

AMA NATS NEWS

Bringing Modelers Together

2008

82nd National
Aeromodeling Championships
NATS
2008
Muncie, Indiana
Johnson City, Tennessee

August 5

X5J Extreme Wrap-Up

X5J competitors started the day with decent weather, but late morning and early afternoon, the competition was halted twice for rain delays. Once the rain departed, fliers were challenged with high winds and the competition became a war of attrition as they tried their best to make a ten-minute flight time without further motor run.

The contest, after four ten-minute rounds, ended in Soaring's first tie at this year's Nats. Donald Blackwell and Robert Burson found themselves tied for first place. The fly-off to decide first was very close and Donald Blackwell won by a mere nine points! This then gave second to Robert Burson and David Dean took third.

Today will see the ½ A Sailplane competition led by contest director, Tom Kallevang.

—Jay Smith



Academy of Model Aeronautics International Aeromodeling
Center, Muncie IN; Web site: www.modelaircraft.org; E-mail:
nats@modelaircraft.org;
Copyright Academy of Model Aeronautics 2008
Edited by: Ashley Rauon

Game Called on Account of Rain!

Today's **Free Flight** events have been cancelled and rescheduled to the following:

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ROW Gas	Half A	Mulvihill
(JSO)	Classic	B Nos Gas
F1C	Ign Nos Gas	Starduster X
F1H	Jetex	
F1Q	OT Cat	
Hydrostar		

Free Flight: Day 1

The first day of free flight Nats competition was an eventful one, with Mother Nature providing more than her fair share of excitement. A Biblical quality squall line moved across the field at lunchtime and brought all activity to an abrupt halt. We were all very impressed with it, and frankly, a bit apprehensive about our safety. So much so, we actually followed the AMA staff's opportune warnings at the time.

The remainder of the day was overcast and thermal picking was a precarious affair, no doubt accounting for the multitude of low scores. Thankfully, winds remained southerly and the long dimension of the field was

available for retrievals.

Concern over the expected turnout was widespread, but events proved not so dire. We only dropped about 50 contestants from last year's count of 280. Many feared much

worse attendance.

If the 2007 Nats was the debut of the tip-launched glider, the 2008 Nats was the debut of the li-poly battery pack. The recent rules changes produced Electric Free Flight models of astounding performance and sometimes dramatic crashes.

Jim Jennings, Jr. led the way with an amazing score of 2880 seconds in B Electric, setting a national record (pending) in the process. He only stopped his string of 24 maxes because he had to drive back home to Nashville for work Tuesday morning. He still had about six hours of daylight left!



Five of the eight fliers posted more than 1000 seconds. And this staggering level of performance was caused by engine runs drastically reduced by the CD for the day.

Moffett produced its usual day-long slog of long flights and retrievals by the class's expert devotees. Bob Bienenstein won one more time and solidified his reputation as the class's most victorious practitioner. Moffett remains a very popular event and 22 fliers posted scores. Bob was pushed all day by his flying buddy, Chris Parkyn, who only trailed him by 79 seconds.

The tip-launch technique made further inroads and was seen in the OT HLG pen. The low scores posted reflect the poor thermal conditions and not the level of expertise displayed by the contestants. Jim Lewis reprised his multiple victories in the event and was followed closely by the usual suspects, Pelatowski, Schlarb, and Peterson.



The wonders of Indiana weather.

Continue on next page ...



Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Friday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

400 E
Memorial Dr. (12th St.)
125 S.



Muncie Model

Brian Van Nest and Steven Spence tied for first in F1A with 1290 seconds each. Only a 90-second difference covered the top half of the contestants; very competitive at the top.

Monday's flying featured several gas-powered classes and these didn't disappoint either. The large displacement classes are always real crowd pleasers; there's something about a monstrously big Free Flight gas job being launched that stops all action nearby.

Bob Mattes posted a winning score of 1680 in C NosGas and provided a lot of entertainment along the way. Equally enthralling was the close chase by Greg Hinrichs of the Super D winner, Bob Watson.



