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An ARRL Affiliated Club



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letin Board at 713-798-4955, or sent direct to the Editor on either 5 1/4" or 3 1/2" diskette, either DS/DD or DS/HD. If necessary, files may be sent to "Dr. William Schrader" via FAX at 713-790-1275. For those with VHF Packet and having access to any of the local Digipeaters, or able connect directly, ASCII text can be sent directly to the Editor. Contact W5ASP at (713) 974-3455 to arrange such file transfers.

NOTICE - The Bullsheet mailing list is being updated. If you are not a TDXS member and wish to continue to receive our newsletter, you must make a written request no later than April 1, 1991. Contact W5ASP should you have any questions.

Announcements

Meeting Notice - The Texas DX Society meets on the second Friday of each month except when the date is changed by the Board of Directors. This month the March meeting will take place on **Friday, March 8, 1991** at **St. Johns School** at the corner of Claremont and Westheimer Roads. Claremont is the name of Buffalo Speedway after it crosses north of Westheimer. There is a parking lot entrance just north of Westheimer. Park in the lot and follow the walkway to enter the school building. The meeting will take place in the auditorium/lecture hall and will begin about 7:30 P.M. Visitors are welcome to attend the meeting and may obtain help in finding the location by checking in on 147.96/36 MHz.

Program - The March program will feature our ARRL West Gulf Division Director, Tom Comstock, N5TC. Tom, who is a well known figure in Texas ham circles, hails from Aggie Land where he is a long time faculty member and sponsor of W5AC the TAMU Amateur Radio Club. This will be an excellent opportunity to talk over some the the dramatic changes taking place in amateur radio today. And Tom's a heck of a nice guy you'll enjoy getting to know.

Bullsheat Mailing List - TDXS wishes to provide the Bullsheet to those amateurs in the Houston area with an active interest in DXing and contesting. Donations to help defray publication and mailing costs are appreciated. Visitors to our club meetings will receive the Bullsheet for three months free of charge simply by signing the Attendance List and including their mailing address. Articles or other newsworthy items are hereby solicited by your editor. Articles should be submitted in the form of either ASCII files or as MS Word or WordPerfect word processor files. Files may be uploaded to the TDXS Bullsheat area on K2TNO's Bul-

DX Packet Clusters - The Waller County Contest and DX PacketCluster Bulletin Board (PCBS) is located in Hempstead, Texas operating on 144.990 MHz with the call KE5IV. A local digipeater is operational on 144.990 MHz from the Greenway Plaza area to provide access to this PacketCluster. This Digi has the alias TDXS. The suggested procedure is to connect with KE5IV via TDXS (C KE5IV V TDXS). There is a second port operating on 144.910 MHz, also under KE5IV's call. This affords those with higher ERP, particularly on the west side of Houston, the option of connecting directly with Hempstead and gives somewhat faster response.

The Galveston County DX PacketCluster, located in La Marque, is active under the call KC5SC and operates on 144.930 MHz and 144.970 MHz. It is usually connected with KE5IV via the 446.100 MHz backbone link. Stations in the southern parts of Houston may find it easier to connect with this cluster. AB5A located in Dickinson about 10 miles northwest of KC5SC operates another PacketCluster node regularly connected to the KC5SC PacketCluster via 446.100 MHz. This cluster features a 40 Meter HF Gateway on 7.089 MHz as well as limited access for local uses on the VHF port.

The local clusters are frequently linked into Austin, Dallas and beyond for added DX coverage, especially during contests. In addition to listing current DX spots, the system provides access to a wide variety of DX related information such as the W6GO QSL Manager list, Russian oblasts, WWV propagation, beam headings, etc. Users are requested to limit their use of these "databases" to off-peak hours so as to minimize the side effects on others. A quick check of the status shown in the opening message which appears upon connection will indicate the number of nodes/users active at the time. Otherwise all users are encouraged to query the various data banks and make full use of their many features. A complete list of the PacketCluster commands can be obtained by sending a S.A.S.E. to the TDXS at the address shown above.

