



JIM C'S QUIZ OF THE WEEK

Saturday - 5/19/2007

"If the Kentucky Derby is a circus, then the Preakness is a carnival," said William Nack, horse racing writer for Newsday and Sports Illustrated since 1954.

HOW DID "THE PREAKNESS STAKES" ORIGINATE?

Definition: The second jewel of the Triple Crown is *The Preakness Stakes*, a Grade I thoroughbred horse stakes race over 1 3/16 miles (1.91 km) for three-year-olds. The race is held two weeks after the Kentucky Derby at the Pimlico Race Track in Baltimore, MD.

Origin: Since its opening in 1870, Pimlico had conducted all of its racing in the fall, but they introduced the Preakness on May 23, 1873 as its new stakes race for three-year-olds during the spring.

Maryland Governor Oden Bowie founded the then mile and one-half (2.41 km) race as The Preakness. He named the race in honor of a colt who won Pimlico's inaugural Dinner Party Stakes in 1870.

Alias: "The Run for the Black-Eyed Susans" because a floral blanket of black-eyed susans (*Rudbeckia hirta*), the state flower of Maryland, is traditionally draped over the shoulders of the winner.

Pimlico is the second oldest racetrack in America and is a name given to that area of Maryland by early colonial English settlers.

C W: The Preakness = \$1 Million + Maryland + Black-eyed Susans

M of Z: The Preakness ups the stakes for Triple Crown punditry