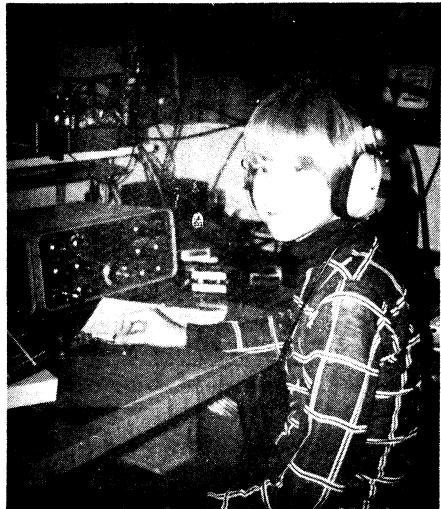


# Results, Fourth Annual ARRL Ten-Meter Contest

A few propagation bright spots and the promise of increased solar activity offer a cure for the wait-'til-next-year syndrome.

By Jim Cain,\* K1TN and Bill Jennings,\*\* WA1AHI



Andy, AB1ALW, who received his Novice ticket just five days before the start of the 10-Meter Contest, made his presence known from the Connecticut section.



Paul, WA4SCL, Novice, utilized his FT-101EE and a quad at 35 feet to rack up 116 QSOs for 11.6k points in the Tennessee section.

**H**ardly seems possible, but this report documents the *fourth* annual ARRL 10-Meter Contest. One of the writers started to work at the Newington headquarters in August, 1973, and in the short span of time from then to December the 10-Meter Contest was invented, rules hashed out with the Contest Advisory Committee, and an announcement printed in November *QST*. Those rules have not changed in four years and seem highly satisfactory.

In many respects, the 10-M Contest has remained in a state of suspended animation these last few years; conditions were bad in 1973 and haven't really gotten any better since. Scores keep increasing through station design improvements, operator experience with the contest, and maybe a little luck. The 10-Meter Contest is a sleeping dragon, awaiting a bolt of lightning from the ionosphere to erupt into a horrendously big activity. Perhaps all the contacts the past four years on a dead band have been just dreams, but who's going to question a dragon?

Although propagation conditions showed a little more promise than in 1975, with good north to south (to Central and South America) and fair but short East Coast to West Coast U.S. openings both days, the fact is that the number of entries (612) received for the 1976 10-M Contest is slightly below the 628 figure of 1975. The rather large jump in the average scores, especially the top ten, seems also to contradict the fact of declining numbers of valid entries.

Despite the large average score increase in the 1976 top ten over the

average scores of the 1975 top ten, the all-time top single-operator scores of W6RR at 189k and TI2BEV at 228k, both set in 1974 still stand.

At the age of four, the 10-Meter Contest has come sufficiently into its own to warrant a set of all-time record-holder boxes, one for the U.S.-Canada, in both the single and multi-operator categories, and another all-time top-ten box for DX stations. Although the top-ten box for DX will suffice for now, with the coming (we hope) of better propagation conditions, this might very well be replaced by a more appropriate listing such as continental leaders.

Division records were set this year by single operators; W3RJ, WA8ZDF, K9EGA/2, WA1LNQ, AD4BAI, and by multiops; W9LXU, WB0MCJ, WB4ASA, AB8OFR, W0EEE, AB1AAE, WA4YBV and WB4EDD.

Five stations appeared this year as "repeaters" to the top-ten single-op listings from the U.S. and Canada, those stations being W3RJ (ex-K3OIO), WA8ZDF, W4WSF, K9EGA/2 and WA3WIK. On the DX side of the ledger, each of the stations making the top-ten single-op listings is new to the top ten with the exception of KZ5JM, who was top ten in 1974.

Much of the credit for the computation and tabulation of the scores and analytical data goes to Contest Aide, Dan Street, WA1QNF, whose many hours of work should not go unrecorded.

## Soapbox

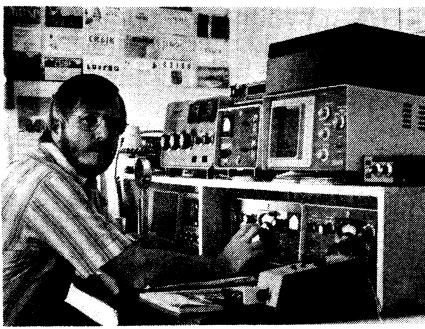
Night after night, day after day, weekend after weekend, I call CQ on 10. Nothing! Then have a contest and it's QRM-5. (WA6HAD) The Novices were conspicuous by their absence. Why