DX Report

de Bob, AK5B

Mexico...Have you been yet? If not you really ought to plan on going. Seems the guys had a super time at XE2FU for the CW weekend of ARRL DX. They, K5LZO Chuck, W5ASP Joe, and AC5K Wes did a super job. Looks like 4152 QSOs with 326 Mults for a bit over 4 Meg. Not bad for their M/S effort. Seems they even had time to put up the new 204 BA, and that was after first dropping it from 70 feet!

The SSB weekend of ARRL DX will be between now and when you get to read this. By all early accounts there should be a large crew show up for it. Tommy, KD5SP and another West Texas ham are coming down from Odessa, Eric, NM5M will be in from Dallas, and I think a few first-timers from the club will be making the trip. I'll have to pass this year (after making the last couple) due to work. However, I should get a chance to work 'em from this end for a change.

Saw the following in the *BARN*, that's the Beaumont Amateur Radio News, and thought it a good item to pass along. Due to the recent increase in the postage rates, if you have any envelopes at the **W5 QSL Bureau**, don't forget to send along a few stamps to make up the difference. Since they are only four cent'ers, why not put in a few cents extra, to make up for those people that don't read the *Bullsheat* or the *BARN*. The folks at the W5 Bureau do a tedious and sometimes thankless job, so a nice note with your stamps would also be a welcome treat for them.

For those of you that will be attending the Dayton Ham-Venture this year, you might want to think about the **Sixth Annual DX Dinner** sponsored by the Southwest Ohio DX Association to be held Friday, April 26, at Stouffers Hotel. Last year the house was packed, so make plans early. Send a check for \$25.00 and a SASE for your tickets to Scott Lehman, N9AG, Box 803, Greenville, Ohio 45331.

The big DX news again concerns Mr. Jim Smith, VK9NS and Bangladesh, S2. His application has been approved and they are to notify him by sending a "Telex of Invitation". He's planning to arrive late on the 10th of March, and operate for at least two weeks. He has verbal agreement to operate CW and RTTY in addition to SSB.

He also cautions stations against making needless insurance contacts, i.e. same band, mode, etc. Jim says that those stations may find themselves in difficulties with QSL cards. (Sounds like Carl and Martha when they were in Africa.) And if you are so inclined, it's not too late to send donations to the HIDXA, Box 90, Norfolk Island, Australia 2899.

Jim also reports that he has received permission for a return to A51, Bhutan. He and Kirste are scheduled to arrive in Thimphu on May 1 for a two week expedition. Sure hope we get a chance at a CW QSO from this part of the world this time around. (Guess you can tell I missed him on CW last time.)

March 1st...another item for this month...now you can submit those 701AA and 708AA for the "new country" Yemen Republic. Also this is the month to get in any cards you may want to submit for inclusion in the next Honor Roll listing.

Had a strange aerial problem over at NSDC, Jims' QTH. Seems the SWR was erratic and would get better after a shot from the Alpha. K5LZO, Chuck and I went over to give Jim a hand with the 205. This is after some professional (and expensive) tower work had already been done trying to fix the problem. So Jim, ole had knees himself, scurried up the tower and replaced the driven element insulators. WaLa! That did it!

The old insulators looked pretty rough on top. Guess the sun and Houston pollution had done the deed to them and they were trying to break down. Thanks also to Kenny KE5IV for bringing in the gin-pole and rope. Now Jim is ready for Spratly.

That's it for this time. Remember to drop by the Tuesday night net and pass along any juicy DX to the locals. 73 es gud DX.

US Postal Rate Changes

de Joe, W5ASP

On February 3, 1991 the new US postage rates became effective. For those of you still hot on the QSL trail here are the facts, like it or not.

Within the US first-class postage is now \$0.29 for the first ounce, \$0.23 for each additional ounce. The temporary "F" stamps may NOT be used outside the US. Postcards, e.g. QSLs, are \$0.19.