Dave Rounsaville and friend working on his F1P.

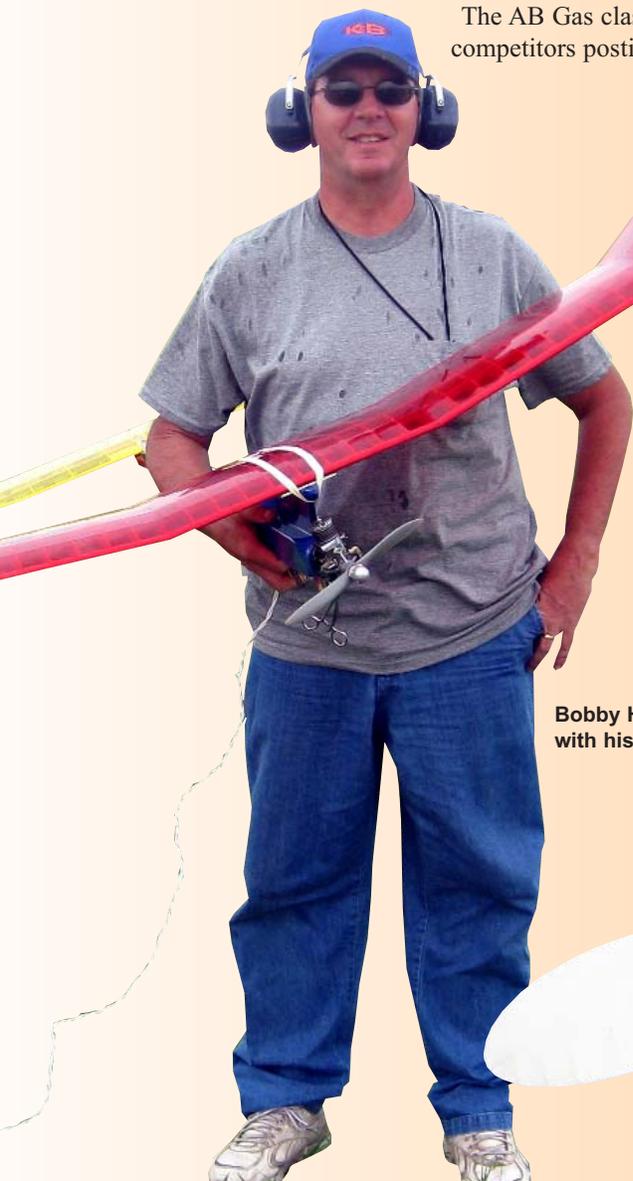


Donald Blackwell.

The AB Gas class produced the largest fields of fliers with seventeen competitors posting scores. Dave Rounsaville won after a long day with 1155 seconds. A very busy Greg Hinrichs followed by a narrow margin for second.

The diminutive .020 Replica event produced the second largest field of gas fliers, with 15 individuals posting official scores and the very busy Bill Schlarb winning.

—David Mills



Bobby Hanford with his AB Gas.



Scott LaPraik.

New Schedule for Electric Events

Wednesday 08/06

0800-1200 1/2A LMR Sailplane
1200-1300 1/2A Texaco Qualifying
1300-1800 A LMR Sailplane
1800 1/2A Texaco Flyoff

Thursday

0800-1500 B LMR
Sailplane
1530-1800 NEAC
Sport sailplane



Lou Joyner.

