

New England Combat News

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 1 JUNE 2010
THE CONTROL LINE COMBAT NEWSLETTER OF NEW ENGLAND



Now Celebrating our 22nd year of Publication

Granite State Invitational

**NEIL SIMPSON, JEFF VADER
& BRIAN STAS ARE TOP THREE
JAKE VADER TAKES SPORTSMAN**

May 2, 2010 – FRANKLIN, NH – This was it , opening day of the 2010 season. Nine contestants were on hand for this event hosted and cd'ed by Jeff Vader. Jeff, as always, had coffee and doughnuts waiting for everyone as we arrived. Weather conditions were warm, partly sunny with almost no wind. A great day for combat.

Round one saw Paul Kubek and Jeff Vader take the early lead both posting two cut wins. In round two they squared off against each other and flew to a one cut apiece draw. Meanwhile Neil Simpson posted his second one cut win of the contest to grab a narrow lead at the halfway point. Round two also saw Dick Sherman climb into contention with a two cut win. In round three Neil and Paul faced with Neil earning a one cut win. Next, Jeff and Dick mid-aired hurting both their cumulative scores. Later in the round Brian Stas, after a bad start, began to stage a comeback with a two cut win over Chris Sarnowski.

Going into the final round Neil had 1860 points, Jeff and Paul had 1535 points, Brian had 1335 points with Dick still close at 1225 points. Dick and Brian both posted early round four 725 point wins to put pressure on the leaders. Brian's win was a full five minute war with Paul each pilot flying very well. In the final Neil and Jeff faced off. Each had a cut when Neil, with Jeff in close pursuit, went into the ground, just prior to the four minute mark. This gave Jeff the airtime win. When it all sorted out Neil had the contest win, by the narrowest of margins, followed by Jeff, Brian, Dick and Paul.

Jake Vader, in a day long battle with Richard Sherman, took home the sportsman "gold". Both these young men show constant and dramatic improvement. They both are both flying really well. (continued on page two)

Houston F2D

May 1st and 2nd - Houston, TX - Our man, Mister Mark Rudner, had a very impressive finish

Mark beat the reigning f2d world champion and only lost by a hair to the current European f2d champion, both of whom came from Moldova in Eastern Europe to compete.

There were 37 contestants, including most of the US and Canadian teams for the upcoming world championships.

Lots of great matches.

Report below from Pat Wilcox

1st Igor Dementiev-visit from Moldava
(current European Champ)
2nd Mark Rudner
3rd Mike Willcox
4th Andy Mears

37 Pilots. Full double.

Very smooth contest.

Our RC club hosted this contest. Very pleasant. Nice covered pavilion with work benches.

Both days club kitchen was a big plus with burgers, dogs, bake beans and potato salad.

I had great help with judges: Chris Hess, Neal Rose, and Allan Green. Muffy Rudner (Chuck's wife and Mark's Mom) and my son Michael's future better half, Marina, did all the match posting and behind scenes work/

I did the "forestry tape" streamers with enhanced tab (5" piece folded back three times to make approx 1" tab) and this wrapped with strapping tape which had opposing 45 degree angles to help with stress failures as pictured in rule book.

Only one DQ for shutoff failure. The new rule of CM doing a grounding of both pilots when in a line tangle is a disaster. Did a 5 column 40 person matrix which was "massaged" a few time to make a better contest.

My RC club members I think enjoyed this "new" aspect of the hobby.

Pat

GRANITE STATE (continued from page one)

Thank you to everyone who shared in the judging and thank you to Jeff Vader for a yet another good contest.

Granite State Invitational - Formula GX Combat
9 Contestants (7 from MA) (2 from NH)
18 Matches-4 mid-air

(E) Neil Simpson - E.Brookfield, MA	2160pts
(E) Jeff Vader - Franklin, NH	2155pts
(E) Brian Stas - Kingston, MA	2050pts
(E) Dick Sherman - Andover, MA	1950pts
(A) Paul Kubek - Brockton, MA	1935pts
(S) Jake Vader - Franklin, NH	1520pts
(E) Glenn Simpson - Worcester, MA	1440pts
(A) Chris Sarnowski - Brookline, MA	1300pts
(S) Richard Sherman - Andover, MA	1000pts