The regular postage to Canada is now \$0.40 for the first ounce and cards are \$0.30, reportedly all via airmail. Be sure to clearly mark all items AIR MAIL.

To Mexico the regular postage is \$0.35 for a HALF-OUNCE via airmail. Cards are \$0.30. Mark them AIR MAIL.

For all other countries the rate is \$0.50 per HALF-OUNCE via airmail. Watch the weight when sending multiple cards, e.g. via a Manager, Bureau, etc. The second half-ounce is an additional \$0.45 and remaining ounces are \$0.39 each. Cards are \$0.40 airmail. Again mark everything AIR MAIL.

According to the Postal Service IRCs are still \$0.95 each, and IRCs received from outside the US can be exchanged here for \$0.50 of US postage. However, not all US Postal Service employees are acquainted with IRCs. Don't be surprised if you get conflicting stories.

Contest Corner

de Ken, NZ5I

Well another ARRL DX CW Contest bites the dust! I hope you had a chance to get on the air for at least a little while and have some fun runnin' em. Propagation was excellent into Europe (not such good news for the XE2FU effort!).

For me it was good to get on again. I had the good fortune to operate 28 MHz single band from NR5M. I had a blast! Frank, KE4GY went for it on 7 MHz single band while Ken, KE5IV kept the station humming.

Before the contest NM5M coached me and helped me devise a strategy for 10 Mtrs. I have never really done much on the high bands. Boy have I been missing out (you have to remember I'm but a babe in the woods - licensed in '85 when there was no 10 Mtrs)!

Basically my strategy was as follows. Goal - 1K QSO's and 110-120 Mults. Be on the air 1130-1200 Z for AF/EU until 0600 Z pushing northern Latitude for EU while moving the antenna(s) a lot! Five CQ's with no answer means a frequency change. Don't fight over frequencies (this is really hard!). Budget a little time each hour to look for mults. If rate gets to 30 or below, hunt and pounce. Keep fingers on rotor control box. Look for JA around 2000, but don't leave Europe until 2200-2230 for JA run. I pretty much stuck to the strategy.

In retrospect I made a couple of costly errors, but I feel pretty good about myself. NR5M 10 Mtrs plays like nobody's business. I just flat don't know the code yet and that cost me a

bunch. (That problem will be solved by the end of the year!) I also don't manage the pile up well, need experience.

I made some random notes during the contest, some of which I'd like to share with you folks. Maybe some of you "Strokey Dudes" and "contesting studs" can help me out here.

I hate QRP Operators! They are a lot of work and I lose rate trying to work them. Do the winning ops mess with them? JA's duped me like crazy! I now not only ring the multiplier bell, I ring a dupe attempt bell too. Is this new or is it just noticeable because of the computer?

I hate weak stations! At what point does one decide not to answer that faint nothingness calling you from the edge of the universe? Does anybody really believe that PWR is 300? If I copied the wrong PWR more than 2% of the total am I disqualified? Does anyone check this?

Random question (KE4GY on 7 MHz) how does one "fit" into 20 or 40 Mtrs when the band is wide open?

I am sure I invited more ops like K1AR to plant their fannies right between me and Europe multiple times just because I used my own, unintimidating, unknown call sign. I should have used NR5M then they would have thought I was one of the TDXS Strokey Dudes and ran away to hide out of fear! Am I right?

I Loved JA on Saturday and I couldn't find JA's on Sunday! It seemed like I worked nothing but Universities and retirees on Sunday and those were dupes! Why can't JA have Emperors Day on the 2/19?

Oh well. I know you must be thinking that I have turned into a monster in a single weekend - not true. No attitude problem here. I had an absolute blast. I'm really looking for some help with the above questionnaire, if you have the answers for us up and coming young pups (*).

Time to go listen to my sub-liminal code tape...watch out KKN, you six you! Oh, and sorry John. Nothing personal.

