Powerball jackpot reaches $183 million

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

Lucky Oregon resident one of five to win $200,000

The Powerball jackpot continues to get bigger, and bigger! No one hit the jackpot Wednesday, but 846,408 players across the nation won a total of more than $6.5 million in prizes in America's Game.

Because no one correctly matched all six numbers in Wednesday's drawing the jackpot will grow to an estimated $183 million.

The cash option for the Saturday, March 17th drawing will be an estimated $88.2 million.

The numbers drawn Saturday were 4, 27, 30, 39, 44, and the Powerball was 18. The Power Play multiplier was 2.

Eight players correctly matched the 5 white numbers and won $200,000. Their winning tickets were purchased in Colorado (1), Kentucky (1), Missouri (1), Oregon (1), Pennsylvania (1), Tennessee (2), and Wisconsin (1).

Thirty-eight players matched 4 white numbers plus the Powerball and won $10,000. Six additional winners at that prize level also wisely purchased the Power Play option multiplying their winnings 2 times for a total of $20,000!

More than 132,000 winning Powerball players multiplied their prize by 2 Wednesday. They were able to do that by purchasing the Power Play option for one dollar. With Power Play you multiply your Powerball winnings by 2-5 times, except for the jackpot. At the beginning of each drawing a wheel is spun to select that night's multiplier.

Players should carefully check their tickets after every draw. Even if there are no jackpot winners there are always tens of thousands of winners at other prize levels.

Players purchased more than $35.2 million in tickets between Sunday and Wednesday night.

The lotteries sold more than $2.8 billion in Powerball tickets in FY06. That translates into more than $825 million for worthwhile state projects.

Powerball is now played in 29 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

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