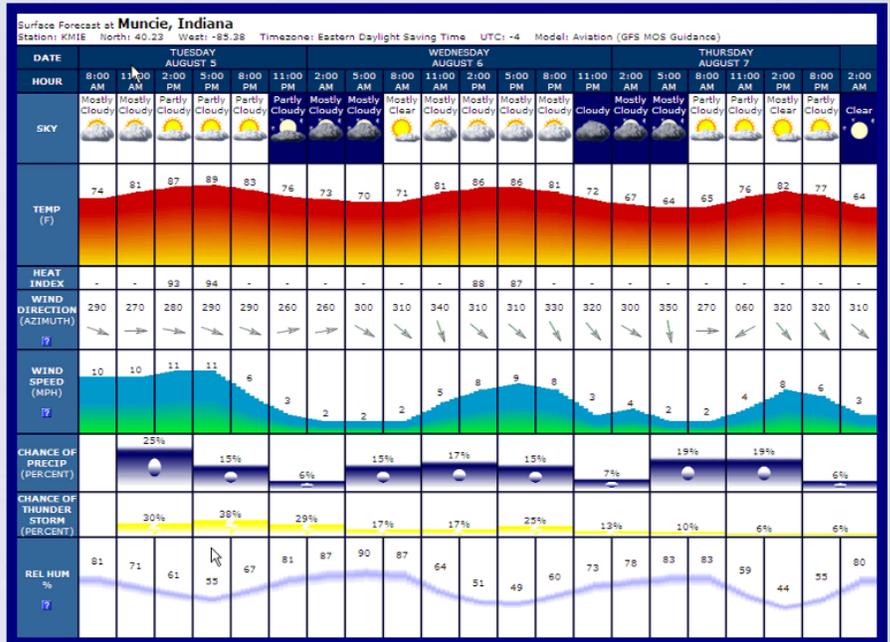


Bob Bienenstein, Moffett winner, winding up for flight.



X5J

1. Donald Blackwell 5114
2. Robert Burson 5105
3. Donald Richmond 4073
4. Ed Franz 3973
5. Greg Prater 3925
6. Robert Johnson 3852
7. John lafret 3839
8. Michael McGowan 3809
9. Tom Kallevang 3022
10. Don Frazier 3013
11. George Parks 2629
12. Ben Pitchkites 1806



Surface Condition Weather Forecasting for Air Sports Aviators - general Muncie area - from www.usairnet.com.



Meet the CD

E
d
F
r
a
n
z



Q. Where are you from?
 A. Burlington, Kentucky.

Q. How long have you been flying?
 A. Thirty years.

Q. What type of aircraft are you competing with?
 A. I am flying a Cox Dust Devil and a Polecat Aero Wind Dancer in Electric.

Q. How many Nats have you been to?
 A. This will be my 12th straight Nats I've been to.

Q. What brings you back to the Nats?
 A. I love coming to Nats to see all my friends, the competition and enjoyment.



C Nos Gas UNOFFICIAL

1	ROBERT E MATTES	O	1680
2	RICHARD COVALT	O	1200
3	ROBERT M HANFORD	O	1197
4	BRADLEY BANE	O	1195
5	CHARLES R HARPER	O	925
6	RICHARD H HALL	O	805
7	GENE WICKS	O	700
8	P JACK MARSH	O	689
9	KEITH FULMER	O	602
10	JACKIE L SHEFFER	O	592
11	HANK SPERZEL	O	547
12	GENE R SMITH	O	338
13	LARRY DAVIDSON	O	337
14	ELVIN W BUCHELE	O	335
15	ROGER W ERRIDGE	O	333
16	GRAHAM SELICK	O	278
17	GARY L BAUGHMAN	O	243



Payload

1	WARREN KURTH	O	314	DAVENPORT	IA
2	ROBERT D STALICK	O	288	ALBANY	OR
3	VICTOR M NIPPERT	O	278	LAKE KATRINE	NY
4	WILLIAM E JORDAN	O	183	TROY	OH



On the left, Tim Batiuk, 2008 NFFS Hall of Fame inductee.

Right: Jim Lewis winner of the Old Time Hand Launch event.

