



# THE BULL SHEET

## OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN OF THE TEXAS DX SOCIETY

an ARRL affiliated club

VOLUME VII, NO. 2

FEBRUARY, 1982

MEETING NOTICE: The March TDXS Meeting will be Friday, the 12th, at 7:30 P.M., at the Chimney Rock Medical Plaza, located at 6550 Mapleridge, which is near Bellaire General Hospital.

### BALLOTS ENCLOSED

Please take note that we have enclosed ballots related to the proposed Constitutional Amendment for you to peruse, execute and return in the enclosed S.A.S.E. We are only sending these ballots to those who are full members as of midnight, March 1, 1982. If you didn't receive a ballot with this Sheet, you had better check with Butch, K5GB.

### CONTEST REPORT

Well I hope everyone had fun in the ARRL DX Texts, I sure did. It sounds like K5GN should have piloted K5RC to a top five finish for the CW weekend. Fine effort Dave! And our contest expeditions sure stirred up things... K5RG at HZ1AB and N5DKG/YV5.

And speaking of Dennis, the first unannual unofficial TDXS "Who's loud in Caracas" Contest was held a few nights before the CW weekend. This was a prearranged gathering of TDXS members with everything pointed down south. Dennis would start the recorder and after a minute of calling would respond in order of signal strength. Well, the preliminaries are out and showed K5WA leading the pack on 15 and 80 (a double threat). N5JJ on 40 (a surprise bigger than we thought) and KB5FU on 20. I'm sure these tapes and the contest tapes will be very interesting to listen to.

The League Headquarters was kind enough to forward a high claimed scores list for the December 10 Meter Contest. K5RC #1 CW, N5JJ #2CW, W5RRR multi-op by KN5H and K5GN #6, and K5ZD at K5JA #4 phone were the club members among the listed. Thanks Mark/Bill.

A bit more on the final side - the CQ WPX SSB results for 1981 are out. As always, the K5RC/K5GA station is high in the pack, pushed up there this year by K5ZD. Randy was #4 in band USA and #12 worldwide. Galen, KB5FU finished #2 USA on 40 meters and the KN5A team (KN5A, Kd4M, K5GN, K5KG) ended up the #6 multi-single score in the country. Not bad for sloppy W5 conditions last year. Other TDXS members included were KN5H and N5JJ with N5CDA.

And after the WPX results, this is a good time to slide into the guest contest column this month. A tip of the hat to Randy, K5ZD for his scoop of the poop on the CQ WPX Test.

...And don't forget the words of Ogy-Ben-Doggy when you still need South Carolina and Georgia in the sprint - "May the Fours be with You" -

73's...  
Dave, N5JJ

The WPX is probably the most interesting of the "major" world wide DX contests. The exchange is signal report + QSO number and the multiplier is number of different prefixes worked. For some reason the WPX does not produce the W/VE activity of the CQ WW or ARRL contests but its DX participation is equal to the CQ WW. This makes the WPX a DX bonanza for the USA entrant. Especially if your call is one of the alphabet soup concoctions of the FCC.

One thing which confuses people about the WPX is the definition of a prefix. I will not give the exact rules here, but show some examples which should cover most situations which will be met in the contest. The following are prefixes: A35, DL1, JAL, KM5, W6, WA6, XE3, XZ9, etc. If a station is portable in another country, that country is the prefix which counts. DL2AA/W5 = W5, W3AAA/KH6 = KH6, HB9MX/LX = LXØ. The last example shows that a country prefix with no number should be counted as call area Ø. If a station is portable in another call area, it picks up the number of that call area. WB5QDW/4 = WB4, JALXXX/7 = JA7. A prefix can be a maximum of 3 characters. This becomes important for calls such as LZ1ØØKDP which can only be counted as LZ1.

The WPX has a rule which acts as a great equalizer for participants in different parts of the country. This rule states that 18 hours of time off must be taken in not more than 5 periods. Since only 5 off times can be taken, the contest becomes one of skill and time management rather than endurance.

Off time management is probably the most important aspect of an all band WPX effort. The suggestions presented here should work regardless of your station size. This is true because the WPX is very oriented to the high bands. The idea is to be on when and where the DX action is. The key times to take off are around 0800-1200, 1900-2100 Saturday and 0800-1200, 1900-2400 Sunday. This leaves one off time of approximately 3 hours for emergencies, surprises, or solar storms. Last year I used the extra off time on Saturday evening when the JA's did not come in on 15.