(* If you can help our young "would-be-contester" with sage answers, drop it on him and we'll publish in the next issue. ed)

Get those logs in! NA Sprint CW & SSB Should be in the mail

Kudos to all of those whose scores appear in the following summary for their contest activities and efforts. (Said it before...and I'll say it again...if I miss out in recognizing your contest effort it's out of ignorance and I apologize. Report your scores to either myself or our editor!)

Contest Scores

Results

1990 IARU HF World Championship

GM0ECO.....1520 Q....116 Mlt.....686,488 Pts
#7 World S/O Phone (#1 United Kingdom)

1990 CQ World-Wide WPX SSB

KE5FI #1 USA S/O 3.5 Mhz...571 Q...325 M...216 K
WN4KKN/5 #1 USA S/O 28 Mhz...1572 Q...624 M...1.88 M
W5WMU #3 USA S/O 28 Mhz...1587 Q...582 M...1.56 M
K13L/5 #7 5th S/O A/B.....502 Q...327 M...330 K
K5DX #14 5th S/O A/B.....120 Q...98 M...34 K
GM0ECO(&W5ASP) #17 EU M/S...2544Q...741 M...4.41 M

Claimed

1991 CQ World-Wide 160 M SSB

KE5FI.....672 Q.....72 Mlt.....112 K

1991 ARRL International DX CW

K5MA/2....2185 Q.....331 Mlt.....2.17 M...A/B
K13L/5.....589 Q.....184 Mlt.....325 K...A/B
AK5B.....235 Q.....121 Mlt.....A/B
NZ5I.....843 Q.....77 Mlt.....193 K...28 Mhz
KE4GY/5....575 Q.....74 Mlt.....43 K...7 Mhz
XE2FU.....4152 Q....326 Mlt.....4.06 M...M/S
(Ops. K5LZO, W5ASP, ACSK)

10-10 International

KC5CP.....1200 Q

NA Sprint CW

K5LZO.....268 x 41
KN5H/3.....254 x 39
K5TU.....138 x 33
K13L/5.....240 x 35
W5ASP.....160 x 34
WN4KKN/6...323 x 40
KE4GY/5.....179 x ?

NA Sprint SSB

K5LZO.....308 x 51
KD5SP.....159 x 38
W5ASP.....240 x 43
KE4GY/5.....59 x 24

Big Time DX Contesting

de Slim, RG8U

For those of you who have participated in a major multi-operator effort during a full weekend DX contest, the following will bring back memories.

The Six Phases of a Contest

1. Precontest Enthusiasm (nothing can stop us this year!)
2. Midcontest Disillusionment (where's the rate?)
3. Last Hour Panic (is that all the mults we have?)
4. Postcontest Search for the Guilty (after hearing the scores being given out on 3830 Mhz.)
5. Monday Morning Punishment of the Innocent (over the local repeater)
6. Praise and Honors for the Non Participants (at the following month's club meeting)

Upcoming Events

March 02.....ARRL International DX SSB Contest
March 08.....Texas DX Society Monthly Meeting
March 08.....Japan International CW DX Conntest
March 09.....31st Annual Lafayette Hamfest
March 16.....Bermuda Contest
March 30.....CQ World-Wide WPX SSB Contest
April 6.....SP (Poland) DX Contest
April 12.....Texas DX Society Monthly Meeting
April 12.....International DX Meeting, Visalia, CA

The WPX Contest

de Randy, K5ZD

(The following article appeared in the February 1982 issue of the Bullsheat. With the CQ World-Wide WPX SSB contest coming up at the end of the month Randy's comments are well worth going over again. Some of you will recognize with regret that the vast JA runs of that era are no longer with us, but it's still well worth turning the beams NW at the times indicated..ed)

The WPX is probably the most interesting of the "major" world wide DX contests. The exchange is signal report plus QSO number, and the multiplier is the number of different prefixes worked. For some reason the WPX does not produce the W/VE activity of the CQ WW or ARRL contests but its DX participation is equal to the CQ WW. This makes the WPX a DX bonanza for the USA entrant, especially if your call is one the alphabet soup concoctions of the FCC.

