

Results, Ninth ARRL International EME Competition

By Michael B. Kaczynski, W1OD
Contest Manager, ARRL HQ

More and more amateurs are seriously gearing up for EME. Perigee is no longer the detriment it was several years ago. Although conditions weren't optimum for the ninth running of the ARRL International EME Contest, 138 participants gave it their best shot and entered the world's most popular EME operating activity. That's only 12 entries down from 1984's 150, when conditions were much more favorable. In late 1985, lunar perigee (the part of the lunar orbit where the moon is closest to the earth) just happened to line up with the new moon. Scheduling a contest on one of these weekends would cause participants to fight high sky noise. Optimum weekends with respect to low sky noise coincided with apogee (the point where the moon is the farthest from the earth, therefore the greatest path loss occurs). Toss in the necessary northern declination for a signal path between Europe and North America to further complicate the date selection process. Even our panel of EME enthusiasts who help us select the contest weekends couldn't agree on the "right" weekends.

Eighty-five 2-meter single-operator entries were submitted in 1985. This year's big score was turned in by one of moonbounce's superstations, W5UN. With 32 Yagis, Dave contacted 200 stations and 45 multipliers to turn in the contest's largest score, a record 900,000 points! KB8RQ reportedly took up mud wrestling to keep his new 32-Yagi array running. The effort proved worthwhile, as Gary went to the showers with 611k, for the contest's second largest score. YU3WV, WA1JXN/7 and OH7PI rounded out the single-op top five.

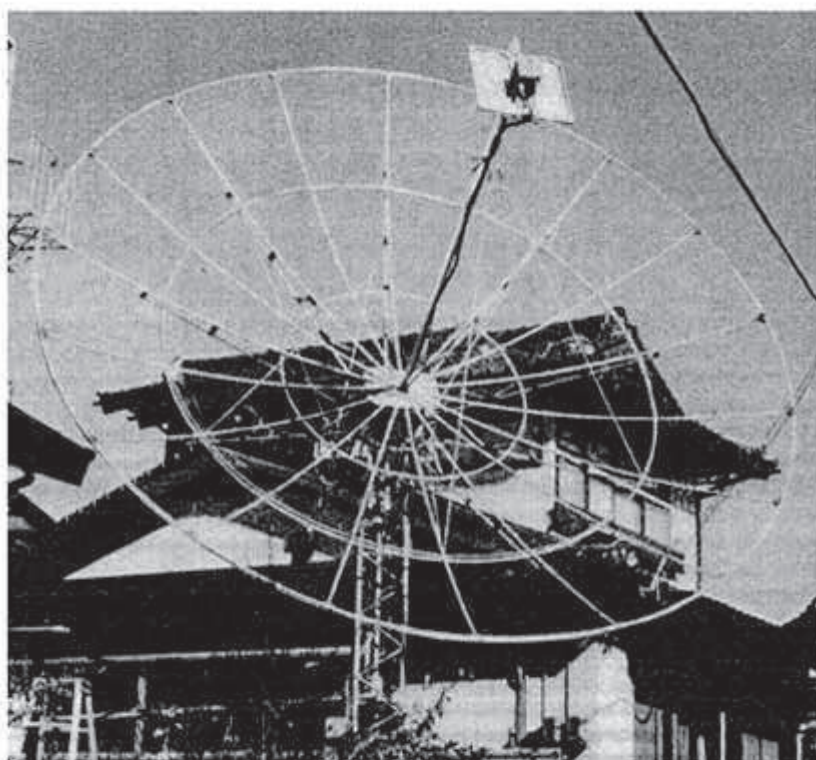
On 432, DL9KR was on top, with 86 QSOs and 32 multipliers, for a total of 275k. The race for second spot was close, with WA1RWU, F9FT (F5SE, opr) and K1FO within 7 QSOs of one another. JA6CZD worked 48 stations for number 5.

Action was also on the increase on 1296, with DK0UKW (DL9GS, opr) topping the charts with 23 QSOs and 20 multipliers for 46,000 points. Three other stations went single band 1296: OK1KIR (OK1DAI, opr), OE9FKI and OE5JFL.