Because multipliers are so abundant in the WPX they do not have the significance they do in a regular DX contest. This does not mean you should not try to maximize your multiplier, just that you should not waste much time calling a multiplier. For an average effort, the value of a multiplier is about 1.5 QSO's. There are so many multipliers available that it becomes more important to keep the rate of DX QSO's up than chase multipliers. If you make a lot of QSOs, you will have a good multiplier. This is even true for a single band entry although the QSO/multiplier ratio will be slightly higher.

A good place to start the contest is on 10 or 15 meters. Wherever you can run DX. The last few years, 15M has been very good to Japan. Follow the MUF down to 20 M and take short trips to 40 after about 0400Z. The DX which is on 40 is usually easy to work but don't let the rate fall. Play 20 and 40 until about 0800Z. This is when the Europeans start to fade on 20.

Take an off time until about 1130Z if you have a 40M signal. Work JAs on 40 and then head for 10 and 15 as the sun rises. Ten ends up being the hot band all morning.

As the Europeans begin to fade on 10, spend some time combing the bands for easy USA prefixes. About 1900Z take a short off time until the JAs begin to come in on 10 around 2230Z.

After the evening JAs, head for the Europeans on 20 and 40. If things are slow, consider an off time around 0300Z to 0530Z. This brings you back on as 20M starts its sunrise sweep across Europe.

The second morning's off-time should be longer than the first. Take off 0800Z to around 1230Z. Start on 10 meters since the other bands are usually not productive enough to warrant much attention. The rest of the contest is a push to keep the rate up until your 30 hours of

operating time expires. This should end the contest around 1930Z which gives you the afternoon to spend on something constructive.

Good Luck!

Randy, K5ZD

Just a few additional notes relating to the WPX Test worth mentioning are:

- For multi-single stations, only one band per 10 minute period may be operated
- Don't forget, when scoring, that 40, 80, and 160 meter DX contacts count double points
- Although not clearly outlined in the rules, it is my interpretation that a call such as KN5A/6 would count as W6, not KN6. Likewise K5MA/3 would be a W3. I'm sure would receive stout resistance to this since it is not a clear matter, but this is the way it seems to read in the WPX Award Rules.

DE, N5JJ

#### HZLAB REPORT

The results are in on the HZLAB operation for the 1982 ARRL DX/CW contest (single operation by K5KG). Total QSO's were 1239, 158 mults for a total of 587K points. Out of this TDXS members snagged 35 QSO's out of 131 total for the W5 district. All in all, TDXS put out some fine signals to the Mid-East.

Propagation conditions were marginal, especially for 10M. On Sunday, 10M operated pretty well with Q's as far west as Idaho and New Mexico. However, the band apparently did not open to South Texas as the only Texas Q's were in the North, N5AU, ZD, etc. 80M and 40M long path at HZ sunset (1400Z) were spectacular with 40M opening back as far east as Iowa. Unfortunately this opening was only worked on Sunday, with Saturday being "wasted" at that time on a 10M east coast opening.

80 and 40 meters at HZ sunrise (0310Z) was OK to the East Coast, but European QRM made it rough going (HA, YU, LZ, UA - Boo!). Equipment at HZLAB worked well. Two stations were set up side by side! KWM2/SB-220/R7 and KWM2/30L1/R7. Ye' ole Rhombic was used 80 thru 160 meters. This monster, 50' high with 280' legs, is oriented on Wash. D.C. and outperforms an adjacent 40' high tribander. However the tribander is used for 20M LP since it can be more optimally oriented. Interestingly enough, the rhombic is used on all bands with essentially flat response without a tuner. RG8 feeds directly from the shack to a pole mounted 12:1 balun. From there 60 Ohm open wire feeds the rhombic. If you think broad band rigs are good try a broad band antenna!

The following shows the distribution of QSO's by band and district:

	<u>80</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>Total</u>
W1	-	16	65	25	42	148
W2	1	26	78	34	40	179
W3	-	26	56	22	45	149
W4	2	26	89	17	40	174
W5	-	7/15	16/77	11/24	1/15	35/131 (TDXS/All)
W6	6LP	24LP	51	21	-	102
W7	2LP	2LP	27	9	1	41
W8	-	3	62	22	24	111
W9	-	1	40	24	16	81
W0	-	5LP	48	21	9	83
VE1	1	1	3	3	-	8
VE2	-	2	1	3	1	7
VE3	-	-	8	7	2	17
VE4-8	<u>1LP</u>	<u>1LP</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8</u>
TOTAL	13	148	611	232	235	1239

Ever wonder who your W5 district competition is? Here is a listing by band of the W5 stations in the order in which they were worked.

