



JIM C'S QUIZ OF THE WEEK

Monday - 6/04/2007

HOW DID THE “*TRIPLE CROWN*” ORIGINATE?

Definition: "Triple Crown" is the usual reference in the U.S. for:

- **Kentucky Derby (1 ¼ mi.) – first Saturday of May (5/5/07)**
- **Preakness Stakes (1 3/16 mi.) – third Saturday in May (5/19/07)**
- **Belmont Stakes (1 ½ mi.) – second Saturday in June (6/09/07)**

Origin: "Triple Crown" was originally applied in Great Britain to an English, Irish, Scottish, or Welsh national Rugby team that defeated all three of its opponents in a single season.

1853 – England's three major horse races: the Two Thousand Guineas Stakes, the Epsom Derby, and the St. Leger Stakes.

1930 – In the U.S. “Triple Crown” was coined by sportswriter Charles Hatton while covering the victories of Gallant Fox in the Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes and Belmont Stakes.

1978 – Affirmed was the last race horse to win the coveted “*Triple Crown*,” and there have only been 11 winners in the past 125 years.

1987 – The term “*Triple Crown*” was given official status, when the same three tracks created the Triple Crown Challenge, which offered a \$5 million bonus to any horse that won all three events.

C W: Triple Crown = Three victories by 3-year old thoroughbreds

**Moment of Zen: Triple Crown = The Sweet Smell of Success
(Red Roses, Black-eyed Susans, and White Carnations)**