The multioperator top five skipped back and forth across the Atlantic. DL8DAT and crew worked 144 stations and 42 multipliers for top honors. F6BSJ and crew collected 40 multipliers and 100 QSOs on 144 MHz for runner-up status. K2UYH (with K2TXB and WB2KMY) had equipment trouble, but nevertheless managed to work a total of 81 QSOs and 34 multipliers on 432 and 1296 for third position. G4EZN and gang were close behind, operating 144 and 432 MHz to the tune of 269 kilopoints. WA6MGZ rounded out the top five.

Thanks to all for sending in the great pictures and soapbox comments. We used as many as we could—too bad we couldn't print them all!

The next running of this contest will be held



JA4BLC used this antenna to work 26 stations on 432 MHz.

on October 25-26 and November 22-23, 1986. The International EME Competition is celebrating its 10th birthday in 1986. Why not help us celebrate by giving moonbounce a try? All you need to hear the big guns is a good ear, one Yagi and a multimode transceiver. Even if you don't manage to work anyone, reception reports are more than welcome. CU then!

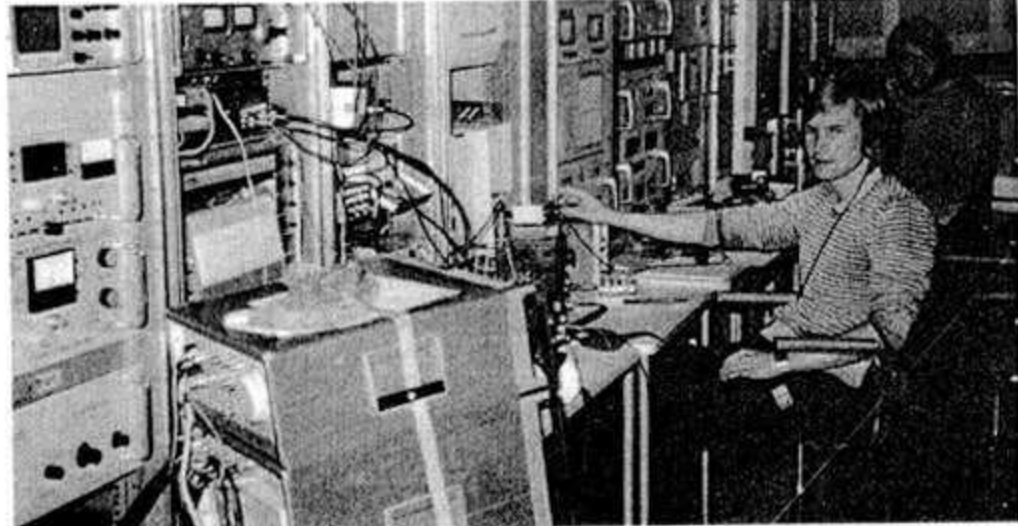
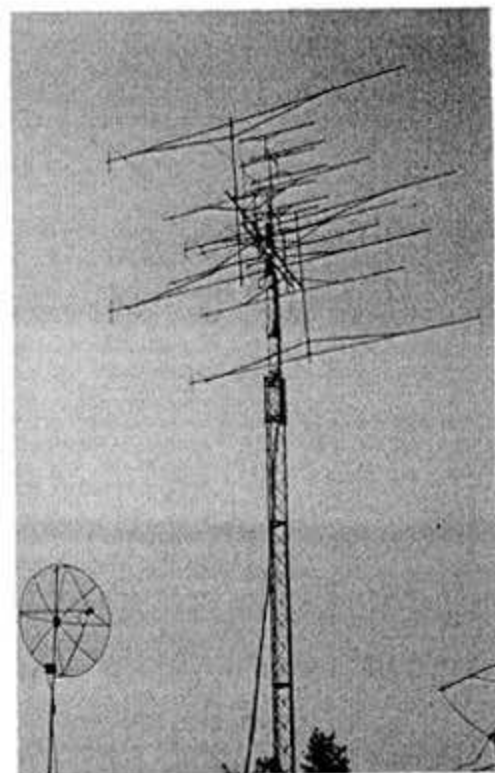
SOAPBOX

Conditions on 1296 were good, but I was disappointed not to find any Ws on for the last session.