Right: Brian Stas and Paul Kubek in a match at the Granite State Invitational



Jeff Vader and Chris Sarnowski prep Jeff's ship at the Granite State Invitational

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:

NEIL SIMPSON 129 PODUNK ROAD EAST BROOKFIELD, MA 01515
PHONE: 508-867-8702 (Home after 6:00pm) E-MAIL: podunk129@charter.net


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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Yankee Nipper full size plans

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Yankee Nipper pine center ribs - as shown on plans (3/4" white pine) in case of broken wing cores, simply cut old ones off and re-core - \$5.00 ea

From time to time, I have other items in stock - needle valve assemblies, props, bellcranks etc.

Always include \$5.00 for priority mail

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Combat DVD's

Mike has just finished making a DVD of the 2004 Word Champs and the 2003 World Cup in the Ukraine


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Mike Willcox
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Kingwood, TX 77339
EMOWILLCOX@AOL.COM

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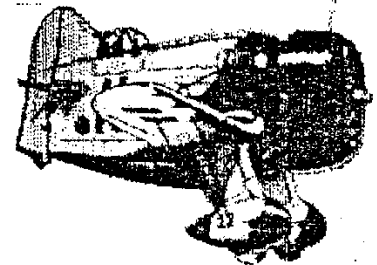
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F2D News - May 2010

Mark Rudner
rudner@mit.edu

CONTEST REPORT -- Houston F2D, 1-2 May 2010 -- Earlier this month, many of the top pilots in North America converged on Houston, TX for the annual Houston F2D meet. This year the field was especially strong, with 36 pilots from the US, Canada, and Mexico, plus the current World and European Champions Stas Culachkin and Igor Dementiev from Moldova. Aside from the 2004 World Championships in Muncie, IN, this could well have been the best F2D contest of the century so far in America.

The quality of flying was quite high all around, with a lot of good matches from a wide variety of pilots. This was especially impressive given the windy conditions, which would ordinarily lead to incredible amounts of carnage. Amid all the great flying, there were still several unfortunate incidents of shutoff malfunctions causing pilots to land at inopportune times. There was also one incident (in the fly-off for 3rd place) in which a shutoff did not successfully stop a model's engine after the lines were cut. This case was a close call, as the model didn't fly very long before hitting the ground. However, it seemed to fly long enough to tell that it wasn't showing any signs of shutting down, so I think it was a fair decision.

Part of the reason for the great turnout was the attendance of Stas and Igor. People seemed generally excited to meet them, and to witness their extremely high level of flying. This helped bring a really nice atmosphere to the contest. I was particularly fortunate, as I got the chance to fly against both of them on the second day. Recently I haven't been able to fly much, but those intense matches really energized me and brought back the excitement of flying. Stas and Igor are great guys on and off the field, and I look forward to seeing them again soon.

On a more technical note, I would like to make one comment about rules. Specifically, I have rule 4.4.11 i) in mind: "In the case of a line tangle where the circle marshal estimates the tangle cannot be cleared, he can require both pilots to land immediately. Ground time will start from the circle marshal's signal. After the models have landed the heat will continue as normal." This is a relatively recent addition to the rule book, which always seemed quite strange to me. From a safety standpoint (i.e. preventing flyaways) it perhaps makes some sense, but it was never clear how it could ever work in practice. Before this contest, I had never actually seen this rule invoked, so of course the first time it came up was during one of my matches. Well, I can tell you that this business is way too complicated. Aside from the need to coordinate between the center marshal and timers, there's also the problem of who is actually going to crash his model first. In our case, we had a mid-air shortly after the center marshal called for us to put our handles on the

(continued on the next page)

F2D News (continued from the previous page)

ground (neither of us was to the ground yet, so it didn't really have any effect on us). My model stayed up and my opponent's went down. Should I have still crashed anyway? That sounds pretty weak. After that match there was a decision to ignore that rule for the rest of the contest (or perhaps we should say to impair the center marshal's powers of estimation, thereby preventing him from ever arriving at the decision to make such a call). Personally, I think it would be a good idea to forget about that rule in general. If we get electronic shutoffs someday which the judges can activate remotely in such situations, then it could become a much more effective and practical safety measure. For now I think it's likely to cause more harm than good.

