We reached a milestone just this last month as member #100, June Page, M0BUE signed up! She and hubby Chris, G4BUE will be spending part of each year in Sebring and Chris got his first exposure to SS CW 2 weeks ago! Thanks to everyone’s efforts in keeping this club on the move upward.

Also welcome aboard to Dave, AE4MR, our West Central Florida Section Manager; Ed, K8DSS who I’ve known for years via his tireless efforts with the Sarasota Emergency Radio Club (he’s currently President); Red, K0LUZ, SS CW op extraordinaire, who has been active for many years in a wide variety of contests, including many at the N4WW station near Orlando; Bob, K4RFK who was quite active in the FQP back in April; and old friend Julio, AD4Z/HI3K who I enjoyed working often as HI3JH when I was back up in CT.

Not many club Presidents would be writing their lead articles literally halfway through the fall contest season, at least as we define it in this club. We concentrate as a club on the 2 weekends of CQWW and SS, plus the 10-Meter Contest. Thus, the halfway point is literally halfway through SS SSB and here I am at the keyboard! Hopefully, many of you are on the air and enjoying SS SSB. It certainly was a blast from here last year with 2 full-time Multi-Singles sharing my shack! However, lightning damage here nearly 3 months ago, combined with a heavy travel schedule, has prevented any sort of station from reappearing here for the moment.

Thanks again to Bill, K4XS for hosting the October meeting at his VFB place (that’s a CW abbreviation meaning Very Fine Business, Bill-hi). Being retired allowed Bill to fully recover from his own bout with lightning. Several folks made quite a long trek to attend that meeting! We had a lengthy discussion on operating strategy for WW SSB and SS CW that hopefully helped out a few scores in the weeks that followed.

Ulysses, now NS4W, coordinated the meeting last weekend up at UCF east of Orlando. Jeff, WC4E and I went over early and successfully helped them get their 40M beam to resonate within the band. Ulysses had planned a FT effort in the School Club sub-contest within SS SSB this weekend, so I hope 40M played a solid part in his effort. SS SSB and CQWW CW were the central topics that day, along with WRTC2002 funding. Fred did his usual thorough job in summarizing each of those meetings and summaries can be found within this issue on pages 5-6 and 9.

Well, CQWW SSB sure enjoyed great conditions, at least for the first day or so. Are we actually at the peak of the cycle now? Look on page 11 at the club scores – wow! If I add this up correctly, over 40 of our members were on the air that weekend, with several precincts not yet reporting! High band numbers, especially 10M, were remarkable for many folks. Despite crushing W4MYA on 10M, our N4TO team of mostly CW guys ended up just shy of them overall and will now put our fate in the hands of the log-checkers for top W4 M/M.
It looks like the FCG packet node helped at least 4 of our members enter as Assisted, not to mention the assistance to the Multi-ops. A “gotcha” related to Daylight Savings Time caused spot activity on Sunday to be spotty on our node, though. Relatively new member T93M scored really well from FG, as did stalwarts VP5DX and K4XS. The Panhandle team at N4PN loved Paul’s 40M beam and cranked out a nice MS score! Check out the PJ2Z article on page 3. Jeff and the 8s did real well M/S. My very first DXpedition was in July 1978 for IARU, as I joined 3 others at the PJ9JT house for a world-winning Multi-Single. Congrats to the CCC for successfully renovating that place and making Curacao a routine multiplier again. One of my favorite WW SSB moments this year was having new member Jim, 5U7JK stop the pileup for a minute to explain to the world all about the FCG and orange shirts!

FCGers also came out in force for CW SS. See page 12 for our scores so far. With over 30 entries, we are on pace to become an Unlimited club entry for the first time ever! Look out NCCC and SOMC!

Check out the pictures and descriptions of W4UM’s “stuff”! Isn’t it the ultimate to have the ends of your elements hanging over the neighbors’ yards? I pretty much figured out the smoke part, but the mirrors…

Meanwhile, somehow, FQP 2001 log checking continues. I’ve managed to get through the first pass of cross-checking non-FL QSOs with FL QSOs. I sense a general improvement in logging accuracy this year which is encouraging to see. You think Cabrillo is standard? Not yet! We received as many different variations of Cabrillo logs this time as we did variations of any electronic format in prior years. Anyway, it’ll be exciting to finally endorse the largest number of out-of-state county sweeps ever! The amount of mobile activity this year was unprecedented and each county was covered at least twice!