One thing which confuses people about the WPX is the definition of a prefix. I will not give the exact rules here, but show some examples which should cover most situations which will be met in the contest. The following are prefixes: A35, DL1, JA1, KM5, W6, WA6, XE3, XZ9, etc. If a station is portable in another country, that country is the prefix which counts. DL2AA/W5 = W5, W3AAA/KH6 = KH6, HB9MX/LX = LX0. The last example shows that a country prefix with no number should be counted as call area 0. WBSQDW/4 = WB4, JA1XXX/7 = JA7. A prefix can have a maximum of three characters. This becomes important for calls such as LZ100KDP which can only be counted as LZ1.

The WPX has a rule which acts as a great equalizer for participants in different parts of the country. This rule states that 18 hours of time off must be taken in not more than five periods. Since only five off times can be taken, the contest becomes one of skill and time management rather than endurance.

Off time management is probably the most important aspect of an all band WPX effort. The suggestions presented here should work regardless of your station size. This is true because WPX is very oriented to the high bands. The idea is to be on when and where the DX action is. The key times to take off are around 0800-1200, 1900-2100 Saturday and 0800-1200, 1900-2400 Sunday. This leaves one off time of approximately three hours for emergencies, surprises, or solar storms. Last year I used the extra off time on Saturday evening when the did not come in on 15.

Because multipliers are so abundant in the WPX they do not have the significance they do in a regular DX contest. This does not mean you should not try to maximize your multiplier, just that you should not waste much time calling a multiplier. For an average effort, the value of a multiplier is about 1.5 QSO's. There are so many multipliers available that it becomes more important to keep the rate of DX QSO's up than chase multipliers. If you make a lot of QSO's, you will have a good multiplier. This is even true for a single band entry although the QSO/multiplier ratio will be slightly higher.

A good place to start the contest is on 10 or 15 meters. Wherever you can run DX. The last few years, 15 M has been very good to Japan. Follow the MUF down to 20 M and take short trips to 40 after about 0400Z. The DX which is on 40 is usually easy to work but don't let the rate fall. Play 20 and 40 until about 0800z. This is when the Europeans start to fade on 20 M.

Take an off time until about 1130Z if you have a 40 M signal. Work JAs on 40 and then head for 10 and 15 as the sun rises. Ten ends up being hot band all morning.

As the Europeans begin to fade on 10, spend some time combing the bands for easy USA prefixes. About 1900Z take a short off time until the JAs begin to come in on 10 around 2230z.

After the evening JAs, head for the Europeans on 20 and 40. If things are slow, consider an off time around 0300 to 0530Z. This brings you back on as 20 M starts its sunrise sweep across Europe.

The second morning's off time should be longer than the first. Take off 0800Z to around 1230Z. Start on ten meters since the other bands are usually not productive enough to warrant much attention. The rest of the contest is a push to keep up until your 30 hours of operating time expires. This should end the contest around 1930Z which gives you the afternoon to spend on something constructive.

Good Luck!

The GAP

de Ken, NZ5I

(The following is a product review of the Challenger DX Antenna, more popularly know as the "GAP"..ed)

Introduction

Interested in a simple, solid vertical for HF operation? Have I got news for you. I recently bought and installed a new vertical antenna called the Challenger DX manufactured by Gap Antenna Products. After using this rather interesting antenna for a short while I thought it would be good to share some of my experience and impressions with others.

G.A.P.'s ads can be found in the usual ham magazines, and if you inquire by telephone about the product, you'll have no problem getting your questions answered. I spoke to Rich at G.A.P. and found that he was pleasant and knowledgeable. He sent me a brochure which thoroughly answered my many questions. I was particularly interested in the fact that the entire antenna is always active and that ground mounting was recommended. I was also happy with the requirements in the ground radial department was limited. I ordered one, and it arrived a few days later via UPS.

Putting It Together

Assembly was supposed to take a half an hour according to G.A.P.'s literature...I don't think so. It took me at least two hours, including the time it took to figure out which piece of tubing was which. It is fairly straight forward once this is done. G.A.P. would make this much less painful if they labeled the tubes somehow. It is very easy to start bolting the wrong tubes to each other by accident. There are no measurements or adjustments required, either during or after assembly.