In the end, the top three places went to Igor Dementiev (1st), Mark Rudner (2nd), and Mike Willcox (3rd). The contest was really well run, and the judging fair and consistent throughout. Special thanks goes out to the Jetero R/C club for letting us hold the event at their field. A great time was had by all, and I hope it will grow even bigger next year!

NOTE: While finishing this report, I was deeply saddened to hear the news that a dear friend and fellow combat pilot, Steve Hills, passed away this weekend at his home in Florida. Steve was a great pilot and a true innovator. Among his technical contributions to the sport were several very successful designs of Fast combat models (most notably the "Arrowplane"), and many ingenious fuel shutoff designs in the early 1990s when the concept of the fuel shutoff was still in its infancy.

Beyond these technical contributions, however, Steve was a great guy who did a lot to promote our sport around the country. Whether you realize it or not, many (if not most) of you are familiar with his artwork, which has been featured on T-shirts (e.g. the New England Championships logo), fliers, and newsletters for several decades. Steve was also a great mentor and teacher. I know this on a very personal level, because Steve is the one who taught me how to fly when I was a young kid. He gave me a training model which had clearly been used to teach many previous young pilots how to fly. I may have been the last in the line of students to beat up that model, but it got me started and I have never put down the handle since.

While this news has made me very sad, it also has caused me to take some time to reflect on Steve's influence, and beyond that, on all of the great times and friendships I've made through flying combat. Earlier in the day, before receiving the news, I had been out flying with Greg Wornell, discussing ways to solidify his inverted flying. Looking back, I realize many of my suggestions can be traced directly back to what Steve taught me nearly 20 years ago. He may be no longer with us, but his legacy lives on. Thanks Steve!

Houston F2D-May 1st and 2nd

Photos from Greg Wornell



The top three, right to left, were Igor Dementiev (1st), Mark Rudner (2nd) and Mike Wilcox (3rd)
The photos below are from the final match



Granite State Invitational - May 2, 2010

Jeff Vader Photos



Jake Vader and Richard Sherman



Dick Sherman and Brian Stas



The trophy winners were Neil Simpson(1st), Jeff Vader (2nd), Brian Stas (3rd) And Jake Vader (1st Sportsman)



Paul Kubek and Jeff Vader

One N Done

Fly Off



***Eastern Mass Invitational June 12th, 2010
SATURDAY AFTERNOON FOLLOWING FORMULA GX
NEW ENGLAND'S INAUGARAL "ONE N DONE" FLYOFF
FORMULA GX SPEED LIMIT, ENGINE AND LINE DIAMETER RESTRICTIONS***

These rules, minus a few tweaks, were conceived by Gene Pape. Gene may or may not approve of the tweaks, however, in the interest of giving credit, where credit is due, Gene is the gentleman who is the inspiration behind this concept.

Each match will have a 1 minute staring period where the pilot will start his own engine, get to the pilots circle, and be ready for his plane to be launched. At the end of that one minute period, pilots not ready to launch will forfeit the round. If both pilots are ready to launch, the signal to start will be given. Both planes will be launched from 180 degrees apart, and combat will begin immediately for a 2 minute match period. The match would be scored with 1 point for the first cut, 2 points for the second cut and 3 points for each additional cut. The first string cut counts. In the event 1 airplane crashes, or lands for any other reason before the end of the 2 minute period, the other will win the match. If both pilots land before the end of the two minute period both forfeit the round. Ties will be re-flown.