That’s all for now. Let’s keep having fun, learning a few things along the way, and piling up those points for the FCG! See you at the SE Division Convention and FCG meeting! We’ll be talking about tips on operating the ARRL 10-Meter Contest, among other topics.

vy 73, Dan

Welcome Aboard

The following new members have joined FCG since the last newsletter:

# 98 AE4MR Dave Ambrust, 3024 Salem Avenue, Sarasota FL 34231-5120 e-mail: ae4mr@arrl.org

# 99 W4/G4BUE Chris Page, 312 Quail Avenue, Sebring FL 33872 e-mail: g4bue@adur-press.co.uk

# 100 W4/M0BUE June Page - same address and e-mail

# 101 K8DSS Ed Gansen, 3561 Fair Oaks Lane, Longboat Key FL 34228 e-mail: k8dss@arrl.net

# 102 K0LUZ Red Letchford, 214 Tollgate Trail, Longwood, FL 32750 e-mail: gary@topusa.com

# 103 K4RFK Bob Konier, P. O. Box 152317, Cape Coral FL 33915 e-mail: k4rfk@arrl.net

# 104 AD4Z Julio Henriquez, 8875 NW 108th Street, Hialeah Gardens, FL 33018 e-mail: ad4z@dxdx.net

Events Calendar

CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW 0000Z, Nov 24 - 2400Z, Nov 25

December FCG Meeting @ Tampa Bay Hamfest & SE Division Convention December 2nd 11 am @ the Manatee Civic Center in Bradenton.

ARRL 160-Meter Contest 2200Z, Dec 7 - 1600Z, Dec 9

ARRL 10-Meter Contest 0000Z, Dec 15 - 2400Z, Dec 16

Stew Perry Topband Challenge 1500Z, Dec 29 - 1500Z, Dec 30

SARTG New Year RTTY Contest 0800Z - 1100Z, Jan 1

ARRL RTTY Roundup 1800Z, Jan 5 - 2400Z, Jan 6

North American QSO Party, CW 1800Z, Jan 12 - 0600Z, Jan 13

PJ2Z in CQ WW SSB 2001 was first operation to fully test the “new” station at “Signal Point”. Signal point, a new name coined by the group CCC (Caribbean Contesting Consortium normally PJ2T) to the old classic station of John Thompson PJ9JT. John sold the station to the CCC in 1999. They did a fantastic job renovating the house and upgrading the station to a world class contest station over the summer. The PJ2Z team consisted of Jeff KU8E, Pat N8VW, Ron K8NZ, Geoff W0CG and myself. I arrived at the Curacao airport Tuesday afternoon with heavy armed security surrounding the airplane as we debarked the plane. From the airport, we proceeded to a couple local stores which surprised me with a large selection of food and drinks just like the states! With a car full of contest food, off to the station with a long list of things to do before the contest. That afternoon we unloaded and immediately started working on the antenna projects. First was the beverage toward the states. Curacao is mostly a arid place with cactus and very thorny bushes called “wabi” I found that out quickly as we strung the beverage radials in the dark near the shore. The following two days were long days of antenna work starting with a 5el 6M beam above the old Classic 33 that was there for so many years. Following that was the 5el Hygain 20 Meter beam and two 5el 10M beams facing the states. As I was standing on the top plate above that CL33 I thought of all QSOs and people that operated that antenna including our own K1TO and K4OJ and possibly others, it was overwhelming at the moment. KU8E and N8VW put up a 3el quad loop array pointed to Europe, while Geoff and I strung up an Inverted Vee for the states. The nights were filled with getting the station ready and four computer hooked up and networked. I was still working with the network up until 10 minutes before the start. At the start of the contest, everything fell together and off to the races we went.

