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This would also apply to Contest Committees of Regional or State organizations and local clubs.

Sixth—Contests operated by better standards, more accurate records, better and more complete reporting will give SOARING better material and the membership will be better informed.

Seventh—Activities and interest in general will increase because of the need for more people to be involved and the more apparent result of the interest and work of all concerned; pilots, crewmen, timers, recorders, contest planners and operators, committeemen, reporters, editors and observers.

To endeavor to determine what result such a system would produce, an attempt was made to rate many of our leading pilots, according to the above, from information published in SOARING. A few surprises awaited in the pages. One was that many contests are not reported at all, and that many are reported so briefly and incompletely that no mention of winners is to be found. Another was that it took a search through seven years of SOARING to produce any points at all for some of our pilots who are thought to be tops. Another was that with one exception this system agreed with our "popularity contest" type of selection of International representation. This is true using both three and five years of history and also including seven years.

This does not mean that our team members have been incorrectly selected but that a system would eliminate any doubt as well as supply many other advantages.

Results compiled for twenty pilots, for the past seven years from the information published follows:

Richard H. Johnson	10,400
Wm. S. Ivans	6,150
John Robinson	5,700
Paul Bikle	5,650
Wm. H. Coverdale	5,350
Betsy Woodward	4,600
Betty Loufek	3,800
Paul MacCreedy, Jr.	3,150
Ray Parker	3,125
Kempes Trager	2,650
Gus Briegleb	2,600
Wm. Bueby	2,550
Wally Wiberg	2,550
Stan Smith	2,300
Lyle Maxey	2,250
Larry Gehrlein	2,150
Shelley Charles	2,150
Dick Comey	1,900
E. J. Reeves	1,850
Richard Lyon	1,450

There is no doubt that many posi-

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BARNEY WIGGIN HONORED

America's Foremost Soaring Meteorologist Gets Silver Medal

SSA's own Bernard L. Wiggin known to all motorless flight people in this country and well known throughout the world for his work in the field of meteorology, has been awarded the U. S. Department of Commerce Silver Medal.

Mr. Wiggin became interested in motorless flying during the very early stages of its development in this country. The close tie between the sciences of meteorology and motorless

tions in France. Barney Wiggin has watched the development of so many of our top competition pilots, that on a given day he can foretell with uncanny accuracy the particular performance that each pilot is likely to attain. That he is a judge of soaring men there is no doubt.

The Department of Commerce through its U. S. Weather Bureau with which Mr. Wiggin is associated at the Buffalo, N.Y. station, awarded



Mr. Bernard Wiggin proudly displays his Silver Medal after its presentation to him by Mr. James W. Osmun of Washington, D. C., Director of the U. S. Weather Bureau's First Region.

Photo: G. Butler

flight led him into a concentrated study of the meteorological aspects and applications to soaring flight. He is today recognized in this country and abroad as one of the most eminent authorities on the subject.

Barney has been the 'Chief Met Man' at more National Soaring Contests than probably any man in the world. Unlike many men of science, Barney Wiggin is a 'hail fellow well met'. He is a great wit and times without number we have seen him put groups of 'taut up' competition pilots completely at ease with his witty words of wisdom. He is a public speaker of note, engages in amateur dramatics, strums stringed instruments to his accompanying song and convinces everyone that he is not only a knowing but a happy man.

In 1954 he led the U.S. Team in the World Soaring Championships in England and again this year will Captain our Team in the same competi-

tion. He was awarded the Silver Medal for his "PIONEERING WORK IN PREPARING LOCALIZED FORECASTS AND HIS ASSISTANCE AS SOARING METEOROLOGIST."

For his meritorious service, the Silver Medal was presented to Mr. Wiggin by James W. Osmun of Washington, D.C., Director of the U. S. Weather Bureau's First Region, at a luncheon in the Buffalo, N.Y. Airport's 'Cloud Room'. Forty friends and representatives of Federal, State and Local agencies, and Mr. Wiggin's staff were present.

It is with great pride that we report this additional honor coming to Mr. Bernard L. Wiggin. He has been long recognized and honored by the Soaring Society of America, having been the recipient of this Society's Warren E. Eaton Memorial Trophy which was given him for his contribution of a scientific nature in the field of motorless flight.