**2010
Granite State
Championships**

**Franklin Elks Lodge Field
South Main Street
Franklin, NH
June 20th, 2010**

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

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

**2010
Len Minick
Memorial
Combat Challenge**

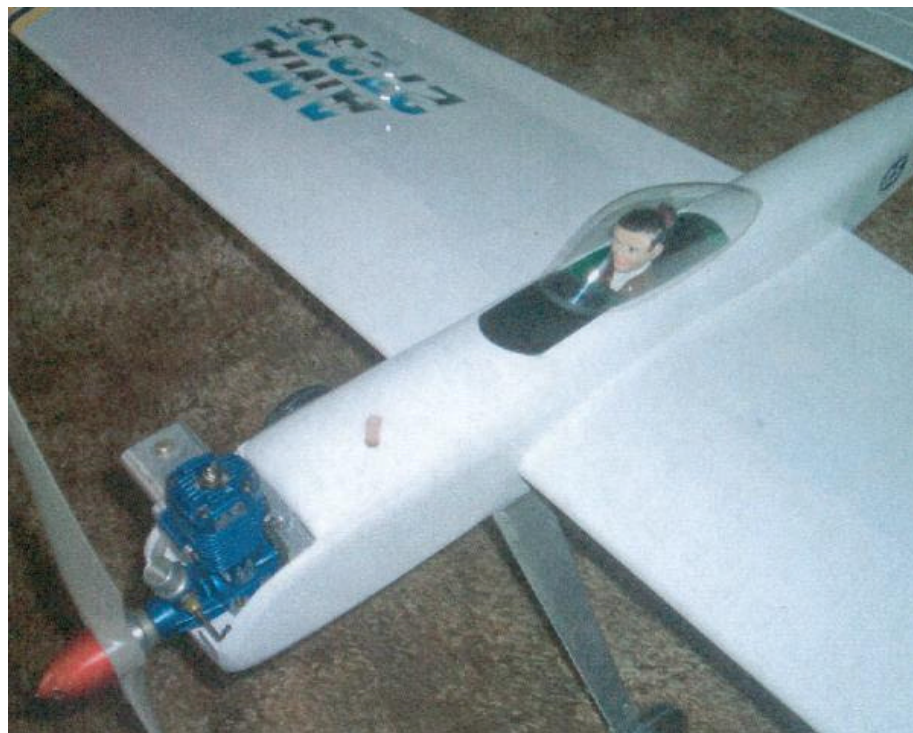
**Salmon River State Forest
Located on Route 16 Approximately
halfway between Routes 149 and 196
East Hampton, CT
June 27th, 2010**

**Formula GX Combat Four Rounds
Prizes for top Three plus first in
Sportsman
First Match 10:00 am
AMA Sanctioned**



**Chris Sarnowski gets Jeff Vader airborne in a match with Paul Kubek
Granite State Invitational**

Jim Carpenter's Latest Project
A Barnstormer built from a Brodak kit, Sig Dope, Ultracote, OS LA25
Weighs 30 oz



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8/9/2009	Eastern Mass Championships	trophy expense	(54.00)	142.00
8/9/2009	Eastern Mass Championships	entry fees	60.00	202.00
8/16/2009	107th r/c Flyers GX Shootout	trophy expense	(72.00)	130.00
8/16/2009	107th r/c Flyers GX Shootout	entry fees	80.00	210.00
8/18/2009	North County Shootout	Permit/Sanction Expense	(25.00)	185.00
8/18/2009	Silver Lake Shootout	Permit/Sanction Expense	(25.00)	160.00
8/23/2009	Salmon River Shootout	trophy expense	(72.00)	88.00
8/23/2009	Salmon River Shootout	entry fees	70.00	158.00
8/30/2009	Silver Lake Shootout	Permit/Sanction Expense	(75.00)	83.00
9/6/2009	New England Champs	entry fees	330.00	413.00
9/6/2009	New England Champs	trophy expense	(285.00)	128.00
9/6/2009	New England Champs	t-shirts	(220.00)	(92.00)
9/6/2009	Brian Stas	contribution	20.00	(72.00)
9/6/2009	Ken Hargreaves	contribution	20.00	(52.00)
9/20/2009	Wingbuster Mod Air Club	donation expense	(100.00)	(152.00)
9/20/2009	Mark Rudner	contribution	20.00	(132.00)
9/20/2009	District I Champs	entry fees	60.00	(72.00)
9/20/2009	District I Champs	trophy expense	(48.00)	(120.00)
10/4/2009	Silver Lake Shootout	trophy expense	(72.00)	(192.00)
10/4/2009	Silver Lake Shootout	entry fees	105.00	(87.00)
10/11/2009	North County Shootout	trophy expense	(72.00)	(159.00)
10/11/2009	North County Shootout	entry fees	150.00	(9.00)
10/11/2009	Brian Stas	contribution	80.00	71.00
10/11/2009	Ken Hargreaves	contribution	60.00	131.00
10/25/2009	Wingbuster Shootout	trophy expense	(48.00)	83.00
10/25/2009	Wingbuster Shootout	entry fees	90.00	173.00
10/25/2009	Brian Stas	contribution	5.00	178.00
11/1/2009	Season End Awards	trophy expense	(192.00)	(14.00)
11/1/2009	Fall Fly Off	trophy expense	(72.00)	(86.00)
11/1/2009	Fall Fly Off	entry fees	135.00	49.00
11/8/2009	Fall Finale	trophy expense	(72.00)	(23.00)
11/8/2009	Fall Finale	entry fees	90.00	67.00
11/12/2009	Greg Wornell	contribution	100.00	167.00
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12/11/2009	StreamerString(6 rolls)	Streamer Expense	(16.00)	107.00
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3/6/2010	NH Contests (2)	Permit/Sanction Expense	(50.00)	132.00
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3/19/2010	Sal River contests (2)	Permit/Sanction Expense	(140.00)	(218.00)
3/19/2010	Wingbuster contests (4)	Permit/Sanction Expense	(100.00)	(318.00)
4/12/2010	June Kingston contest	Permit/Sanction Expense	(175.00)	(493.00)
4/18/2010	Ken Hargreaves	contribution	20.00	(473.00)
5/3/2010	Glenn Simpson	contribution	60.00	(413.00)
5/3/2010	Granite State Inv	trophy expense	(74.00)	(487.00)
5/3/2010	Granite State Inv	entry fees	135.00	(352.00)
5/8/2010	Len Thibault	contribution	75.00	(277.00)
5/21/2010	Gregory Wornell	contribution	100.00	(177.00)
		GRAND TOTAL	(177.00)	(177.00)