Moffett

1	ROBERT BIENENSTEIN	O	1807
2	CHRISTOPHER J PARKYN	O	1728
3	EDWARD KONEFES	O	1064
4	CARL M REDLIN	O	1050
5	HERB KOTHE	O	1042
6	PAUL CROWLEY	O	1027
7	JOSEPH M WILLIAMS	O	974
8	PAUL E SIMON	O	968
9	ROGER GREGORY	O	933
10	ED SNEED	O	931
11	JIM OREILLY	O	780
12	BUD ROMAK	O	744
13	DAVID MILLS	O	742
14	JAMES FERWERDA	O	723
15	JIM JENNINGS	O	599
16	KENNETH GRUBBS	O	540
17	WALTER J TOMASCH	O	534
18	EDWARD J HARDIN	O	322
19	DAVID G BRAUN	O	285
20	DAVID L SECHRIST	O	240
21	EARL F GRIFFITH	O	164
22	GUENTHER NOWAK	O	96

F1A-A2 Glider Junior

1	LOGAN D TETRICK	J	1247
2	TIMOTHY ROGER BARRON	J	1218
3	MICHELLE R BARRON	J	795
4	JULIE C BARRON	J	751

AB Gas

2	GREG R HINRICHS	O	1012
3	GERALD S BROWN	O	787
4	GILBERT C MORRIS	O	744
5	NORM D POTI	O	742
6	DANIEL B BERRY	O	737
7	RICHARD COVALT	O	726
8	REID C SIMPSON	O	710
9	GARY OAKINS	O	693
10	DENNY L DOCK	O	672
11	ROBERT M HANFORD	O	473
12	P JACK MARSH	O	451
13	BOB SOWDER	O	433
14	RONNIE C THOMPSON	O	360
15	GARY L BAUGHMAN	O	339
16	J G PAILET	O	310
17	GUY R SCOTT	O	235

F1A-A2 Glider

1	BRIAN J VAN NEST	O	Open Member	1	1314
2	STEVEN L SPENCE	O	Open Member	2	1306
3	ROBERT SIFLEET	O	Open Member	3	1261
4	MIKE MCKEEVER	O	Open Member	4	1246
5	ANDREW R BARRON	O	Open Member	5	1239
6	MIKE FEDOR	O	Open Member	6	1201
7	LEE R HINES	O	Open Member	7	1181
8	MARIAN WHITNEY	S	Senior Member	8	1155
9	LAWRENCE E PELATOWSKI	O	Open Member	9	1000
10	DENNIS W PHELAN	O	Open Member	10	859
11	MILES R JOHNSON	S	Senior Member	11	438

Super D VIT/Fixed UNOFFICIAL

1	BOB WATSON	O	627
2	GREG R HINRICHS	O	609
3	RONNIE C THOMPSON	O	360
4	HANK SPERZEL	O	286

Old Time Hand Launch

1	Jim Lewis	232
2	Larry Pelatowski	187
3	Bill Schlarb	160
4	Richard Peterson	137
5	Bill Reuter	136
6	David Gerspacher	112
7	Jan Langelius	111
8	Brandon Ryan	38
9	Kyle Gerspacher	31
10	JBM Griner	11

OT 020 Replica UNOFFICIAL

1	W L SCHLARB	O	471
2	GILBERT L ROBBINS	O	360
3	BRADLEY BANE	O	360
4	ELVIN W BUCHELE	O	322
5	ALLAN B VOLLMER	O	320
6	WILLIAM B HALE	O	319
7	ALAN ABRISS	O	292
8	MIKE FEDOR	O	283
9	ROGER W ERRIDGE	O	279
10	ROY SMITH	FO	262
11	GERALD S BROWN	O	188
12	JERALD B MURPHY	O	108
13	A J ITALIANO	O	103
14	EDWARD R MATE	O	53
15	JAMES R KELLY	O	52

Electric B

1	JAMES T JENNINGS JR	O	2880	GALLATIN	TN
2	DANIEL B BERRY	O	1440	BENTON	AR
3	RICHARD J IVERS	O	1320	WEST NEWTON	MA
4	GRAHAM SELICK	O	1145	ATHENS	GA
5	RICHARD A IVERS	O	1065	ARLINGTON	MA
6	EDWARD A LUPARELLI	O	707	WORCESTER	MA
7	VICTOR M NIPPERT	O	456	LAKE KATRINE	NY
8	DOHRMAN G CRAWFORD	O	360	DUNWOODY	GA



Graham Selick launching his Hustler.