

Texas Lottery Commission

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NEWS

from the Texas Lottery Commission

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THREE TEXAS LOTTERY® PLAYERS FROM EAST TEXAS WIN COMBINED TOTAL OF \$140,000 THIS WEEK

(AUSTIN) – Three East Texas players of Texas Lottery[®] scratch games came away winners this week, taking home a combined total of \$140,000. The three collected their prizes of \$100,000, \$20,000 and \$20,000 on Thursday at the Lottery Claim Center in Tyler.

The first of these, Julie McClendon of Palestine, collected her prize this morning. She told Lottery officials she had made up her mind to purchase a Texas Lottery ticket, but she wasn't sure which one. After doing some serious homework, she made a choice that would bring her \$100,000.

"The night before I was going to buy a ticket, I researched (on the Texas Lottery Commission Web site) the remaining large-prize amounts," McClendon said. "I wanted to see how many large prizes were left on the \$5 and \$10 tickets that I normally purchase."

Her research took her to the pages that exclusively feature the \$5 and \$10 tickets on www.txlottery.org. After some deliberation, she decided she would buy one *10 Times Lucky*.

It turns out that she made a wise choice, as her ticket had a top prize of \$100,000.

"I'm still in shock that I actually won," she said.

McClendon purchased the ticket at the Redland Grocery, 5340 Highway 59 North in Lufkin.

(more)

(Texas Lottery Commission, News Release, continued)

Two additional players each won prizes of \$20,000 and took home their prizes today.

Richard Phillips of Nacogdoches won \$20,000 playing *Millions and Millions*, a \$30 ticket that he bought at the Ken's Minit Mart, 911 West Main in Nacogdoches. He showed the ticket to his friends, who told him he was holding a big winner.

"At first, I thought my friends were playing a trick on me, telling me I'd scratched the numbers for a prize of \$20,000," Phillips said. "When I knew it was real, I was so excited."

Jacqueline Davis in Longview was overcome by that same kind of excitement after she purchased a *Spicy 7's* ticket at Mr. Kwik #1, 2000 S. High Street.

"I went to Mr. Kwik to cash in the tickets on which I'd won \$10," Davis said. "I used my prize to buy two *Spicy 7's* and scratched the tickets in my car. I ran back in the store and got the clerk as excited as I was."

"Doing your homework certainly paid off for Ms. McClendon, and perseverance also paid off for today's other two claimants of \$20,000 each," said Texas Lottery Commission Executive Director Anthony J. Sadberry. "10 Times Lucky now has three top prizes of \$100,000 remaining, Spicy 7's has three prizes of \$20,000 left, and Millions and Millions has 51 prizes of \$20,000 that can still be won."

Tonight's *Mega Millions*[®] jackpot is worth an estimated \$16 million. Saturday's *Lotto Texas*[®] jackpot is worth an estimated \$5 million.

For more information about the Texas Lottery, please visit the official Web site at http://www.txlottery.org.

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(Texas Lottery Commission, News Release, continued)

Note to editors: A photo of each of the winners is available in jpg format by contacting Leticia Vasquez at 512-344-5208 or at

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