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were so many higher class amateurs operating below 28.100??? (WB2DQP) Highlights of the contest for me were being able to work stations on scatter with a small, low antenna and low power (it seems to be easier than on 6 meters). Also two new states and two new countries on OSCAR. (K9HDE) There's not much here, but I wanted to show my support for 10 meters! (WB5WWU) After listening to a dead band for most of the 36 hours, I think that it's time to consider moving the contest into the summer E-skip season. (WB0QHV) When it's hot, it's hot; when it's not, it's not and not a whole lot in between. (WB7CBA) How about some more "a-m" activity next year? Perhaps these contacts should count double, as do Novice contacts. A lot of "a-m" stations would like to participate, but don't feel wanted! Ten meters has plenty of room for "a-m" activity. Let's spread out and use the band. (WA2SUH) Am I the only California station who couldn't find a W6 multiplier? (WB6IHU) Occasional runs of 80 contacts per hour made it all worthwhile. (WB2FUN) I could hear all kinds of juicy DX stations down 50 kHz, but none in the Novice bands. (WB3BCF) Not a very high score, but I tried with my old dipole. (AB0PTB) Confining all cw operation to the Novice band segment would be an asset to the contest. (WB4DHC) It's 2000Z Sunday, the band's wide open and I hear a W4 at 28.1 calling CQ. Sounds like a Novice. A quick four points, and maybe a new multiplier. I call him. Doesn't say he's a Novice. After RST, QTH and name, I decide that he's not in the contest. Leave him! But six months ago, I was a Novice too. Don't want to give him an inferiority complex. I explain and apologize at two words per minute. QSY. Band is gone and I feel guilty. (WB3ALX) Being a Novice contestor is nice, if you like sitting around half the time. Again the versatility of propagation modes available on 10 meters was proven during this contest, as the following were used in accomplishing my score: tropo scatter, sporadic E, F2, and last but not least the Geminids meteor shower, which provided the ionized reflecting patches that made a good portion of my contacts possible. (W0EKB) The entire weekend was nothing but a series of options. Should I seriously compete in the ARRL 10-Meter Contest, or should I watch the Washington Redskins wipe out the Dallas Cowboys? Or better yet, maybe I should take time off from hamming to enjoy the St. Louis Cardinals as they toy with the New York Giants in the last game of the NFL regular season? Decisions, decisions, decisions. My score tells the tale. (WB5IBA) Ten was open, but where was everyone? We should all



Luis, CX1EK, operated CW3BR to 192k points, capturing the top spot among the single-operator DX entries. In fact, Luis' score was the highest of all the entries in the 1976 10-Meter Contest.



Single-operator section winner in the Alabama section, WB4OXX. 502 QSOs and 64 multipliers accounted for Herb's section high score of 64k.

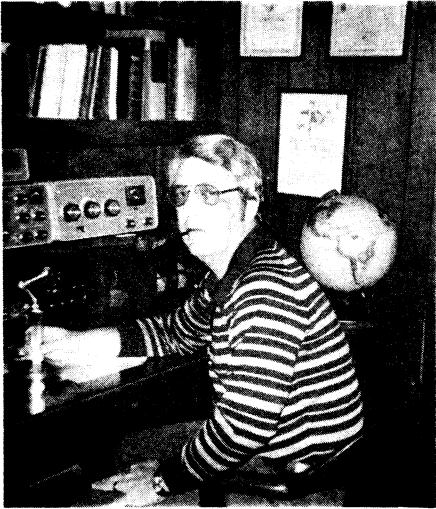


Missouri section high scorer, Perry, W0LGW, is shown here making one of his 249 total QSOs.

#### All-Time Division Leaders

Single Op	Score	Year	Division	Multi-Op	Score	Year
W3RJ	171,396	76	Atlantic	WA3UTA	175,056	74
W9YT	108,000	74	Central	W9LXU	46,748	76
WA0CPX	53,720	74	Dakota	WB0MCJ	12,616	76
W5WMU	98,280	74	Delta	WB4ASA	58,212	76
WA8ZDF	119,328	76	Great Lakes	AB8OFR	73,458	76
K9EGA/2	82,290	76	Hudson	W2SKE	104,680	75
W0LGW	58,098	74	Midwest	W0EEE	42,448	76
WA1LNQ	126,008	76	New England	AB1AEE	75,052	76
W7SFA	140,432	74	Northwestern	K7IDX	76,002	74
WA6PGB	119,140	74	Pacific	W6BIP	86,400	74
W4WSF	103,340	75	Roanoke	WA4YBV	61,504	76
W0MS	84,534	74	Rocky Mt.	WA5FLG	14,000	74
AD4BAI	87,492	76	Southeastern	WB4EDD	92,820	76
W6RR	188,760	74	Southwestern	W6YRA	121,824	74
WA5LES	153,000	74	West Gulf	WB5IQG	68,556	74
VE3BMV	64,500	74	Canadian	VE3MCH	69,948	74