. I guess because of my nonstop antenna work they let me start the contest. I started on 20M with an average of 230 QSO/hr. What a blast, it so much fun to be on the DX end of the pileup. I worked everyone as fast as I could with “N4TO finini” while the others work multipliers on the other bands. The low band operators of KU8E and N8VW took over and had a 195 hour on 75 and over 100 Q/hr into Japan on 40M. Saturday morning came and Ron and I took the high bands. 10 meters was the place to be, I had hours around 300/hour, even worked 9 QSOs a minute for a short while. The contest wasn’t with out it’s glitches, the nice LK800 amp (left over from the Finish PJ9W operation) blew components in the power supply leaving us with one small amp for the low bands and multiplier station. Also, the solar disturbance hit us pretty hard Sunday morning leaving us with a very slow mornings with runs in the mid 50’s for several hours. The bands recovered and back to ten for most of day. We alternated operators in the afternoon to spread the rate fun for all of us finishing out on 15 and the last hour on 20 meters. Overall the contest and first shakedown of “signal point” was a success, we ended up with 8338 QSOs, 168 zones, and 603 countries for just under 19 million points. We should finish in the top 5 in the very competitive M/S category. We had so much fun, and even more antennas planned, we are even planning a possible sequel for next years’ CQ WW SSB. For more pictures and info of the PJ2Z operation, go to the CCC web site at http://asgard.kent.edu/ccc/ and my pictures at http://photos.yahoo.com/jbolda. QSL via N9AG. Can’t wait until the next CQ WW SSB!
Ed Note: Although the fall contest season is well under-
way, here are a couple of checklists sent in by members 
recently that you may find useful;

A Pre-Contest Checklist
from Tim EI8IC on October 25, 2001

Set the computer clock to the correct date and exact GMT 
time.
Caps Lock and Num Lock set as required.
Configure Logging Program for this contest.
Load the CW or Voice Memories, and listen to them through 
the rig.
Prepare the Keyboard Overlay sheet.
Simulate five qsos on computer, then erase log file.
Check computer is on same band and mode as transceiver.
Print out full Contest Rules, and re-
read them.
Print out latest Propagation Forecast for the bands needed.
Print out Contest Bandplans from EI8IC’s pages.
Print out Announced Operations from NG3K’s pages.
Print out your Logging Program command-set.
Prepare Floppy Disc or SmartDrive for log dumps.
Visual check of all antennas and cabling.
Check rotators are calibrated and functioning.
Test station on all bands, noting for any RFI.
Check the position of all knobs and switches, especially:
# Attenuator
# Noise Blanker
# RIT
# Vox Delay
# Split Frequency
# Upper/Lower Sideband
Tape card behind linear amplifier and ATU controls, and 
mark all tuning positions in coloured text.
Un-plug the shack telephone, and turn on answering machine.
Gather together all contest necessities:
# Notepad and pencils
# Spare headphones and microphone
# Eyeglasses
# Throat Lozenges
# Damp cloth and towel for accidents
# Food and Drink
# Clean clothes for mid-contest shower
# Torch and spare operating-light bulbs
# Box of fuses and test-meter
Check location of all backup-equipment and cables.
Review past contest logs and magazine results.
Plan strategy, and prepare band change and off-time plan. 
Feed the cat.

Post-Contest Checklist:

Make a backup of the log on floppy disc.
Make a backup copy of the log on another computer.
Don't try to edit the log whilst you are tired.
Unplug all power and antenna plugs.
Respond to answering-machine messages. 
Feed the cat.

Contest Preparation
By members the Frankford Radio Club

BEFORE THE CONTEST

- WHAT DO YOU NEED TO BUILD AND/OR FIX?
- CHECK ALL EQUIPMENT AND ALL ANTENNAS
- STATION SETUP: RADIOS, COMPUTERS, AMPS, BOXES, RO-
   TATORS, SPARE CABLES, EQUIPMENT
- MICROWAVE, REFRIGERATOR, FOOD, DRINK, BED, ALARM 
   CLOCK, ANALGESICS, CONTEST RULES, TABLES, ETC...
- AMP/RADIO/BOX/COMPUTER MANUALS, FUSES, TOOLS, 
  TAPE, SCISSORS, PENS,
- BE PREPARED
- BE ORGANIZED
- BE FAMILIAR WITH EVERYTHING IN THE STATION
- KNOW YOUR STATION AND ITS DX STRENGTHS/LIMITATIONS
- KNOW PROPAGATION
- STUDY PREVIOUS YEARS LOGS (YOURS & OTHERS)
- PREPARE A WRITTEN PLAN
- READ THE RULES (AGAIN!)
- BE WELL RESTED
- BE COMFORTABLE
- BE PSYCHED!!!

