

New England Combat News

VOLUME 18 NUMBER 3 AUGUST 2006
THE CONTROL LINE COMBAT NEWSLETTER OF NEW ENGLAND



Len Minick Memorial Combat Challenge

**WILL ROGERS, GLENN SIMPSON,
NEIL SIMPSON & CONRAD WON-
DOLOWSKI
ARE TOP FOUR**

JUNE 26, 2005 - EASTHAMPTON, MA – This was the third annual Len Minick Memorial Combat Challenge held in tribute to and in memory of our good friend and fellow competitor. There was rain, on the drive in, which stopped before the first match but by the third round it was back, on and off, for the balance of the day. The weather held down attendance for this one, however, those combat faithful that made the trip enjoyed a day of very enjoyable, competitive matches.

Round one saw Will Rogers and Conrad Wondolowski both get off to good starts posting one cut wins. In the first match of round two Will stayed hot earning a one cut win over Conrad, meanwhile Neil Simpson and Ken Hargreaves climbed into contention, both, posting good round two wins. At the halfway point it was Will (1240pts), Neil (930pts) with Conrad and Ken both with 920 points. In the first match of round three Will and Ken mid aired hurting both their cumulative scores. In the next match Neil just squeaked out a win over Conrad. Glenn Simpson was flying very steady and going into round four he was also in contention. Going into the final round it was Neil (1450 pts), Will (1440pts), Glenn (1330pts), and Conrad (1120pts). In round four Conrad and Jeff Vader as well as Will and Glenn flew to one cut apiece draws. In the final match Ken got an airtime win over Neil. The final order of finish was Will (1950pts), Glenn (1840pts), Neil (1650pts) and Conrad (1630pts).

Thank You to everyone who braved the elements and made this a good contest. Thank You, in particular, to Ernie Carosella, who came out on a less than perfect day, to do the majority of the judging.

(Continued on page two)



**Conrad Wondolowski battles
eventual contest winner
Will Rogers**

Salmon River (continued from page one)

This was also the first time, this season, we enjoyed Will Roger's participation. Good to have you flying with us, Will.

Len Minick Memorial Combat Challenge
6 contestants (5 from MA) (1 from NH)
12 matches (1 mid air)

(E) Will Rogers-E.Hartford, CT	1950pts
(E) Glenn Simpson-Worcester, MA	1840pts
(E) Neil Simpson-E.Brookfield, MA	1650pts
(A) Conrad Wondolowski-Paxton, MA	1630pts
(A) Ken Hargreaves-Worcester, MA	1540pts
(A) Jeff Vader-Franklin, NH	1520pts

Right: Ken Hargreaves and Glenn Simpson

Below : The trophy winners are Will Rogers (1st), Glenn Simpson (2nd), Neil Simpson (3rd) and Conrad Wondolowski (4th)



FROM THE EDITOR: New England Combat News exists, not to make a profit, but rather, to promote control line combat in New England. It is distributed without charge to those readers who participate in New England combat contests or who support these contests through donations to the New England contest fund. The subscription rate is \$10.00/year for people who do not meet the above criterion. If you have information you would like to see in this newsletter please call or write:


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If you make a donation or if you subscribe to this newsletter make the check payable to NEIL SIMPSONDonations go into the New England Contest Fund and are used to cover the cost of running New England control line combat contests. IF YOU WANT TO RUN A CONTROL LINE COMBAT CONTEST IN NEW ENGLAND AND YOU NEED HELP (FINANCIAL OR OTHERWISE) CALL OR WRITE NEW ENGLAND COMBAT NEWS. We want to continue to help make New England a "Hot Spot" for control line combat. New England Combat News is your newsletter-USE IT. Control line combat is your sport-PROMOTE IT.

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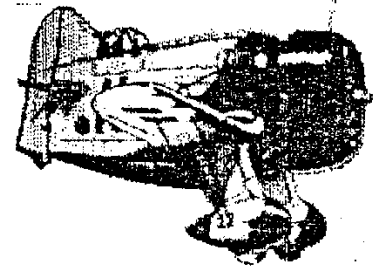
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F2D News

Mark Rudner
rudner@mit.edu

Hi everybody - it's me again. Sorry for missing last month. Time is pretty tight right now as I'm preparing to leave for the World Championships tomorrow morning. I'll have to be brief, but they say that brevity is the soul of wit so maybe I'll still manage to drop something enlightening on you this month.

Last month, Neil mentioned in the New England Combat News that I ran out of time to write a column. To add to that, I want to fill you in on some of what's been going on for me recently. Of course a big part of that was work related, but my other primary occupation of late has been training for the upcoming World Championships. Last month I had the opportunity to join US F2D team pilot Andrey Nadein in Philadelphia for two weekends of intense training. On the first Sunday, Aleksey Topunov of Chicago, Illinois also joined in on the effort. Aleksey will be Andrey's official mechanic in Spain.

My flying sessions with Andrey have always seemed to be quite fruitful. After a long lay off we will both show signs of rust, but very quickly get back into shape. By the end of our training together, I felt like we were both flying very solidly.