The operators of first-place multiop DL8DAT. From left to right are DK2PH, DF9CY, DL8DAT and DF7DJ.

I lost about 3 multipliers that way over last year. Condx on 432 were variable with strong polarization spreading 2000-2300 on the 23rd. Overall, activity seemed to be a little less than in '84 with several prominent calls missing (G3LTF). DL9KR on 432 and OE9XXI on 1296 are acting as very good beacons. They are active all the time and can even be heard several minutes before the end of the contest, doing a very good job (SM0PYP). Thanks for another FB contest! (DJ8QL). My apologies to all the stations calling that I could not copy due to conditions, which have generally been poor all fall. They were the worst that I have experienced during any of the EME contests over the last 4 years. My biggest thrill was working some of the smaller stations on random calls (W5UN). I was still working on the new array the day of the contest. I worked outside in the rain and mud to keep it running. The antenna system performed great, but there were mechanical bugs to work out. Conditions were poor, but there were a lot of new stations on. I worked about 45 new stations, but missed a lot of the other ones (KB8RQ). We had strong QRM from the Marconi CW Test on the second weekend (DL8DAT). I had bad luck this year with the rain and snow on my open-wire phasing system (YU3WV). It is nice to be back again after moving into a new QTH. My antenna is now a 35-ft dish 0.45fd. CU on the moon. I am now QRV on 70 cm. 73 (SM4IVE). I'm the new kid on the block, and my first contest started with a thunderstorm. After a couple of hours it quieted down and conditions were good. Then it was hard to tell who was calling whom. For the most part conditions were bad, but now I feel that I can send QRZ faster than anyone (N5BLZ). A good example of poor condx was when the 2-m beacon (W5UN) completely disappeared for hours, and then reappeared with very weak signals. After the contest ended, I was able to work W5UN and WA1JXN on SSB. Quite a change from earlier conditions (K9MRI). Poor conditions, aurora and



This setup afforded the operators of OH2TI a number 7 finish in EME Test number 9. Shown here are OH6DD (foreground) and OH6EH.

(KC4EG). A freak windstorm on 5 November tore the tower and antennas off the roof and dumped them in my yard (yes indeed, the array was big enough)! (W1AIM). I had a fantastic time in this, my first EME contest. I got the EME system running for the first time just before the contest. What an introduction! There were dozens of signals, and people actually answered my CQs. I probably would not have gotten on EME by now if the contest hadn't been such a good incentive (W9IP/2). I hope to have a new antenna up next time. I have already started building it! (DF9CY). We were actually set up to operate 144, 432 and 1296 at the flick of a switch. However, Murphy struck hard this year when it came to the EME Contest. The net result is a score which is less than half of last year's score. There's always next year! (K2UYH). We will be looking forward to next year's contest, when the memory of this year's fades away (G4EZN).

Apogee, high sky noise and Murphy in the PA reduced the score on the first weekend. Again apogee, sky noise and long periods of Faraday lockout bothered us the second weekend (WA6MGZ). We were trying our new amp and didn't hope to do very well. All worked okay (OZ1EME). Enjoyed our first EME contest. Because of terrestrial noise we couldn't utilize low elevation angles. Propagation was favorable at the end of the contest, as we managed to work a few stations on SSB (OH6DD, opr OH2TI). Our QSO with WSUN was just like a local tropo QSO. A kilowatt amplifier is under construction and will probably be finished in the spring of 1986 (LA2REA, opr LA2AB). I could only put 4 hours into the contest with the NASA 26-m dish. The first Sunday on 432 was great. The band sounded like 20 meters. I even had a JA pileup! Next year more time with more power (KL7RA).

F1FHI used this array to work 63 stations and 50 multipliers for a third-place single-op, multiband finish.

local QRM made QSOs difficult but great fun all the same. Best wishes to all in 1986 (GM4IPK). Either conditions were extremely poor both weekends or my system needs work! I suspect the latter (W5UWB). I worked 3 new stations and 2 new countries (GM4JJJ). I heard much more activity last year as an SWL. I'll be back—I'm hooked! (K9SR). Boy, WSUN sure makes it easy to peak up the array!