THE CONTEST

- BE FLEXIBLE
- RATE IS KING
- HEARING IS EVERYTHING
- BE EVERYWHERE (USE TWO RADIOS)
- ERRORS AND CATCHUP
- ALWAYS BE MAKING NOTES - ESPECIALLY ABOUT ERRORS - 
  LEARN FROM THEM!
- WHAT MAKES YOU SMILE / WHAT MAKES YOU WANT TO 
  SCREAM - MAKE NOTES!
- BUNCHING MULTS
- ALWAYS MONITOR PROPAGATION
- KNOW YOURSELF AND YOUR BODY
  WHEN TO SLEEP - Top of the cycle/Bottom of the cycle
- KEEP PUSHING - EVERY SECOND COUNTS!!
- DON'T RELAX - If you are kicking ‘butt, so is your competition
  WRITE DOWN YOUR TIME-OFFS AND TIME-ONS
- NEVER, NEVER, NEVER GIVE UP!!!!!!

AFTER THE CONTEST

- SLEEP
- DEBRIEF
- STUDY/REPORT WHAT WENT RIGHT / WHAT WENT 
  WRONG AND WHY????
- BE PROUD - YOU PLAYED, YOU HAD FUN, YOU
- LEARNED, YOU IMPROVED
- BE HUMBLE - YOU DIDNT OPERATE THE PERFECT CON-
  TEST (YET)
- BE REALISTIC - INV V’S DONT BEAT STACKS
- CHECK EVERY QSO IN THE LOG FOR TYPOS
- E-MAIL IN THE LOG/SUMMARY SHEET AND THE SUMMARY 
  SHEET
- REALITY AND THE FAMILY
- WHAT YOU NEED TO BUILD/FIX FOR NEXT CONTEST? MAKE
  A LIST NOW!!!
- ADD TO THE LIST - MAKE IT YOUR OWN!
By Fred Perkins, K4LQ

Summary of the October FCG Meeting held at the K4XS QTH

Twenty-One FCG members and spouses attended our October meeting at the K4XS QTH in New Port Richey. On board were:

AE4MR, K1TO, K4LQ, K4OJ, K4RX, KU4TF, K4XS, K9ES & Sylvia, KB4N, KC8IOY, N4KW, N4OO, N4PK, N4TO, N8AJU, NS4W, W3AU, W3TMZ, W8EK, and WC4E.

Festivities began about 1 PM with some rag chewing and tall stories by assorted members. Terry K4RX showed me some pictures of his new 6 meter 11 element array. This monster has a 69 ft boom, and will be putting Terry on the 6M dxing map for sure. I took advantage of this period to take a number of pictures, including the certificate wall in the K4XS shack. Awesome!

Bill, K4XS then fired up the grill, and dished up burgers with all the fixins, followed up by brownies, cookies and all manner of delectables. It being your Secretary's "free" day on my current fitness program, I partook with my usual enthusiasm.

Dave Armbrust AE4MR (SM WCF) joined FCG at the K4XS meeting as our member # 98. Hard to believe that in such a relatively short time we are pushing the Century mark in membership.

Dan opened the meeting by thanking Bill for his hospitality. The hat (in this case the K4OJ sombrero) was passed.

As previously announced, the themes being discussed at this meeting were strategies for the CQWW SSB test as well as the November CW Sweepstakes. Breakdowns of last years CQWW logs from K4XS S/O and N4TO M/M as well as SS Log Breakdowns from N4AO and K1TO were passed out and discussed in some detail, with the intent of picking up some ideas for use in future contests.

A detailed review of the discussion was sent to members on the reflector, so it will not be repeated here.

Dave AE4MR (SM for West Central Florida) was asked to comment on the recent announcement by IARU that they expect to eliminate the requirement for CW for future licensees and it's effect on band plan cw allocations. He said he expects the FCC to seek comments on this - it will be discussed in WRC 2003 - the earliest it could go into effect will be 2004.

