Results, 13th Annual ARRL International EME Competition

By Billy Lunt, KR1R and Warren C. Stankiewicz, NF1J
Contest Manager Assistant Contest Manager

The thirteenth annual ARRL International EME Competition was held on the weekends of Oct 14-15 and Nov 18-19, 1989. This year's contest was plagued by an aurora that raised havoc with the bands during the second weekend. Nevertheless, activity was good, with excellent propagation reports received for the first half of the contest. European "big gun" OE5JFL reports, "I was very pleased with the increased activity on 1296 MHz with many good signals, even on SSB. Conditions were very good the first weekend, but signals were down from normal during the second weekend, especially on 144 and 432 MHz. Perhaps the big aurora on Nov 17 had some negative influence."

These conditions were not only experienced in Europe, but also stateside as KD7YZ notes, "I hardly heard anything on the second weekend. Even the normally loud stations were plagued with rapid QSB and were quite weak because of the geomagnetic storm." On the other hand, Y23RD conveys, "Moonbounce propagation and weather conditions were very good during my 20 hours of activity. Occasionally, I got a headache from the QRM when the US stations were coming up." Dave, W5UN, thought that "it was a good year for multipliers."

Alex, UA1ZCL, made 164 lunar contacts with this antenna system.

Even with less-than-optimum conditions, reports show that activity increased slightly over last year. The Contest Branch received 128 single-op and 27 multiop entries for 1989, marking an increase of 21 entries over last year's totals.

Besides the overall score standing, there are many personal goals met during any contest. W2RS beams, "This was my best score yet with 150 W and a single Yagi! I was very pleased with the results despite spotty conditions." KI3W claims, "I worked 22 new stations, but the highlight was working ZK1RS." WA1FSK explains, "I was really cookin' when the bleeder resistor bank on the 3CX1500B's power supply shorted. The explosion blew my glasses off! So much for the first weekend."

OE5JFL increased his score by 700k this year to secure his first-place spot among single-operator, multiband entrants. Three other stations scored more than an impressive 1 million points: UA1ZCL finished in second place with 1.2 meg; SM2CEW was third with 1.1 meg; and HB9SV was fourth with 1.0 meg.

Single-operator 144-MHz remains as the most popular entry class, with 66 entries. W5UN scored 1.5 meg by completing 313 QSOs with 51 multipliers for first place. KB8RQ finished in second place with 901k and SM5FRH was third with 892k.

Single-operator 432-MHz was the second-most-popular class with 29 entries. SM4IVE took top honors on 432 MHz, scoring 552k. DL9KR was the runner-up with 483k and N4GJV was third with 387k.

SM4DHN completed 39 QSOs with 21 multipliers to win in the single-operator 1296-MHz category. DL9EBL was second, completing 36 QSOs with 19 multipliers. SM6CKU was third with 32 QSOs and 19 multipliers.

In the multioperator-multiband competition, WBØTEM and crew finished in first place scoring 658k. K2UYH finished in second place with 609k, followed by OK1KIR with 266k.

Multioperator 144-MHz was the most popular multiop-entry category, with 11 entries. I2FAK almost doubled last year's score to win first place. G8MBI finished in second place with 309k and DL5MAE was third with 247k.

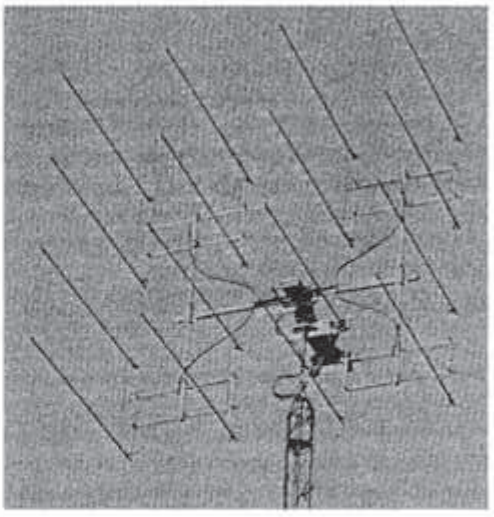
There were two stations that entered the multioperator 1296-MHz category. OE9XXI was first with 79k and EA2BK was second with 5k.

Thanks to all for sending in great photos with their logs. We wish we could have printed all of them.