Scores

Scores list: call, score, stations heard, stations worked, multipliers, band (A—50 MHz, B—144 MHz, C—220 MHz, D—1296 MHz, E—2304 MHz).

Single Operator, Multiband

HB9SV	270,600	39-39-22-B	18-17-10-D
N4QJV	173,600	15-15-13-B	38-38-16-D
F1FHI	125,000	13-13-7-B	50-37-16-D
G3LTF	111,800	39-30-17-D	13-13-9-E
SM3AKW	60,000	7-7-7-B	23-23-13-D
F2TU	33,600	11-11-8-D	10-10-8-E
JA6CJ	20,400	4-1-1-B	22-16-11-D
VE7BBG	15,000	5-5-2-D	10-10-8-E
SM8PYP	13,200	24-5-4-D	7-7-7-E
DJ9DL	13,000	7-7-4-D	6-6-8-E
K4QIF	8,000	6-8-6-D	2-2-2-E

Single Operator, 144 MHz

WSUN	900,000-200-200-45-B
K8BRQ	610,900-149-149-41-B
YU3WV	578,400-150-137-42-B
WA1JXN/7	540,000-135-135-40-B
OH7PI	255,000-75-75-34-B
SM4IVE	244,200-74-74-33-B
SM4GVF	234,800-69-69-34-B
K8BSL	162,000-60-60-27-B
NSBLZ	142,500-57-57-25-B
K8MFI	97,600-39-39-25-B
VE1ALQ	78,200-34-34-23-B
OK1MS	66,800-37-37-18-B
K8TQ	57,000-30-30-19-B

OZ4MM	57,000	30-30-19-B
W7FN	56,000	48-28-20-B
UA1ZCL	55,800	31-31-18-B
W7HAH	55,800	44-31-18-B
F9HS	52,200	29-29-18-B
DJ7UD	47,600	34-29-17-B
DK2PH	44,200	26-26-17-B
SM5CFB	39,000	26-26-15-B
WD5AGO	37,500	26-26-15-B
OZ1GFY	37,400	22-22-17-B
Y22ME	36,800	23-23-16-B
W5SUS	34,500	23-23-15-B
VE1UT	30,000	20-20-15-B
GM4IPK	28,500	33-19-15-B
WA1VTA	25,200	18-18-14-B
W5UWB	24,700	19-19-13-B
UA3TCF	23,400	24-18-13-B
WD4DGF	22,800	19-19-12-B
WB8QMN	22,100	20-17-13-B
W8RWH	21,600	18-18-12-B
GM4JJJ	20,800	27-18-13-B
SM5DGS	20,800	16-16-13-B
SM5CPO	18,000	15-15-12-B
K6EOX	17,600	16-16-11-B
EA2LU	16,800	23-14-12-B
DK9IP	13,000	13-13-10-B
SM3LBN	12,000	12-12-10-B
UA8LJV	9,000	10-10-9-B
ZS6ALE	8,100	9-9-9-B
K6CH	7,000	10-10-7-B
DL3SAS	6,400	8-8-8-B
WBVB	6,400	8-8-8-B
WB8ART	6,300	9-9-7-B
I2FAK	5,900	13-8-7-B
K9SR	5,400	9-9-6-B
KC3LZ	4,900	7-7-7-B
HB8BN	4,200	18-7-6-B
WB0Z	4,000	8-8-5-B
SM5DHO	3,800	6-6-6-B
YU1POA	3,600	14-6-6-B

