



# **JIM C'S QUIZ OF THE WEEK**

## **Monday - 6/25/2007**

**10SNE1 - June is the National Tennis Month.**

### **HOW DID THE TERM "TENNIS" ORIGINATE?**

**In the Egyptian town on the Nile called Tinnis, a tennis-like game was played wherein the ball was hit with one's palm. The word *racquet* evolved from the Arabic word for hand's palm - *rahat*.**

**11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> century - French monks would hit the ball against their monastery walls and sometimes even over a rope strung across a courtyard. The game became a favorite sport of medieval French knights and was played by striking the ball with the palm of the hand - *la paulme*, Old French, literally "the palm".**

**Online Etymology: 1345, the word "tennis" is most likely from Anglo-French *tenetz* "hold! receive! take!" from Old French *tenez*, which was used as a call from the server to his opponent.**

**The players first resorted to gloves to counter the pain to their hands, then morphed to paddles with handles. By the 14<sup>th</sup> Century the Italians invented the racket, making the game more interesting.**

**The sport crossed the Channel and spread throughout England. In 1874 Major Walter C. Wingfield registered the patent for a game called "Sphairistike" from Greek *sphairistike* (*tekhne*) meaning "(skill) in playing at ball." The name was soon replaced by *tennis*.**

**Conventional Wisdom: Tennis = To play for the love of the game**

**Moment of Zen: 10SNE1 = Tennis, anyone? (I'm ready to play!)**