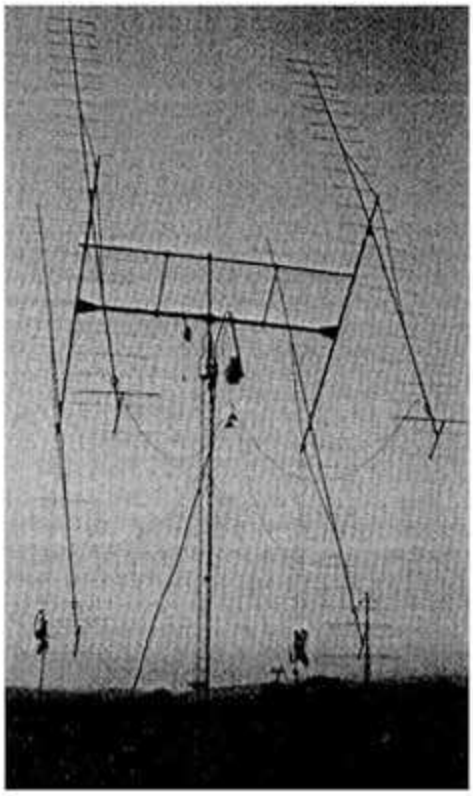
This year's ARRL International EME Competition is scheduled for the weekends of Oct 13-14 and Nov 3-4, 1990. Special thanks to Contest Assistant Mark R. Burke, KA1MIS, for his help in preparing the results.

SOAPBOX

I went multiband for the first time. Would you believe that I had more fun this year than last year? Well, I did! Didn't think that was possible! Multiband takes a lot of equipment, but it's also lots of fun (SM2CEW). I had a few problems with high noise levels on 144 and 432 MHz because of the dry weather. On 1296 MHz, things went very well; I worked six new stations (HB9SV). FB contest! The conditions were good on the first weekend and bad on the second, so I guess things equaled out (W7HAH). Conditions were not very good the second weekend. I enjoyed more than 300 QSOs, though. Even stations running single antennas and 150 W were heard when conditions were good (W5UN). The first weekend was outstanding with good signals. The second weekend was not so good; I spent four hours in the cold repairing the gear reduction bearing. See everybody next year (KB8RQ). During the first weekend, stations showed up from everywhere, but the second weekend there were bad conditions with a lot of aurora (OZ4MM).



Steve, K1FO, used this end-mounted, polarization-rotatable 432-MHz array to work 89 stations.



A view of the sunset over multioperator station EA3DXU.

Faraday rotation made it difficult to work even the big stations (HB9CRQ). Despite variable conditions, each contact was enjoyable. I'm looking forward to next year's contest (WØHP). Conditions were quite good the first weekend, but there was a lot of aurora the second weekend (SM2CKR). The low end of 144 MHz sure was crowded—just great! Looking forward to next year (KA5AIH). There was very good propagation in the first part of the contest. During the second part, there was bad rotation due to auroral disturbances (SM2EKM). It was a very enjoyable contest and I'm looking forward to next year (PA3CEG). Excellent conditions during the first weekend, but rotten conditions for the second (AA4FQ). Many thanks for the FB contest! (HG2RG). Being a small west coast station, I tried to better last year's score and work new stations (WA7TDU). This was my first time in the 144-MHz EME Contest. The conditions were very good in the first part, but not so good in the second part. I was glad to work so many stations with my single Yagi! Thanks for a fine contest (OZ1AZZ). Super contest! I was only able to work a limited amount of the time because of my work schedule. I had a lot of fun with my $50 home-brew array! (WB2JHG). This was my first EME contest and definitely not my last! I heard dozens of stations, but unfortunately 100 W just wouldn't make it. I probably set two new records: The most number of times calling W5UN before getting a reply and the most times QRZed by SM5FRH without making a contact. Just wait till next year (K9BCT/4). The weather was super, but conditions were variable with long lock-out periods (DL9KR). Even though I improved my equipment, I only made two more QSOs than last year because of the poor conditions (YU1IQ). A big aurora on Nov 17 gave Faraday a spin, so conditions were inconsistent and made QSO partners play hide-and-seek. It was fun to operate anyway (DL6WU). Increasing the diameter of my dish from 2.6 meters to 5 meters increased my score over 50 times. This is what I call gain! (ZS6AXT). Conditions varied greatly. I lost the preamp that was up 80 feet (in the dark) and the blower motor on the 8877. All were repaired without missing a sked. I worked two new states—KH6 and KL7. Thanks, guys (KBØHH). It was a pleasure to operate in the contest for the first time, in spite of our low power (DL5MAE).

Patrick, F6HYE, operating at the controls of 4U1ITU.

Scores

Each line score lists: call, score, stations worked, multipliers, band (A = 50 MHz, B = 144 MHz, C = 220 MHz, D = 432 MHZ, 9 = 902 MHz, E = 1296 MHz, F = 2304 MHz).