Dave noted that there is a bill currently being worked on in the FL House/Senate to try to overcome antenna It states, among other things that:

"On lots that are less than one acre in size, no local government ordinance shall restrict the height of an amateur radio antenna support structure to less than 75 feet above ground level. On lots of one acre or more, no local government ordinance shall restrict the height of an amateur radio antenna support structure to less than the 200 feet above ground level."

More details on this are available on the WCF website.

The next FCG meeting will be held at the UCF Campus in Orlando on Saturday November 10.

Additional pictures of some of the meeting attendees are shown on the next page.
Joe, KB4N
Pete, N4KW
Jack, W3TMZ

Ed, W3AU

L to r: Vic, N4TO, - Terry, K4RX - Ink, N4OO and Pete N4KW

Dan, K1TO conducts the meeting
The N4TO Team Picture: Front Row l to r: Ulysses NS4W, Vic, N4TO, John AE4SW, Back Row: l to r: Dave N2NL, Dan K1TO, Ron WD4AHZ, George K5KG and Kevin N4KM

Rear: Dan K1TO and Front: Ron WD4AHZ working the 10 Meter Pileups.

Above: Ulysses NS4W at the 15 Meter Position
Upper Right Kevin N4KM, Lower Right John AE4SW

N4TO M/M
CQWW SSB 2001

RAW SCORE SUMMARY
CQ WORLD WIDE DX CONTEST -- 2001

Call: N4TO
Category: Multi Multi
Power: High Power
Band: All Band
Mode: SSB
Country: United States
Zone: 05

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Member Profile - W4UM

By Mike Raskin, W4UM

I was first licensed as a Novice in June 1956 as KN4KUZ while in the 9th grade, living on Miami Beach. I passed my General the next year and become K4KUZ. I did quite a bit of operating and even a little DX until 1960 when I left for Gainesville for college. I did some 40M cw from Hume Hall and the University of Florida Club station in the ROTC building, but then I discovered girls and my operating days were through! Although I majored in Electrical Engineering, I switched my major in my last year to premed and was accepted to the University of Miami School of Medicine. Needless to say, for the next 15 years I was too busy moving around the country with medical school, internship, residency, fellowship, marriage, children, getting a job, earning a living, to do any operating. Besides, we were always renting and moving. We finally moved to Broward in 1976 and bought our first house. It took me about 3 years to ask Norm, W4QN (then W4QQN), who lived 4 doors down, to help me get back on the air. He was my "Elmer" and I was on the air a few weeks later. Unfortunately, I didn't realize that being a "General" was no fun - I soon found out. I was on the Novice bands for hours every night and then felt comfortable in the General cw bands. A few months later I passed my Extra. Norm also did me a great favor (?) - he introduced me to the South Florida DX Association and the trifecta of WB4OSN, N4TO, and K4LQ. I embraced DXing and contesting with a passion.

I reached Top of the Honor Roll in 1993. I have been on the front cover of CQ Magazine in April 1991 and May 1994. I have CW honor roll and am only missing P5 and BS7 to have them all on CW. I have been working on the DXCC Challenge and am trying to get the cards in for my 2000 endorsement. I am an avid 6M nut and have 109 confirmed on 6M. I used to be very active in all contests but have had to slow down for health reasons. However, I still enjoy a challenge and plan to operate more at the SFDXA club station, K4FK, for some of the upcoming events.

I live in a heavily residential 1/3 acre and have two towers. The "big" tower is a super heavy-duty Tristao tower with a stack of Force-12 C-3/E/C-3 at 85' and 52' with a Force-12 2/2 Magnum (2 el on 40 interlaced with 2 el on 80) at 72'. Yes, the 80M elements are 68' long and do extend over the neighbor's yard. The "small" tower and the other side of the back yard has a stack of Force-12 7 element beams on 18' booms for 6M at 58' and 38'. An 8 el Force-12 Magnum 810 on a 30' boom for 10M is at 52'. There is a 135' double bazooka half sloper coming off the big tower at 60 degrees for 160M. An additional 1/4 wave KLM vertical for 80M is used for 30M and 160M. If you're wondering how I was able to get up so much aluminum on 1/3 of an acre, that will be another story about smoke and mirrors.
The following people attended the meeting: Dan, K1TO - Fred, K4LQ - Jim, K4OJ and Teresa - Charly, K4VUD - Ed, K8DSS - Eric, KU4TF - Dave, N2NL - Blake, N4GI and Donna, Paul, N4PK - Frank, NA4CW - Ulysses, NS4W - Byron, W4EBA - Jeff - WC4E and Ron, WD4AHZ

The meeting was held this year at Applebee’s in Orlando, near UCF rather than on the Campus.

