

2014 Republic Of Texas FT Grand Prix
March 8-9 @ Yegua Airgun Club

Apparently a certain resident alien recently emerged from its hibernative state, phoned home, received orders to instruct Earthlings on the finer points of field target competition, and proceeded to do so IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS at the 2014 Republic of Texas Field Target Championships! In order to better insure mission success, said alien obviously utilized extraterrestrial powers to compromise said Earthlings' senses and metabolisms with repeated blasts of frigid precipitation; whereupon the other-worldly creature proceeded to decimate the field of mere mortal "field target competitors". By the time this space-invader had had his way with the puny Earth beings, he had removed enough worldly materials of wood, metal and stone (known in Earth vernacular as "a wheelbarra' fulla trophies") to his spacecraft (known in human vernacular as "Mike's RV") for transport to the alien's home planet; said Earth materials apparently to be utilized for the construction of a new spacecraft.

As can be seen from the photo of the 2014 RoT Scoreboard below, the alien known in Earthling as "Mike Vredenburg" captured trophies for Open PCP Champion, Open Pistol Champion, Two Gun Champion, High Senior and no less than THREE awards for High Texan (one wood, one metal and one stone). Apparently Earthlings dwelling in the geographic region known in alien vernacular as "Texas" hold their most skillful shooters in very high esteem.

Hector Medina captured both the High Piston and WFTF Champion titles... leaving one to wonder if Mike Vredenburg was indeed the only alien in attendance.

Laid-to-waste mere mortals were left groveling for whatever menial prizes aforementioned superhumans did NOT contest. That said, field target Earthlings have often expressed confusion about "what planet is Ron Robinson from?"; unfortunately his Hunter Rifle Champion and Hunter Pistol Champion awards shed little light on the confusion.

Cool temperatures and drizzling precipitation heightened the challenge of Saturday's day 1 rifle match that would have been challenging enough in the best of conditions. With an unadjusted Troyer factor of 36, the sixty-shot rifle course featured several steep-enough up and down angle shots that should have 1.25X multipliers applied. Alien Mike Vredenburg was virtually unaffected, missing only two shots to record a 58/60. Warren Williamson, not necessarily an alien but from Ohio, was close behind with a fine 57/60.

Sunday's day two match was shot on the same course, but consisted of forty shots... AND frigid enough temperatures that all competitors and their equipment were adversely affected. Even the alien was affected, though not to such extreme degrees as the humans. Mike missed four shots on day two for a 36/40 and a high weekend aggregate of 94/100.

Saturday's pistol field target event started in cool, windy and drizzling conditions that deteriorated throughout the match. Though shot from under cover of awnings, winds, rain and plummeting temperatures announced the arrival of a cold front as the 48 shot match wore on. Ron Robinson's extraterrestrial roots served him well in shrugging off the otherworldly conditions to record a 47/48, as even Ohioan Warren Williamson suffered visibly in the unpredictable Texas weather. Of course resident alien Mike Vredenburg avoided popsicle-ization to capture the Open Pistol Champion prize with a fine 41/48 score.

All Earthlings and aliens in attendance seemed to manage a great good time in spite of the horrid shooting conditions; fine testament to the camaradial power of airgun field target competition.

Can you spot the extraterrestrials on the scoreboard below?

	Day1	Day2	Total		Day1	Day2	Total
WTF Pistol				HUNTER PCP	45	26	43 71
Hector Medina	45	23	1st 68	Paul Bracaglia	19	13	32
Leo Duran	41	24	2nd 65	Jerry Cupples	35	24	59
Veronika Ruf	19	DNF	DNF	Bob Dye	23	16	39
Randy Smith	24	15	39	Carlos Garza	47	23	70 70
WTF PCP (Grand Prix)				Sean Holbeche	27	16	43
Robert Ray	49	28	77	Mike Kirkpatrick	35	DNF	DNF
HUNTER PISTOL				Roy Modica	48	24	72 72
Paul Bracaglia	40	3rd		Phillip Reedy	49	30	79 79
Bob Dye	43	2nd		Ron Robinson	20	20	40
Jerry Cupples	28			Reagan Smith	50	26	76 76
Carlos Garza	27			Doug Witkowski	6	11	17
Lupe Gonzalez	30			Alex York	40	23	63
Sean Holbeche	37			Scott York			
Ron Robinson	47	1st		OPEN PCP	Day1	Day2	Total
Doug Witkowski	35			David Alsup	50	DNF	DNF
OPEN PISTOL				Stylie Edwards	52	DNF	DNF
Leo Duran	38			Mike Vredenburg	58	36	94 94
Mike Vredenburg	41			Warren Williamson	57	30	87 87
Warren Williamson	19			Raschel York	42	25	67

Submitted by
Ron Robinson