All-Time DX Top Ten			Top Ten Single Op			
CALL	SCORE	YEAR	W/VE	DX		
T12BEV	228,468	74	W3RJ	171,396	CW3BR	192,480
CW3BR	192,480	76	WA1LNO	126,008	LU1BR	164,976
KZ5JM	182,860	74	WA8ZDF	119,328	VE2AQS/TG9	95,358
LU1BR	164,976	76	WB6PXP	102,168	PJ2FR	68,686
W7MPZ/HK3	158,096	74	AD4BAI	87,492	KZ5JM	54,280
KZ5WA	150,516	74	W4WSF	82,946	KP4DMZ	47,008
KZ5NG	122,056	73	K9EGA/2	82,290	XE1LLS	44,368
YV4AGP	106,624	74	W6KQG	80,560	ZK1BA	38,352
LU8AJG	102,240	74	WA3WIK	79,910	OA8V	27,520
VE2AQS/TG9	95,358	76	AA5LES	76,176	ZL1BOK	25,628



Al, of the South Carolina section, shown operating his station WA4FDE.



Novice operator John, AA6MGW, amassed 1224 points for a respectable 10th-place finish in the highly competitive Los Angeles section.

make a habit of checking out 10 meters. Use it or lose it! (WB9SAD) Can anybody tell me if there is an ionosphere above Pennsylvania? (WB3DDB) Frustration is to be able to hear so many states and not be able to work them due to one-way skip or local QRM. (VE6BCC) Don't laugh at us ex-CBers. I used my old 60-foot CB ground plane on 10 meters and got eight new states. Who said that 10 is closed most of the time? (WB5TEY) Ten was wild while there was an opening, but unfortunately openings were few and far between. (VE7BWN).

## **Fourth Annual 10-Meter Contest**

Scores are listed by section within each U.S. call area, by Canadian call area, and by country within each continent. The highest single-operator station in each ARRL section and country receives a certificate. The highest multiple-operator station in each section and country and the highest Novice score in each ARRL section receive certificates, if there are three or more entries listed in that classification or if, in the opinion of the Awards Committee, the entrant displayed exceptional effort. Read the listings (left to right) call, score, QSOs, multiplier, hours of operation. Asterisks denote Headquarters staff members, ineligible for certificates.

