

Texas Lottery Commission Press Release - March 7, 2001

Contact:

Leticia Vasquez, 512-344-5208

LOTTO FEVER FACTS JACKPOT FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 07, 2001 TEXAS RECORD \$85 MILLION

(Austin, March 7) - The jackpot for Wednesday, March 07, 2001 has been "bumped" to \$85 million and is the largest lottery jackpot in the United States (presently even larger than the multi-state lotteries like Powerball and The Big Game).

- Since Sunday, daily sales record have run a close second with previous record daily sales for the 1994 estimated \$75 million jackpot with one exception: Wednesday's sales are also starting out higher.
- The retailer(s) that sells a winning 6 of 6 ticket tonight also wins. The retailer(s) are eligible for a bonus of up to 1% of the jackpot amount, or a maximum bonus of \$500,000.
- For an \$85 million jackpot, annual payments would total approximately \$ 3,400,000 million (before taxes).
 - If the winner chooses the Cash Option, the winner will receive a lump sum of roughly half the jackpot amount or about \$ 44,756,206 before taxes (the amount the Lottery would invest in U.S. Treasury Bonds to pay the prize over 25 years).
- With at least 31% of all Lottery sales going to The Foundation School Fund, the sales from the drawings leading to the estimated \$85 million jackpot (and its 10 rolls) will generate an estimated \$40 million to support public education in Texas.

Jackpot and Winner History

- The previous largest Lotto Texas jackpot, prior to today's "bump", was an estimated \$75 million March 16, 1994, split by five winning tickets and shared by a total of 27 winners.
- The biggest individual prize winner in Texas Lottery history was claimed by Joe Jones of Mansfield, who collected \$53.9 million.

. . . .

The Texas Lottery, the 4th largest selling lottery in North America, is "Focusing on the Future of Education, One Ticket At A Time." By providing the 'Games of Texas' for more than 10 years, the Texas Lottery Commission (TLC) has generated more than \$10 billion for the state and paid nearly \$17 billion to players in prizes. For more information about the TLC, please visit the official website at <http://www.txlottery.org>

-30-