Single Operator, Multiband

OE5JFL	1,930,300-	61-	38-	B
		97-	37-	D
		41-	22-	E
UA1ZCL	1,213,600-	89-	34-	B
		52-	27-	D
		23-	13-	E
SM2CEW	1,138,800-	85-	39-	B
		41-	24-	D
		20-	15-	E
HB9SV	1,027,500-	51-	31-	B
		50-	25-	D
		36-	19-	E
Y22ME	412,800-	83-	34-	B
		13-	9-	D
SMØPYP	396,000-	55-	27-	D
		33-	15-	E
W7FN	394,800-	39-	25-	B
		45-	22-	D
G3LTF	380,700-	7-	5-	B
		41-	24-	D
		33-	18-	E
W7HAH	348,300-	69-	34-	B
		12-	9-	D
SM3AKW	193,800-	11-	10-	B
		24-	16-	D
		16-	12-	E
UA9FAD	174,900-	43-	27-	B
		10-	6-	D
JA4BLC	124,000-	18-	14-	B
		24-	17-	D
F2TU	119,600-	17-	10-	D
		28-	15-	E
		1-	1-	F
W7ID	58,800-	10-	9-	B
		18-	12-	D
OH5IY	54,600-	25-	20-	B
		1-	1-	D
W8KJY	46,800-	20-	13-	D
		6-	5-	E
VK5MC	27,000-	9-	8-	D
		9-	7-	E
AF1T	3,600-	4-	4-	B
		2-	2-	D

Single Operator, 144 MHz

W5UN	1,596,300-	313-	51-	B
KB8RQ	901,600-	184-	49-	B
SM5FRH	892,400-	194-	46-	B
DL8DAT	846,000-	180-	47-	B
N5BLZ	811,200-	169-	48-	B
YU3WV	602,700-	147-	41-	B
LA8LF	473,000-	110-	43-	B
OZ4MM	472,000-	118-	40-	B
SM5DGX	460,000-	115-	40-	B
K2GAL	434,300-	101-	43-	B
OK1MS	418,000-	95-	44-	B
LZ2US	403,300-	109-	37-	B
AF8Y	386,400-	92-	42-	B
K3W	378,300-	97-	39-	B
HB9CRQ	335,400-	86-	39-	B
WØHP	327,600-	84-	39-	B
SM2CKR	281,200-	76-	37-	B
F3VS	264,000-	60-	44-	B
KA5AIH	150,800-	52-	29-	B
SM2EKM	145,600-	52-	28-	B
UG6AD	134,400-	48-	28-	B
PA3CEG	127,600-	44-	29-	B
PAØJMV	127,600-	44-	29-	B
DL6LAU	127,600-	44-	29-	B
ZS6ALE	100,000-	40-	25-	B
AA4FQ	97,500-	39-	25-	B
PA3EON	93,600-	36-	26-	B
Y23RD	89,700-	39-	23-	B
I1KTC	84,000-	35-	24-	B
RA6AAB	79,300-	34-	26-	B
DJ7UD	76,000-	40-	19-	B
HG2RG	75,900-	33-	23-	B
N7AM	72,500-	29-	25-	B
WB5DGR	71,300-	31-	23-	B
WA7TDU	68,200-	31-	22-	B
K6HXW	60,900-	29-	21-	B
GM4JJJ	60,000-	30-	20-	B
SM5CPD	56,700-	27-	21-	B
LA8YB	45,000-	25-	18-	B
K1GVM	37,400-	22-	17-	B
OZ1AZZ	35,700-	21-	17-	B
WA1FSK	27,000-	18-	15-	B
K5WE	23,400-	18-	13-	B
HGØIL	19,800-	14-	14-	B
KØAZW	18,200-	14-	13-	B
LZ1DP	18,000-	15-	12-	B
W8WVN	17,600-	16-	11-	B
RB5AL	16,000-	16-	10-	B
Y22HG	14,000-	14-	10-	B
F9HS	10,800-	12-	9-	B
PA2CHR	9,900-	11-	9-	B
DJ2WA	7,200-	9-	8-	B
WB2JHG	7,200-	9-	8-	B
N7AM	7,200-	9-	8-	B
DF4LY	1,200-	4-	3-	B
UL7BAT	900-	3-	3-	B
W2RS	900-	3-	3-	B
KB5KNX	600-	3-	2-	B
SP9EWU	400-	2-	2-	B
KB9CTI/4	400-	2-	2-	B
VE3OAT	100-	1-	1-	B
N7WS	100-	1-	1-	B
JA9EYI	100-	1-	1-	B
VE3EQQ	100-	1-	1-	B
K3BFA	100-	1-	1-	B
KN5S	100-	1-	1-	B