This time, we took our training to a new level stole a bit out of the old Russian training books. In particular, for each match we predetermined what each of us would be working on and carefully followed these rules throughout the session. The benefits of this method seem to be twofold. First, because we have discussed our plans in advance, there is less risk of midair. Not only does that save equipment, but it also saves time as constantly having to swap engines off of broken models can really cut down on flying time. Second, having specific goals for each match gives each pilot a purpose, a plan, a palpable measure of performance. To paraphrase Mike Willcox, the point of training is not to win every match; rather, the point is to gain more familiarity with your models, try out new tricks/ maneuvers, and to get your confidence up for a contest.

Speaking of Mike, he, I, and a few other combat pilots were interviewed by Larry Driskall for his recent Combat columns in Flying Models magazine. I've written about my views on training in the past, but Larry takes it a step further and gathers a variety of viewpoints to present to readers. I found it very interesting to read these comments, and I encourage all of you to track down those issues and read them for yourselves.

Shortly after returning from Philadelphia, I turned around and flew back to L.A. for two weeks of training with my dad Chuck Rudner (also US F2D Team Pilot) and the rest of my old crew (Rich von Lopez, Pete Athans, Don and Chris Jensen). Chuck and Rich have been practicing hard every weekend all year, and it really showed. They were both in excellent shape when I arrived. After 5 more days of flying with them, I can safely say that Chuck is in tip top shape.

All of our team members have put in a very serious effort, and have been doing everything in their power prepare for the World Championships. We should all be proud to have such a dedicated group of pilots to represent us in Spain.

I must leave now, but I hope all of you are flying a lot and getting ready for the Fall contest rush. Hope to see you all real soon,

Mark



Matt and Brian Stas

2006 Regular Season Points Championship (thru June 25th)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Total Accum Points</u>	<u>Total Possible Points</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Rogers, Will	10	10	1000
Simpson, Neil Hargreaves, Ken	47	50	940
Sherman, Dick Wondolowski, Conrad	30	40	750
Simpson, Glenn	15	20	750
Stas, Brian	15	20	750
Vader, Jeff	36	50	720
Clark, Rick	24	40	600
Fustolo, Joe	29	50	580
Kubek, Paul	17	30	567
Stas, Matthew Vader, Shaylene	10	20	500
"Lil Sherm"	5	10	500
	9	20	450
	12	40	300
	5	20	250

Position in the season point standings is determined by the percentage column. The formula to determine percentage is total points accumulated divided by total possible points. Points are awarded in descending order for the first ten places in each contest (1st Place = 10pts, 2nd Place = 9pts etc.) Total possible points is the number of contests participated in multiplied by ten. Participation in no less then 50% of the New England regular season GX meets is the eligibility requirement for a season championship award.



"Lil Sherm" and Rick Clark get Dick Sherman up and going at the Granite State Invitational

NECN CONTEST FUND
4/1/06 Through 7/8/06

Num	Date	Payee	Category	Amount
	4/1/06	Balance		19.00
	4/9/06	District I Championships/F2D	Permit/Sanction Exp	(45.00)
	4/12/06	Rick Clark	Contribution	60.00
	4/12/06	Wingbuster Spring Kick Off	Permit/Sanction Exp	(20.00)
	4/12/06	Eastern Mass Championships	Permit/Sanction Exp	(20.00)
	4/12/06	Wingbuster Invitational	Permit/Sanction Exp	(20.00)
	4/12/06	Wingbuster Fall Shootout	Permit/Sanction Exp	(20.00)
	4/12/06	Wompatuck Ice Breaker	Permit/Sanction Exp	(40.00)
	4/12/06	Wompatuck Fall Fly Off	Permit/Sanction Exp	(40.00)
	4/12/06	Ernie Carosella	Contribution	25.00
	4/29/06	Glenn Simpson	Contribution	50.00
	4/30/06	Joe Fustolo	Contribution	40.00
	4/30/06	Ken Hargreaves	Contribution	20.00
	4/30/06	Wompatuck Ice Breaker	Trophy Expense	(78.00)
	4/30/06	Wompatuck Ice Breaker	Entry Fees	100.00
	5/7/06	Rick Clark	Contribution	10.00
	5/7/06	Wingbuster Spring Kick Off	Trophy Expense	(124.00)
	5/7/06	Wingbuster Spring Kick Off	Entry Fees	140.00
	5/13/06	Conrad Wondolowski	Contribution	100.00
	5/21/06	Granite State Invitational	Trophy Expense	(78.00)
	5/21/06	Granite State Invitational	Entry Fees	100.00
	5/28/06	District I Championships/F2D	Trophy Expense	(47.00)
	5/28/06	District I Championships/F2D	Entry Fees	70.00
	6/11/06	Ron Connors Memorial Meet	Trophy Expense	(128.00)
	6/11/06	Ron Connors Memorial Meet	Entry Fees	130.00
	6/24/06	Conrad Wondolowski	Contribution	100.00
	6/25/06	Len Minick Memorial	Trophy Expense	(80.00)
	6/25/06	Len Minick Memorial	Entry Fees	60.00
	6/25/06	Will Rogers	Contribution	50.00
GRAND TOTAL				334.00