About the only things needed in addition to what is shipped in the box are a small bag of concrete, 137' of 10/12 GA wire (for 7 radials), and some nylon cord for simple guying (highly recommended). Though the antenna components are of very good quality, the 32 ft antenna is very much susceptible to bending in the wind. This is why I used the nylon cord guys. The radials are for 40 M (4x15') and 80 M (3x25'). If you install the antenna the way G.A.P. suggests you'll be able to remove the antenna fairly easily if that becomes necessary.

Once assembled, the documentation gives you a quick check to ensure good connections. I think that this could be

expanded to be a little bit more comprehensive and should include a full suite of continuity checks with diagrams.

The antenna as shipped would not make a very good DXpedition antenna because of the size of the box. I mentioned this to G.A.P. and they gave some advice on how the antenna could be modified to suit this purpose. This included pre-tapping the screw holes and cutting the long tubing and inserting sleeves. Seems like a lot of trouble to me to be honest.

One disappointing thing for me was the absence of 30 meters. This is something G.A.P. has been wrestling with, but no solution has been found to add this band without messing up the others.

Tuneup and Performance

The antenna has played well for me. It seems to have a very low angle of radiation and provides good DX into Europe. I used it for ARRL SS fone and code and found that it was very difficult to hear anyone in the midwest. Both coasts were loud and my reports were consistently very good running barefoot. The antenna is not as noisy as I had expected a vertically mounted antenna would be. G.A.P. claims this to be a function of their design in the documentation. The bandwidth by band is really very good. Here are some of my SWR numbers as an example.

- 28.001 -29.348 Mhz 2:1
- 29.348 -29.680 Mhz 3:1
- 21.001 -21.449 Mhz 2.2:1
- 14.001 -14.349 Mhz 1.9:1
- 7.001 - 7.299 Mhz 1.3:1
- 3.542 - 3.690 Mhz 2.9:1

The documentation claims that 90% of the antenna is used at all times indicating good efficiency.

A word of warning on 75/80 meters. Don't run the amplifier if the SWR is high, it will melt the coax inside the tubing! The antenna comes tuned to 3600 Khz (with approx 130 KHz Bandwidth) out of the box, but this can be altered before it is shipped if you ask.

Conclusion

All in all this antenna plays real well. I'm extremely happy that I got value for my bucks (roughly \$200.00). Towers and beams are great, but if for some reason you need to do something less for a while this antenna is absolutely worth a look.

Packet Racket

de Ken, KE5IV

The 1991 ARRL DX CW contest is behind us for another year. During the contest there were 833 DX announcements put out on the Packcluster. The experiment using the "limited protocol" mode during the contest period seemed to definitely speed up the transfer of information between the 13 interconnected nodes. (The limited protocol mode apparently disables certain time consuming features as Show/Users, Show/Config, etc. and restrains the use of Talk and Mail to one liners..ed)

With the ARRL DX SSB contest scheduled for the weekend of March 2/3, there will again be a dramatic surge in the number of DX announcements. With the Solar Flux index running over 300 at the current time, the high bands should be in really super shape. That means that the PacketCluster system will be very busy. The KE5IV cluster will again be operating under limited protocol for the duration of the contest. We can go over your experiences with the system at the March meeting.

Here is a breakdown of the DX announcements, by continent and band, that appeared on the PacketCluster during the CW weekend.

Statistics

	160	80	40	20	15	10	Total	%
North America	9	67	17	27	34	44	198	23.8
South America	2	12	04	04	17	12	51	6.1
Europe	4	92	45	66	37	113	357	42.9
Asia	0	13	16	30	22	19	100	12.0
Oceania	0	14	04	14	17	12	61	7.3
Africa	0	10	18	07	12	17	64	7.7

The next breakdown is strictly by band (and mode..Yes, there were some SSB DX announcements!)