<u>40 meters</u>		<u>20 meters</u>		<u>20 meters (cont.)</u>		<u>15 meters</u>		<u>10 meters</u>	
N5AU	TX	K5RC	TX	K5TU	TX	W5JC	TX	N5AU	TX
K5WA	TX	N5DX	AR	W5GO	TX	W5HNS	TX	K5KU	LA
K5GA	TX	K5TA	NM	W5JQ	TX	K5NA	NY	W5GO	TX
K5NA	NY	K5YPV	MS	N5AU	TX	K5WA	TX	N5WS	TX
N5CDO	TX	K5UA	CO	K5VNJ	TX	N5DU	TX	N5DXO	AR
K5RC	TX	W5RRR	TX	KM5H	OK	N5EA	TX	W5MYA	TX
N5JJ	TX	AK5B	TX	K5WK	NM	N5DNY	TX	K5NW	TX
WD5ABR	TX	W5JLU	TX	K5AQ	TX	KN5H	TX	W5RNE	TX
K5KU	LA	N5BOH	LA	N5RM	TX	WA5IEX	TX	W5QVZ	NM
N5IM-LP	TX	W5HE	NM	K5IY	TX	N5AU	TX	KA5W	TX
N5CR-LP	TX	N5RM	TX	KR5X	TX	K5VWW	TX	KB5DN	AR
K5ZD-LP	TX	W5OB	LA	K5NA	NY	N5AW	TX	K52D	TX
K5FUV-LP	TX	K5PKA	MD	W5DOZ	TX	K5KU	LA	K5TM	TX
N5WS-LP	TX	KB5FV	AR	K5YCP	TX	N5RM	TX	N5CR	TX
K5NW-LP	TX	N5WS	TX	W5RCR	TX	K5NW	TX	K5FUV	TX
		W5ZR	LA	N5TV	LA	N5WS	TX		
		KU5I	TX	K5AO	TX	WB5DDI	TX		
		KB5FU	TX	K5NW	TX	WB5BIR	TX		
		N5AF	TX	W5TTN	TX	K5KLA	LA		
		K5DYZ	TX	W5JC	TX	W5DOZ	TX		
		W5IB	TX	W5CXU	TX	WD5CHY	TX		
		W5UDA	TX	WB5NQT	OK	K5RC	TX		
		N5CJQ	TX	N5AW	TX	AA5B	NM		
		K5EOA	TX	WA5IGD	LA	AD5X	TX		
		W5EC	AR	W5MYA	TX				
		K5RX	TX	KN5H	TX				
		WB5DDI	TX	WD5GXI	TX				
		K5KLA	LA	WB5FND	TX				
		N5RZ	TX	KM5K	TX				
		KA5HWH	TX	N5CID	TX				
		W5PF	TX	W5SG	TX				
		W5ODD	TX	N5CDO	TX				
		W5ASP	TX	K5XR	AR				
		KA5T	TX	WD5CHY	TX				
		W5MMD	TX	AF5H	TX				
		AA5Y	TX	W5REA	TX				
				WB5LAF	TX				
				W5IP	TX				
				KCSNL	TX				

One final word about QSL's. K8PYD is HZLAB's QSL manager. I will submit a list of contest TDXS QSO's to him for your cards. If you wish, you may give me your cards at the next meeting and I will forward them to him.

Two highlights of the contest were (1) being duped by N5EA - its nice to be wanted and (2) being refused a QSO by N5DKG/YV5 - "sri no dx" - it's hell not being wanted!

Anyway, thanks fellows for the fine support. Believe me, its great being a member of the finest DX and contest group that ever was!

73,  
George Wagner, K5KG

## SOLAR PULSE

March brings us back into the good long path shots at big time DX. Now its time for those W5s with tribanders at 50' to really smoke em on long paths in the morning. Take advantage of it. Now is the time to play the gray line for those five band DXCC types

The decline of the current cycle has slowed up again so get them while you can.

### MARCH CONDITIONS

ABOVE NORMAL:	5, 21, 27.
HIGH NORMAL:	1-2, 4, 6, 20, 22-23, 26, 28-29, 31.
LOW NORMAL:	3, 7, 11-13, 18-19, 24-25, 30.
BELOW NORMAL:	8-10, 14, 17.
STINKO:	15-16

Watch for auroral activity being below normal and stinko days.