Single Operator, 432 MHz

SM4IVE	552,000-	138-	40-	D
DL9KR	483,600-	124-	39-	D
N4GJV	387,600-	102-	38-	D
K1FO	284,800-	89-	32-	D
N6AMG	254,600-	67-	38-	D
DJ9BV	224,000-	70-	32-	D
K4QIF	195,000-	65-	30-	D
WA3FFL	190,400-	68-	28-	D
DF3RU	180,000-	60-	30-	D
YU1IQ	132,600-	51-	26-	D
JR4AEP	58,000-	29-	20-	D
WA8TKJ	56,100-	33-	17-	D
WA4OFS	56,000-	28-	20-	D
DL6WU	55,100-	29-	19-	D
ZL3AAD	49,400-	26-	19-	D
JA2JRJ	45,900-	27-	17-	D
XE1XA	42,500-	25-	17-	D
SP5CJT	40,000-	25-	16-	D
JA9BOH	17,000-	17-	10-	D
UA6LQH	16,800-	21-	8-	D
W1JR	14,000-	14-	10-	D
W7CI	14,000-	14-	10-	D
WB3CZG	12,000-	12-	10-	D
IK1HWG	8,400-	12-	7-	D
DK3FB	7,000-	10-	7-	D
DK5AI	6,000-	10-	6-	D
I5TDJ	4,800-	8-	6-	D
I5CTE	900-	3-	3-	D
Y26CI	100-	1-	1-	D

Single Operator, 1296 MHz

SM4DHN	81,900-	39-	21-	E
DL9EBL	68,400-	36-	19-	E
SM6CKU	60,800-	32-	19-	E
WB8QMN	57,600-	32-	18-	E
WD5AGO	47,600-	28-	17-	E
IN3HER	46,400-	29-	16-	E
ZS6AXT	42,000-	28-	15-	E
I4JED	35,200-	22-	16-	E
G4CCH	25,200-	18-	14-	E
WB5LUA	24,000-	20-	12-	E
KD5RO/2	19,800-	18-	11-	E
DJ2US	16,500-	15-	11-	E
KD7YZ	4,800-	8-	6-	E
WØRAP	1,600-	4-	4-	E
W7JF	1,600-	4-	4-	E

Multioperator, Multiband

WBØTEM (+ WA2PHN, NSØN, WBØGGM)	658,800-	21-	16-	B
		57-	27-	D
		30-	18-	E
K2UYH (+ KC2TA, WA2A, WB2PYP, WC2F)	609,500-	84-	34-	D
		31-	19-	E
OK1KIR (OK1s DAI, DAK, DCI, NS, ops)	266,500-	34-	22-	D
		30-	18-	E
		1-	1-	F
KBØHH (+ KA8KUY, KCØII, KF8M, NOØY)	151,900-	29-	20-	B
		20-	11-	D
I2CDR (+ I2TFI, I2YIO, IW2ATM)	92,500-	26-	16-	D
		11-	9-	E
K7ICW (+ KD6RI)	70,300-	2-	1-	B
		35-	18-	D

Multioperator, 144 MHz

I2FAK (+ IK2LZT)	562,500-	125-	45-	B
G8MBI (+ ops)	309,600-	86-	36-	B
DL5MAE (+ DL6RAI)	247,900-	67-	37-	B
EA3DXU (EA3s AEN, AYX, BB, ops)	148,500-	55-	27-	B
DK5LA (+ DL2LAH)	147,900-	51-	29-	B
EI7M (EI3DP, EI4s, BZ, DQ, EI5FT, EI6BT, EI8GS, ops)	117,600-	42-	28-	B
EA4AO (+ EA4ED)	76,000-	38-	20-	B
KL7X (+ AL7FS, KL7WE)	62,000-	31-	20-	B
SKØUX (SM2s KAK, LCB, ops)	33,600-	21-	16-	B
WA7KYM (+ KA7USG)	9,000-	10-	9-	B
N8AM (+ N8ITP)	2,000-	5-	4-	B

Multioperator, 432 MHz

F1FHI (+ FD1NWK, F6ETI)	452,200-	119-	38-	D
F1ELL (+ FD1s FLN, HTB)	326,700-	99-	33-	D
KU4F (+ WT4A)	318,500-	91-	35-	D
NC1I (+ K1GX, NC1B)	292,400-	86-	34-	D
4U1ITU (F1GKF, F6s BGC, HYE, ops)	63,000-	35-	18-	D
JHØYSI (JAØs HVL, RWF, ops)	62,000-	31-	20-	D
OH2NHM (OH2PO, OH6DD, ops)	57,800-	34-	17-	D
OH2PO (+ OH6DD)	57,800-	34-	17-	D

Multioperator, 1296 MHz

OE9XXI (+ OE9PMJ)	79,800-	38-	21-	E
EA2BK (+ EA2s AF, AVY, HO, LU)	5,400-	9-	6-	E