



*Last update 5/4/99*

## 1998/99 Contest Report

The Fly-Off for the 1998/99 Cessna/ONR Student Design/Build/Fly competition was held the weekend of April 24-25 at the ONR host site, Webster Field in St. Inigos Maryland. Teams from 14 universities had aircraft in attendance, and several additional teams whose aircraft were incomplete or damaged during testing prior to the competition also attended to enjoy the competition and social activities.

I'd like to extend a special welcome and thank you to the two foreign participants, the Italian team (who were not able to bring and aircraft); and the Canadian Team (Queen's University) who not only were the first to "get on the scoreboard", but who also demonstrated that even a "cargo aircraft" can perform an impressive aerobatics routine.

The 14 teams who brought their aircraft enjoyed nearly perfect (for Maryland) spring weather, which included only a brief downpour at the end of the tech inspection/testing on Friday evening. The rest of the weekend was clear and sunny with moderate to light winds. Ample time was available for teams to make a number of scoring flights; in fact much of Saturday was spent waiting for someone to make a scoring flight, until the Queen's University team decided to launch a campaign and became the first team on the score board. Sunday had a much higher flying activity. The Oklahoma State University Aggie Aquanauts opened the morning, and everyones eyes, by blasting past the best of the Saturday scores with an opening volley at 8:05 in the morning. After getting everyones attention, the remainder of Sunday was spent in hot competition among all the teams. When the dust had settled, the clear and uncontested winner was Utah State University with the Dragon Fly, posting a stunning 104 lb of water carried over the course of 6 sorties, which completely exhausted their supply of payload containers available for the flight. Combined with their written-report score of 90.00 (second best) they had a final net score of 9360.0, and a check for \$2500.

Second place and \$1500 went to the Oklahoma State University Aggie Aquanauts team with their 8:05 am score of 71.5 lb of water carried in 3 sorties. Combined with a written score of 87.83 gave a net score of 6280.1.

Third place and \$1000 went to the University of Southern California H2OT Shark (the only plane to suffer an in-flight fire and still return to competition!) with a maximum payload carried of 49 lb in 5 sorties, combining with a written score of 85.78 for a total score of 4203.

The top three placing teams will be contacted by the Applied Aerodynamics TC to present their designs at the 1999 Applied Aerodynamics Conference in Norfolk Virginia on June 28 - July 1. (If you don't hear from the conference organizers soon be sure and drop me an e-mail). The best written score went to Texas A&M and the "Texas Flash Flood" with a score of 91.00. The Texas A&M "Best Written Report" will be placed on the contest web site for all teams to view.

In order, the final scores for the 98/99 DBF competition are:

1	Utah State University	Dragon Fly	9360.0
2	Oklahoma State Univ	Aggie Aquanauts	6280.1
3	University of Southern California	H2OT Shark	4203.0
4	Georgia Tech.	Magic Carpet	3901.6
5	Texas A&M University	Texas Flash Flood	3867.5
6	University of New Mexico	Lobonautics	2808.5
7	Cal Poly SLO	Bahama Mama	1714.5
8	Queen's University		1553.9
9	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	RPP-1	1521.2

Aircraft flying but not completing a full scoring lap placed next with

10	Cleveland State University		85.5
11	Oklahoma State University	Hercules	80.5
12	Syracuse University	Manta UAV	73.0
13	E. Stroudsburg University	Underdog/Javelin	59.5

Teams not flying but submitting a written report included

14	Cal Poly SLO	Albatross	82.2
15	Miami University, Ohio	MUX-1	73.7
16	USMA West Point	The Blue Falcon	69.8
17	University Delgi Studi La Sapienza		63.3
18	University of Texas, Austin	Longhorn Loadstar	62.9
19	Illinois Inst. of Tech.	Hawk	61.0
20	Washington State University	Coug-Bird	60.9
21	Michigan State University	Spartan Bomber	56.6
22	West Virginia University	Boxcar	54.3
23	University of Central Florida	UCF Electric Air	52.3
24	University of Arizona	RC99 UAV	51.1
25	Tuskegee University	Loadmaster	41.1
26	Virgina Polytech	Dragonfly	39.0

Detailed scoring for the written reports, all sorties flown, and final results are also contained in the Adobe Acrobat files below.

The contest would not have been the resounding success it was without the help of many people too numerous to list here. I do want to especially thank Cessna Aircraft Company and the Office of Naval Research for their financial support and the AIAA Foundation and the Academy of Model Aeronautics for their sponsorship. Special thanks go to our hosts at the Patuxent Naval Air Station, Webster Field: CAPT Paul Roberts, CO NAS Patuxent River, for the use of Webster Field; CDR Herb Yee, Officer-In-Charge VC-6 for providing access to their hanger and supplying food for the hungry participants; Len Parrish, Pam Bean, and Peg Tysiak, host coordinators for the event; and the entire Webster field security

and support staff.

I'd like to once more congratulate all of this years participants and thank you for making this another successful and fun competition. Draft rules for the 1999/00 DBF competition should be up on the contest web site in about a month, so keep checking in. All of the DBF judges and sponsors thank you for your participation and look forward to seeing you again next year.

Greg Page  
gregory.s.page@nrl.navy.mil

[1998/99 Scores \(Adobe Acrobat format\)](#)