"Thanks to CQ Magazine for the above information."

Dennis Motschenbacher, N5DKG

### TDXS MEMBERSHIP QUIZ

Just how much do you really listen to the boring conversations on the DX Repeater or the dribble sprayed at the meetings? Here is a little test to see. Match the letter of the question with the appropriate callsign. I've got good news and bad news for the out of town members... First the bad news, since you won't know most of these, this won't be any fun... Now the good news, you probably won't be subject material for the questions

Disclaimer: It is the hope of the Bullsheet that these jokes are taken in the spirit in which they have been written. If they aren't... tough, because you may never know who submitted them.

[Editor's Note: I had nothing to do with this!]

- A. Which member loves Dogs?
- B. Which member has now cracked his car up in two ARRL Sections?
- C. Which member did not renew his call in time to save it?
- D. Which member charred an eight foot circle of grass around his low band vertical?
- E. Which member let his septic tank float out of the ground...twice?
- F. Which member does handsprings over pickup trucks while holding a can of soda?
- G. Which member loves hats?
- H. Which member is remembered for his always arriving after the hard work is over?
- I. Which member rode his crank-up tower all the way down to the ground?
- J. Which member purchased a new 2 meter radio which kept him busy for 45 minutes just trying to turn it on?
- K. Which member likes to break bags of ice open on the floor of grocery stores?
- L. Which member likes to do 360's on the Houston Freeways?
- M. Which member unwittingly shot at one of his neighbors?
- N. Which member took a short overseas trip and decided to make it a 4 month vacation?
- O. Which member thought he was going to be buried on his 40th Birthday?
- P. Here's a tough one: Name the member whose old call sign was used by the club on field day which was later discovered to have been expired.
- Q. Which member is our lifetime novice?
- R. Which member upon realizing his house was flooding first moved to save his 2K-4P?
- S. Which member was notified by his civic club that his tower was too high when he only had one section stacked?
- T. Which member is on a first name (or name calling) basis with Charlie at Telax?

Your choices are:

KN5A _____	K5GA _____	K5KG _____	K5RC _____
N5AF _____	K5GN _____	WB5LVL _____	WB5USV _____
N5CDO _____	KN5H _____	K5LZO _____	K5VWW _____
N5DKG _____	N5JJ _____	K5MA _____	AA5Y _____
N5DU _____	W5JWM _____	K5NA _____	K5ZD _____

Although some callsigns may apply to more than one question, each call is only referenced once and each one is used. Answers will be revealed in the next Bullsheat (unless sufficient mordida is delivered to Al prior to deadline).

Good Luck!

FOR SALE

Drake TR-7/DR-7, Transmit and receive 1.8 through 30 Mhz, PS-7, NB-7A, RV-7, Speaker, 2300, 1800, 500, 300, filters, FA-7 fan on rig and PS-7. \$ 1,300.00

Alpha 76CA, 1.8 through 30 Mhz, 3 tube, Hypersil Transformer. \$ 1,250.00

\*\* Must sell or Carol will kill me!

N5DU - Work: 688-8126; Home: 463-0417

EDITORIAL

Due to the inclusion of the ballot we ran out of room, so if you submitted something to us for this month's Bullsheat, please bear with us.

~~Don't forget the Action Line at 713/975-6600 for any information you would like included in April's Bullsheat. Also, call me at home at 713/495-6298 if you have any problem with the recorder. If all else fails, please mail your article or comments to me at 14127 Barryknoll, Houston, Texas 77079. The cut-off date for each Bullsheat will be the 25th of the month prior to the month of publication. By the way, thanks to all of the members who have submitted all those really super articles to the Sheet.~~

George, K5KG has advised that Worldradio lists between 200 and 300 calls in the March issue for those individuals who have stateside QSL's on file with the USQS, a stateside QSL Bureau. Apparently a new set of calls is published each month by Worldradio. The US QSL service is run by KM7Z and it is a free service to anyone stateside. It is important that you send in SASE's. The address is: USQS, P.O. Box 814, Mulino, Oregon 97042. According to George, the following people were listed in March: W5RRR, K5GB, K5BZU, KN5A.

With regard to the proposed antenna ordinance, we are having a meeting the Friday before our next scheduled club meeting. We are fortunate in two respects with regard to this next meeting: (1) we will have the entire three member board present; and (2) some representatives from the commercial folks will be there. Will keep you posted.

Richard L. King  
K5NA  
P O Box DX  
Cottkill, N Y

(F)

12419

73's

al  
Al, RN5A

