



JIM C – QUIZ OF THE WEEK MONDAY - 08/18/08

The primary goals of the Democratic National Convention are to a) nominate and confirm a candidate for President and Vice President, b) adopt a comprehensive party platform, and c) unify the party.

HOW DID THE “DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION” ORIGINATE?

***Definition:* A series of presidential nominating conventions held every four years by the Democratic Party in the United States.**

***Origin (Wikipedia):* The first national convention emanated from Andrew Jackson's supporters in New Hampshire in 1831. The first national convention of the Democratic-Republican Party began in Baltimore on May 21, 1832, when the infamous 2/3 rule was created.**

This rule required a 2/3 majority to nominate a candidate, which often forced the conventions to cast dozens of ballots. The 2/3 rule remained in effect for more than 100 years (except in 1835 & 1840).

- 1840 – The tradition of adopting a party platform was started**
- 1844 – The party's name was simplified to the Democratic Party**
- 1848 – The Democratic National Committee (DNC) was formed and it is now the world's longest running political organization**
- 1920 – The convention voted to support women's right to vote**

C W: Democratic National Convention = End of Primary Election

M of Z: All Vice Presidents are selected, rather than elected