Dan opened the meeting by thanking all for taking some time off during the middle of contest season to attend.

He noted that progress is being made on FQP logs, he estimates them to be 40 % complete.

Contributions to WRTC 2002 have been discussed for some time on the reflector and among members. Dan proposed that we resolve the situation in the following manner:

Fred, K4LQ as Treasurer, will set up two accounts. One will be for contributions to help support travel and expenses for our representative to WRTC Dave, N2NL. The second will be for general support to WRTC, with its funds going to the OH group. If you wish to contribute to either fund, send your contributions to Fred. He will report on a monthly basis the total contributed. up until just before WRTC 2002 in July next year. Contributions are not mandatory, and no public accounting will be made of who contributed and who did not, or the individual amounts. Fred has received $61 toward WRTC expenses so far.

Frank, NA4CW has recommended that the Club sponsor one of the major plaques in SS, at a cost of $60. Many of them are currently unsponsored, meaning if you win a plaque you have to buy it. Dan and Fred will do our 2002 proposed budget next month, but it appears that we should be able to add this promotional cost with little difficulty.

Dennis K7BV, the editor of NCJ has asked that our President write up something for NCJ to commemorate FCG passing the 100 member mark. Dan will put something together shortly, I will copy it for an upcoming Gazette.

ARRL's Contest Advisory Committee (CAC) is continuing to work on recommendations for possible reconfiguration of the 150 mile circle rule governing which member scores we can count in some contests.

It was suggested - (I forget by whom) that Fred take on another task to fill up some of his spare time. Get some help from members in making note of Florida stations they work in contests who are not FCG members. Fred will send them an e-mail telling them about FCG, a copy of our latest electronic Gazette, and direct them to our web page in case they should want to learn more about us and perhaps sign on as a member. Just another way to help promote the club and grow our ranks some more.

Dan reviewed some strategy approaches for the upcoming SSB SS Contest. He had QSO breakdowns vs time for the K4XS operation last year, as well as the K4WCF and N4PK Multi Operator operations that were conducted from the K1TO QTH last year.. Dan reviewed SS specific tips which were reported on the reflector, they will not be repeated here.

Attendees reviewed their operating plans for SS SSB and CQWW CW. Jim K4OJ will be breaking some new ground by operating SS SSB from home with a multi-band vertical. K4OJ on SSB, what is the world coming to???

Dan, K1TO has been invited to operate at HC8N, the M/M effort in the Galapagos Islands for CQWW CW. He will be leaving for HC8 a few days before the contest.

The meeting concluded with a brief discussion of CQWW CW strategies, also reported in the summary on the reflector.

Fred, K4LQ
Secretary
Jim, K4OJ and XYL Teresa enjoying some of Applebee’s luncheon menu before the meeting.

Jeff, WC4E (blue shirt) and Dan, K1TO (orange shirt) do some work on the Force 12 C4XL at the UCF Radio Club before the meeting.

L to R – Ulysses, NS4W, Dave, N2NL and Jeff, WC4E strategizing during lunch at Applebee’s.

For those of you reading your first Gazette, antenna work is only one way that FCG members help each other get ready for the next contest. For the climbing-challenged member, (and there are quite a few of us) it sure is nice to know that help is on the way!

Left - Charly, K4VUD describes the gigantic dessert he’s going to order.

Right - Dan, K1TO conducts the meeting.
## CQWW SSB 2001 CLAIMED SCORES

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(Ed. Note - Scores up until press time, final scores in a later issue.)

**FCG Member Danny, W4/T93M worked CQWW SSB in a SOAB operation from Guadeloupe using the call FG/T93M under the auspices of the Sarajevo Contest Group**
## SS CW 2001 CLAIMED SCORES

### CQWW SSB 2001

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<th>QSO</th>
<th>SEC</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Hrs</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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(CURRENT ARRL rules prevent counting this towards the FCG score)

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<th>Call</th>
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(Red Note - Scores up until press time, final scores in a later issue)