a broad venture and cannot be equalled in any other State. Of course, being a CW event means no other club would equal the amount of talent we can put in the field to accomplish this feat.

The basic game plan calls for the use of a minimum of 6 mobiles to cover the State. CDO/JJ covered 56 counties themselves this year! Naturally the more volunteer we can get, the better. Spread the load... It appears as though two or three man teams are the way to go. You'll pull out Friday night (or earlier) and drive that night and Saturday night until about 1 A.M.. Get up early Saturday and Sunday, eat breakfast and roll.

We guarantee a new pile-up everytime you cross a new county line. 40 and 20 are the bands generally used. I'll make sure there will be plenty of advance publicity so our club gets the recognition it deserves for the effort. CW County Hunters will go nuts when the word spreads about this!

To spice things up a bit, we are considering offering an award for working TDXS members "on the run". Probably a basic award for getting 50 TDXS counties and then endorsements for each group of 50 after that. A little something to make sure the boys keep you folks busy.

Of course, it goes without saying we'll just naturally have to have a little intra-club back stabbing, knee kicking, throat cutting competition to keep the adrenaline flowing. Leave it to your gentle coordinator to come up with the appropriate awards...

So lets check the calendars now and reserve July 23/24, 1983 for the TDXS Armadillo Run. Pick your partner(s) soon or all the guys who take showers may be gone. You could get a GJO, or an M, or even an LZ0! Start priming the company gas cards now so the shock won't be so bad come July.

Volunteers form a straight line in front of me at the meeting. Coming soon: Maps, territory picking, logsheets, out-of-state monitor stations for emergencies via "skip", skull mounted "head light", battery operated keyers, motion sickness etc.

73's
Dennis, KZ5M

EDITORIAL

To say that the bands have been sorry would be the understatement of the summer. About the only skip to speak of is to the Dallas repeater of late. I guess you would have to blame the summer doldrums and the stage of the cycle for the bad condx. In any event we got "short-sheeted" this issue due to lack of very much DX info from anyone in the club (Galen even mailed his article three weeks early only to have the Post Office return it to him because I was not living at my own address, where I've lived for 7 years! - I guess even the Post Office was out to short-sheet us this time around). Well, in any event, thanks to KZ5Motschenbacher and JJ we have something to publish this month!

I sure do hope that the worsening band condx and sloppy DX levels are not ominous signs that the BULL SHEET will be turning into the BULL SENTENCE. You guys can help, you know. I'm sure that there is a wealth of informative data, technical information, personal observations, or just plain BS that many of you would like to put into print for the enlightenment of the membership (not to mention some of the humorous anecdotes and errata many of the members are capable of committing to writing on occasion - we do have our share of wits among the members!). Even if your typewritten English is about as good as your Sanskrit, at least call me and dictate it over the landline. Just remember the TDXS ACTION LINE: (713) 975-6600, day or night, or call me at home at 493-6298.

BCNU,

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Al, KN5A