Number of DX spots per band

Band	Freq	Number of DX spots	% of total
160	1800- 2000	15	1.8%
80	3500- 3775	196	23.5%
75,ssb	3775- 4000	10	1.2%
80 M Band total =			24.7%
40	7000- 7150	104	12.5%
40,ssb	7150- 7300	0	0.0%
40 M Band total =			12.5%
30	10100-10150,	0	0.0%
20	14000-14150	140	16.8%
20,ssb	14150-14350	9	1.1%
20 M Band total =			17.9%
17	18068-18110	0	0.0%
17,ssb	18110-18168	0	0.0%
15	21000-21250	135	16.2%
15,ssb	21250-21450	4	0.5%
15 M band total =			16.7%
12	24890-24930	0	0.0%
12,ssb	24930-24990	1	0.1%
10	28000-28300	189	22.7%
10,ssb	28300-29700	28	3.4%
10 M band total =			26.1%
6	50000-54000	0	0.0%
2	144000-14800	0	0.0%

The most active day was Saturday, February 16, 1991 with a total of 551 DX spots called in.

I would like to thank those users who took the time to tune around and put out the DX announcements.

Work is already underway that will result in the TDXS setting up another PacketCluster node located in the immediate Houston area, within the next several months. The AK1A PacketCluster software originally issued for KSDX has been updated and will be used for this new node. Our Repeater Chairman, K2TNO, along with N5DC and W5ASP, are currently putting all the pieces together (a two meter radio is still on the need list..ed).

The new node, KSDX, will be limited to handling DX spots and WWV readings. None of the databases presently found on KE5IV will be duplicated. More on this as it happens.

As this issue goes to press, the TDXS crew now at Enrique's (XE2FU) for the SSB portion of the ARRL DX should be in high gear. With the flux as high as it has been, there should be some big scores posted. Let's hope their's is the best! I hope to see most of you at the meeting!

PacketCluster Tips

To find out what are the active PacketCluster nodes in Texas enter **SH/DXNODES TX** to see the following list

Texas DX Nodes/DX Networks:

Abilene	AA5AX	144.950
Austin	KG5ND	144.950
Carrollton	WA5YKD	144.950
Dallas	K5GH	144.970
Dallas	NJ5N	144.950
Dallas	W5XJ	144.930
Dickinson	AB5A	7.098
Edinburg	K5TSQ	145.510
Hempstead	KE5IV	144.910
Hempstead	KE5IV	144.990 (Digi NODE TDXS)
Ft. Worth	K9MK	144.910
Ft. Worth	NJ5N	144.990
Lubbock	KASEJX	145.050
Midland	WF5E	144.910 (144.97 via Digi KE5PL)
San Antonio	W5QCB	Freq. Unknown
Texas City	KC5SC	144.930
Texas City	KC5SC	144.970
Tyler	KD5GD	144.990

To find out the specific command needed to access any one of the many databases available from the PacketCluster enter **SH/COM**.

- SHOW/ALLOC ITU Allocation Table SHOW/BAND Frequency Allocation by License Class by ND5D
- SHOW/BUREAU Direct addresses for QSL Bureaus
- SHOW/CONTEST Contest data prepared by K6PBT
- SHOW/COORD Coordinates of U.S. Cities & DX Locations
- SHOW/DXCC ARRL DXCC Countries List with deletions
- SHOW/DXNODES Information on other PacketClusters
- SHOW/DEALER A List of Amateur Dealers prepared by K6PBT
- SHOW/FCC A List of F.C.C. Field offices and services
- SHOW/FLUX Sunspot data by year
- SHOW/IOTA A Listing of Islands on the Air
- SHOW/INFO Useful info tables for the operator
- SHOW/IRC Quantities of IRC's required for reply mail
- SHOW/MIC Info on wiring radios to TNC's by KC4LWI
- SHOW/NEWUSER A Help file for new users on the PacketCluster
- SHOW/NL Southeast Texas User's Needlist
- SHOW/OBLAST USSR Oblast
- SHOW/QSL QSL route info from W6GO/K6HHD and others
- SHOW/ZONE Lookup table of CQ Zones
- SHOW/800 800 Numbers for Amateur Radio dealers
- SHOW/QSLOLD Old QSL routes from the archives of W6GO/K6HHD
- SHOW/QSLNEW QSL Updates gathered on this Packet Cluster