U.S.A.	K1EQ	11,600-145-40-13	WA2EPK(+WA2DMC)	3094- 81-17-15	AD3IMC	3672-104-17- 6	Kentucky		
1	K1CSJ	3080- 70-22- 4			W3TOS	3348- 83-18-11			
	WI1FMF	2268- 63-18-10			W3MSN	2640- 66-20- 7	AA4CMQ	27,540-270-51-15	
Connecticut	Vermont		Southern New Jersey		WA3ZAK	1652- 50-14-12	WA4EBN	11,692-148-37-19	
WA1LNQ*(WA1JLD opr.)	K2LE/1	38,060-346-55-13	WA2WJL	16,782-228-37-18	WB2JYU/3	784- 56- 7- 3	WB4NTB(WB4OE opr.)	WB4NTB 7784-139-28-10	
WA1VVK*	K1IIK	120-58-322-76-23	120- 5- 5	W2HFX	13,860-165-42-20	K3Z2X	526- 20-18- 5	W4JHE(multiloop)	22,680-251-45-
WA1STN*	27,553-285-49- 8		W2FGY	13,320-180-37-17	W3FCI	564- 38- 6- 18	WB4VLH(+WB4AJD)	2112- 44-24-12	
K1MNX	27,354-285-47-24		WA2CZI	10,560-160-33-21	490- 49- 5- 5				
WA1NZT	18,144-216-42- 5		W2HVO	8642-146-29-15	LUIBAR/W3(+LU2DX)	50,930-457-55-18	North Carolina		
WA1VGP	11,696-169-34- 3		WB2JU	7020-11-24-11	19,600-200-49-				
WA1AH1*	10,000-100-33- 7		WB2IP	208- 24- 4- 4					
WA1WFB*	8,152-138-32-13		WA2IAU	32- 8- 2- 14					
WA1VH	6600-100-33- 4		W2CCO(+WA1NGR)	22,656-233-48					
WA1GPK	6480-104-30- 4		K2BWR(+K2ZRJ)	15,752-179-44-					
AC1AW(WA3JSU,opr.)*	5880- 98-30- 4								
2									
W1CDC	4644-132-17- 6		Western New York		Western Pennsylvania				
W1IVB	4666- 75-29- 6		K2ARO	59,996-563-53-28	K4DJ	15,134-160-47-			
AD1WMQ	4048- 88-23- 6		K2BCB	44,096-414-53-19	WA4NQA	13,665-200-34- 5			
AC1YL*	3066- 73-21- 8		AB2BX	12,040-172-35-13	AA4MWP	740- 37-10- 7			
WA1UWR	2584- 68-19- 3		WA2UUH	11,616-172-33-15	WB4JKP	294- 14- 7-11			
K1ZZZ	1760- 54-16- 3		W2LW	8400-105-40-	WA4JLU	50- 5- 5- 1			
WA1KPN	1512- 53-14- 4		W2ZA	7752-109-34-	WB4FBF(multiloop)	57,728-451-64-32			
K1QPN	1100- 45-12- 4		K2RES	204- 17- 6-					
W1CKK*	768- 24-16-			3	Western Pennsylvania				
AB1ALW	456- 35- 6- 7				K3DE				
WA1GTP	176- 11- 8- 2		N.Y.C.-L.I.		WA3ESH				
W1VZ	168- 19- 4- 1		WB2FUN	49,078-458-53-30	WB3COT				
WA6IDN/1*	78- 13- 3- 1		WB2FUL	48,078-458-53-30	K3LVO				
WA1OBY(WA1QGC,opr.)	20- 9- 1- 1		W2AX	38,796-36-53-18	WB3CDD				
WA1AEE(WA1is QNF, SQB, WB8WBNS oprs.)	75,052-642-58-30		WB2MAN	30,014-346-43-15	WB3DDB				
Eastern Massachusetts			K2VOS	26,312-251-52-18					
WA1UHMN	57,228-502-57-27		WA2SUS	11,070-201-27-18	4	Northern Florida			
WA1VMU(WA2QJK,opr.)	39,102-399-49-23		WB2AMU	9042-135-33-20	W4LUN				
K1DC	34,272-357-48-10		WA2YHK	332- 9-18- 7	W4BYT				
WA1WOL	55,950-54-14-10		WB2DQP	257- 9-16- 4	W4WLB				
WA1ALE	152- 54-11-12		WA2GCL	1848- 2-12-	W4WHK				
WA1PNX	1188- 54-11-12		W2YEI	36- 4- 2- 1- 1	AA4UFW				
WA1KDL	480- 20-12- 5		W2KZE		WB4PTR				
W1MX(multiloop)	400- 25- 8- 2				WA4AOY				
30,240-313-48-									
Maine			Northern New Jersey						
K9EGA/2	82,290-630-65-		WA3NAF(multiloop)						
WA2NNP(WB2JVN,opr.)	65,094-566-57-26								
WA2UOO	36,450-402-45-11			580- 58- 5- 2					
WB2RJJ	21,804-237-46-								
WB2VFT	19,530-216-45-								
W2KHT	17,600-202-32-								
K2FE	3204- 89-18-20		W3HVM	16,030-227-35-					
WA2AJM	936- 52- 9- 6		W3PWO	12,348-147-42-21	WB4OSN	64,722-154-69			
WB2SXT	340- 34- 5- 3		WB5BA/3	8742-138-31-19	WB4PT	14,706-22-10-10			
W2UL	216- 8- 6- 2		K2PLF/3	4902-129-19-10	WB4PG	14,706-175-42- 6			
WA1FSZ	44,110-400-55-		WB3ALX	4068-109-18-18	WB4DXI	12,246-157-39- 6			
			WA3UPH	3774-111-17-	K4TSY	11,648-182-32- 2			
					K4HTU	9176-124-37-			
					WA4ZHU	7378-116-31- 6			
					WA4BDE	2852- 61-23-22			
					WB4RUA	3192- 76-21-11			
					WA4APG	2646- 63-21- 6			
					W4NWB	1020- 34-15-12			
					WA4QZT	560- 56- 5- 4			
					WB4WIC	96- 6- 3- 1- 1			
							Tennessee		
					WB4EDD(+KB4GF)	92,820-663-70-2			
					W4AQL(multiloop)	11,872-212-28-21			
					WB4NDX	48,856-394-62-26			
					WB4DUP	36,936-324-57-			