Rumors, Facts Etc

CONTEST FUND: We have received generous donations recently from Ken Hargreaves, Glenn Simpson, Len Thibault and Greg Wornell. Thank You Gentleman.

ONE N DONE: get ready it's coming June 12th-details elsewhere this issue.

BLADDER COMPARTMENTS: Jim Carpenter and Dick Sherman have a new simple approach to bladder compartments to share with you. See Jim's "This and That" page on our website. Also available directly from the home page.

2010 CONTEST SCHEDULE

All GX Combat unless noted otherwise

Several dates are tentative pending the permitting process

5/30

6/6

6/12-13 Eastern Mass Invitational-Kingston, MA
GX Combat Saturday / F2D Combat Sunday

6/15-19 Brodak Fly-In

6/20 Granite State Championships -Franklin, NH

6/27 Len Minick Memorial Combat Challenge-East Hampton, CT

7/4

7/11

7/13-16 U.S Nats F2D/Speed Limit/1/2A/Fast

7/18

7/25

8/1

8/8 East Coast Championships -Hershey, PA-CD Phil Cartier
Speed Limit and 1/2A

8/15

8/22 Salmon River Shootout -East Hampton, CT

8/29

9/5 New England Championships -Worcester, MA

9/12 Wingbuster Invitational-Middleboro, MA
F2D Combat

9/19 Middlesex, NJ
Speed Limit and 1/2A Combat

9/26 Eastern Mass Championships -Middleboro, MA
F2D Combat

10/2* October Air War-Vincentown, NJ-CD Roy Glenn
(single elimination 1/2A and Speed Limit Combat)

10/10 North County Shootout-Leominster, MA

10/17 Fall Finale-Worcester, MA

10/24 Wingbuster Shootout-Middleboro, MA
F2D Combat

10/31 Wingbuster Fall Fly-Off / Post Season Contest - Middleboro, MA

* Saturday Contest

For more info contact: Neil Simpson Phone: 508-867-8702
E-Mail: podunk129@charter.net

2010
Eastern Mass Invitational

**Silver Lake Regional High School
Kingston, MA
June 12th and 13th**

**Saturday GX Combat 4 Rounds
Prizes for top three plus 1st Sportsman**

***ALSO SATURDAY AFTERNOON FOLLOWING FORMULA GX
NEW ENGLAND'S INAUGURAL "ONE N DONE" FLYOFF
FORMULA GX SPEED LIMIT, ENGINE AND LINE DIAMETER RESTRICTIONS***

**Sunday F2D Combat Single Airplane Rules
Prizes for top Three**

**NEIL SIMPSON
129 PODUNK ROAD
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