DX BULLETIN

FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT
MARCH 1, 1991
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS

WE WISH STEVE, W9NUF, WITH THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS DX ASSOCIATION, A SPEEDY RECOVERY AFTER RETURNING HOME YESTERDAY FROM A STAY IN THE HOSPITAL. SINCE STEVE COULD NOT WRITE THE DX BULLETIN THIS WEEK, WE WANT TO THANK PAUL, KB1BE, WITH THE CONNECTICUT DX ASSOCIATION FOR THE FOLLOWING DX INFORMATION FROM THE DXCC DESK.

TODAY, MARCH 1, 1991 IS THE FIRST DAY THAT THE 701AA AND 708AA QSL CARDS WILL BE ACCEPTED BY THE DXCC DESK FOR THE NEW YEMEN REPUBLIC. MANY OF THE 708AA QSL CARDS WERE SHIPPED IN PACKAGES AT BULK RATE. THEY WERE NOT ACCEPTED BY THE POSTAL SERVICE OF FRANCE AND HAVE BEEN RETURNED. QSL MANAGERS IN FRANCE WILL HAVE TO INDIVIDUALLY STAMP THE ENVELOPES AND SHIP THEM FROM FRANCE.

ETHIOPIA, ET. ET2A, JACK, IS ACTIVE DAILY ON 21300 KHZ AROUND 1830 UTC OPERATING BOTH NET AND AND 28600 KHZ AROUND 1900 UTC. BOTH JACK AND SECOND OPERATOR, SCOTT, ARE AMERICANS WORKING WITH THE RED CROSS IN ETHIOPIA. QSL VIA PETER, WB2WOW.

BANGLADESH, S2. VK9NS, JIM SMITH SHOULD BE EN ROUTE TO DHAKA SHORTLY. HE HAS PERMISSION FOR CW, SSB AND RTTY AND EXPECTS TO OPERATE FOR TWO WEEKS AFTER ARRIVING LATE ON MARCH 10TH. HIS CALL SIGN WILL BE EITHER S21U OR HIS REQUESTED CALL OF S21JS. QSL VIA VK9NS.

CAMEROON, TJ. TJ1BJ IS NOW ACTIVE ON 75 METERS ON SATURDAY AROUND 0500 UTC. CHECK 3795 KHZ. ALSO, ON SATURDAYS AND MONDAYS, LOOK FOR HIM AROUND 1230 UTC ON 21303 KHZ. QSL VIA K4UTE.

CYPRUS, BRITISH SOVERIGN BASES, ZC4. GLYNN, G4MVA IS NOW STATIONED HERE FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS. HE WILL SIGN ZC4CZ ON ALL BANDS WITH EMPHASIS ON CW.

ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX PHONE CONTEST. GOOD LUCK THIS WEEKEND, MARCH 2 AND 3, IN THE ANNUAL ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX PHONE CONTEST. IT RUNS A FULL 48 HOURS FROM 0000 UTC SATURDAY, MARCH 2 UNTIL 2400 UTC ON SUNDAY, MARCH 3. REMEMBER THAT THE 10, 18 AND 24 MHZ BANDS ARE EXCLUDED FROM THE CONTEST. LOGS MAY BE SUBMITTED ON IBM COMPATIBLE, MS-DOS FORMATTED DISKETTES, EITHER 3.5 OR 5.25 INCH, 40 OR 80 TRACK. THE LOG INFORMATION MUST BE IN AN ASCII FILE, FOLLOWING THE ARRL SUGGESTED STANDARD FILE FORMAT AND CONTAINING ALL LOG EXCHANGE INFORMATION.