***2006 Eastern Mass
Championships
August 12th and August 13th***

Wingbuster Club Field - Middleboro, MA
AMA Sanctioned -Rick Clark-CD

**Formula GX Combat-Four Rounds
F2D-Mark's Single Airplane Rules**
GX-Saturday and F2D-Sunday

Trophies for top three in F2D and for top four in GX plus first
in Sportsman in GX
Registration 9:30am to 10:00am-First Match 10:00am

Directions: Take 104 east to 106 east from Route 24 - Turn
right onto Route 105-Go two to three miles turn left onto River
Street - Look for gate on right with Wingbuster sign - drive up
between corn fields

**2006
Salmon River Shootout**

Salmon River State Forest
East Hampton, CT
August 27th, 2006

**Formula GX Combat
Four Rounds
Prizes for top four plus
first in Sportsman**

**First Match 10:00 am
AMA Sanctioned**

**Located on Route 16
Approximately halfway
Between routes 196 and 149**

Granite State Invitational - Franklin, NH - May 21st, 2006



Shay and Jeff Vader



Neil Simpson and Jeff Vader



Jeff Vader and Matt Stas are set to fire-up Jeff's pretty machine

2006 CONTEST SCHEDULE

All GX Combat unless noted otherwise—bold type indicates firm date

- 7/30 Granite State Championships – Franklin, NH**
8/6 East Coast Championships – Hershey, PA
(1/2A and Speed Limit Combat)
- 8/12&13 Eastern Mass Championships - Middleboro, MA**
(**Formula GX Saturday and F2D Combat Sunday**)
- 8/20**
8/27 Salmon River Shootout - East Hampton, CT
- 9/3&4 New England Championships - Worcester, MA**
Formula GX Sunday - 1/2A on Monday
- 9/10 Colchester Combat Challenge - Colchester, CT
9/17 Fall Combat Challenge - Middlesex, NJ
(Speed Limit and 1/2A)
- 9/23&24 NEST Mass Cup - Wrentham, MA**
(**Formula GX Saturday and F2D Combat Sunday**)
- 10/1 Wingbuster Invitational - Middleboro, MA**
10/7 October Air War - Vincentown, NJ
(Speed Limit & 1/2A)
- 10/8 North County Shootout - Leominster, MA
10/15 Fall Finale - Worcester, MA
- 10/21&22 Wingbuster Fall Shootout - Middleboro, MA**
(**1/2A and F2D Combat**)
- 10/29**
11/5 Wompatuck Fall Fly-Off / Post Season Contest - Hingham, MA
- For more info contact: Neil Simpson Phone: 508-867-8702 E-Mail: podunk129@charter.net



Brian Stas has one member of his fleet ready for a match . . . Nice Airplanes

Snakes alive! Reptile captured: Plymouth gardener encounters 9-foot python under a rhododendron

By TAMARA RACE
The Patriot Ledger

PLYMOUTH - When the call came in for a cobra on Ellisville Drive, Environmental Police Officer William Costello figured he better put boat inspections on hold and deal with the snake first.

It was actually a Burmese python, and it was big - all 9 feet and 25 pounds of it curled up and resting comfortably under a rhododendron.

Costello and Plymouth police officer Brian Stas coaxed the snake into a box and carted it away.

"I reached under the bush and grabbed the head end and the rest followed," Costello said.

Stas held the box and the two managed to get the reptile into it.

"It's so big it would never fit through a chain link fence," Costello said. "It's obviously well cared for and probably someone's pet. We'd like the owner to come and get it."

Landscaper Francis Lane was working at the Ellisville Drive home when one of his workers ran into the reptile while mulching the yard.

The worker is Brazilian and not fond of snakes. Lane at first brushed off his worker's concern thinking it was just a common garter snake until he actually saw it.

Costello said that owning the snake is legal, but he believes a permit is necessary for any snake over 4 feet.

The owner, or anyone with information about the snake should call Environmental Police at 800-632-8075.

Copyright 2006 The Patriot Ledger
Transmitted Thursday, July 13, 2006



Environmental Police officer William Costello holds the python found under a rhododendron on Ellisville Drive in Plymouth. (Tamara Race/The Patriot Ledger)

Editors Note: My sources tell me Brian was a little depressed following this incident. Word has it that it took a chocolate covered and two Bavarian crèmes to entice that snake into submission. The result was a severe doughnut shortage for the remainder of the shift. (After all, there are only a dozen in a box)

2006
New England Championships
Formula GX and 1/2A Combat

Boynton Park-Worcester, MA
(near the Paxton, MA line)
September 3rd & 4th, 2006
GX-Sunday 1/2A-Monday

Registration 9:30am - First Match 10:00 am
AMA Sanctioned

Take 495 or the MASS PIKE to Interstate 290
In Worcester pick-up 122 North towards Paxton
Near the Paxton line just after the entrance to the Worcester Airport take a right
hand turn marked Mower Street (442-512)
Follow Mower Street into the park

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