WA7LYI	3,000	6-6-5-B
UA6BDC	2,500	5-5-5-B
UA6YB	2,500	5-5-5-B
WA1OUB	2,500	10-5-5-B
HG1YA	2,000	5-5-4-B
EA3DXU	1,600	4-4-4-B
KC4EG	1,600	4-4-4-B
DL2LAH	900	3-3-3-B
WA5VJB	900	4-3-3-B
WA7PDC	900	3-3-3-B
WB4WTC	900	4-3-3-B
WA3TTS	800	4-3-2-B
AF1T	400	2-2-2-B
DF7IF	400	2-2-2-B
DL2OM	400	2-2-2-B
N190	400	3-2-2-B
SP5CJT	400	6-2-2-B
N8BJN	100	1-1-1-B
VE3EQG	100	8-1-1-B
W1AIM	100	11-1-1-B
WBVVM	100	1-1-1-B
WA7JUC	100	1-1-1-B
WB9KM	100	1-1-1-B
W8M5V	100	7-1-1-B

Single Operator, 432 MHz

DL9KR	275,200	86-86-32-D
WA1RWU	151,200	69-63-24-D
F9FT (F5SE, opr)		
K1FO	145,600	56-56-26-D
JA6CZD	140,300	61-61-23-D
DJ9MB	120,000	48-48-25-D
DF3RU	76,000	48-40-19-D
F1FEN	76,000	41-40-19-D
JA4BLC	41,600	25-25-16-D
VK7SA (VK3UM, opr)		
ISMSH (IS7DJ, opr)		

W9IP/2	19,200	16-16-12-D
OH2DG	15,000	15-15-10-D
W8RAP	15,000	15-15-10-D
DJ9BV	12,800	14-14-9-D
W8SAFY	11,000	22-11-10-D
EASKF	7,700	15-11-7-D
DL2CJ	6,800	11-11-6-D
WB1OU	6,300	11-7-9-D
JR4AEP	4,000	8-8-5-D
DF7VX	3,500	13-7-5-D
DF9CY	3,000	6-6-5-D
JAB80H	3,000	14-6-5-D
K6KE	2,000	9-5-4-D
DK1UV	1,600	4-4-4-D

Single Operator, 1296 MHz

DK8UKW (DL9GS, opr)	48,000	23-23-20-E
OK1KR (OK1DAI, opr)		
OESFKJ	19,200	18-16-12-E
OESJFL	2,500	7-5-5-E

Multioperator

DL80AT (+DK2PH, DF9CY, DF7DJ)	592,200-141-141-42-B
F8BSJ (+F8s GBY, HLC, HYE)	400,000-100-100-40-B
K2UYH (+K2TXB, WB9KMY)	275,400-71-71-27-D
G4EZN (+G3s CWL, IOR, GBVLL)	268,600-10-10-9-B
WA6MGZ (+KR5F)	165,300-82-57-29-B
OZ1EME (OZs 1FTU, 2GZ, 5IQ, oprs)	110,000-44-44-25-B

OH2TI (OH1s EU, OC, ZAA, OH2BGN, OH6s DD, EM, oprs)	98,000-67-49-20-D
WB0RL (N8UJ, WA8TKJ, oprs)	82,000-41-41-20-B
W8SD (+W8s PJB, TEM)	82,000-31-31-20-D
F1ELL (+FD1HTB)	25,200-21-21-12-D
EA3MM (EA3s AQJ, APN, BTZ, D8Q, EHQ, LL, MD, RU, EB3BYT, oprs)	24,700-35-19-13-B
HG1W (HG1s WF, YA, YU, oprs)	19,800-18-15-11-B
I2COR (+I2s TFI, YID, W2ATM)	17,000-17-17-10-D
HB98M (HB9s BGN, MZQ, VI, oprs)	15,800-14-14-12-E
KF8M (+K8s DOW, K8UJ, N8FUJ, WA8VJ)	15,000-15-15-10-B
4U1ITU (G3NAQ, HB9CUI, oprs)	4,900-7-3-6-B
JH0YSI (JA2s CZD, HU, HVL, HXV, RWF, JH8s KOE, RWF, UDY, oprs)	4,800-1-0-0-B
LA2AB (LA2s 2REA, 8KV, 9CY, oprs)	2,500-15-5-5-B
UZ6LXN (UA6s LGO, WDN, oprs)	900-3-3-3-B
CE3AA (CE3s OZ, EDJ, GGA, GUD, IW, oprs)	100-1-1-1-B

Non-Amateur Equipment

KL7RA	24,700	26-18-13-D
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