



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

## **MONDAY - 05/05/08**

**Given the heated, fairly even Democratic Presidential campaign, the DNC Credentials Committee could be relevant in 2008.**

**HOW DID “DNC CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE” ORIGINATE?**

***Origin:* The Party held its first National Convention in 1832. In 1848, the National Convention established the Democratic National Committee, the longest running political organization in the world.**

***Definition:* The 186-member committee coordinates and resolves issues around the selection of delegates/alternates to the Democratic National Convention. DNC Chair Howard Dean appoints 25 members; the other members are allotted by state, in numbers based on each state's population and Democratic performance.**

***Function:* The first official item of business for the Credentials Committee at the 2008 Democratic National Convention is to present its decision on Florida and Michigan to the delegates.**

***Current:* In April, the DNC said that Florida and Michigan members will be seated on the three standing committees. The mere presence of Florida and Michigan on the Credentials Committee raises the prospect of vote-trading or last-minute maneuvering, creating potential confusion for the convention.**

**C W: DNC Credentials Committee = Validation of Delegates**

**Moment of Zen: The DNC may deliberately obfuscate its rules**