



Robert A. Farris Jr.  
Commission Chairman

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Date: March 12, 2010  
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**APEX COUPLE WINS \$500,000 PLAYING  
“\$500,000 JACKPOT” INSTANT SCRATCH-OFF GAME  
-Statesville Woman Wins \$200,000 in “\$200,000 Cash” Game-  
-Mega Millions Ticket Worth \$250,000 Sold in Wilmington-**

**RALEIGH-** An Apex couple told lottery officials that they plan to “save for the future” with their winnings in the \$500,000 Jackpot instant scratch-off game. Kokeela and Kamal Thapa of Apex said they are “very happy” that they played the game and that their ticket was a winner. The ticket was purchased at Center Street Grocery on Center Street in **Apex** and the couple will receive \$340,003.20 after state and federal withholdings.

Luis Victoria of Charlotte won \$120,031 playing “Carolina Cash 5” after his ticket matched all five white balls in the Sunday, March 7 drawing. He told lottery officials that he thought he was dreaming after he saw he was a winner. He plans to use his winnings, which total \$81,621 after state and federal withholdings, to take his family on vacation. He purchased his ticket at the City Mart on Village Lake Drive in **Charlotte**.

Patsy M. Bowman of Statesville won \$200,000 in the “\$200,000 Cash” game. She purchased her ticket at the Quick Shop on North Tradd Street in **Statesville** and said she called her daughter the minute she realized that she won. She plans to go shopping with the \$136,001.36 she received after state and federal withholdings.

George Carr of Charlotte became a winner by playing “Carolina Cash 5”. He won \$111,159 after his ticket matched all five balls in the March 10 drawing and told lottery officials that he plans to purchase a new house and donate to a worthy cause. He bought his ticket from the Food Lion on West Sugar Creek Road in **Charlotte**. He received \$71,708.69 after state and federal withholdings.

Mega Millions players who purchased tickets for the Tuesday, March 9 drawing need to check their tickets. One ticket, purchased at the Castle Hayne EZ Mart on Castle Hayne Road in **Wilmington**, is worth \$250,000 because it matched all five white balls in the drawing. The ticket is the largest winning Mega Millions ticket sold in North Carolina since the NCEL introduced the game on January 31.

In addition, a Powerball ticket purchased at the Mountain Stop in **Gastonia** is worth \$10,000 after it matched four white balls and the Powerball in the Wednesday, March 10 drawing.

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A total of 40,881 North Carolina Powerball players won prizes in the Wednesday, March 10 drawing ranging from \$3 to \$10,000 for a total payout in prizes worth \$235,202. Because no tickets matched all five white balls and the Powerball, the jackpot for the Saturday, March 13 drawing is an estimated **\$200,000,000**.

A total of 10,894 North Carolina Mega Millions players won prizes in the Tuesday, March 9 drawing ranging from \$2 to \$250,000 for a total payout in prizes worth \$309,016. Because no ticket matched all five white balls and the Mega Ball, the jackpot for the Friday, March 12 drawing is an estimated \$20 million.

The North Carolina Education Lottery (NCEL) has paid out over \$5.3 million total in instant scratch-off ticket prizes since Monday, March 8. Also since Monday, "Carolina Pick 3" players have won over \$1.9 million, "Carolina Pick 4" players have won more than \$210,400 and 10 tickets won the top prize of \$5,000. "Carolina Cash 5" players have won over \$201,030.

Winner in the March 10 "Carolina Cash 5" drawing:

<b><u>Winner</u></b>	<b><u>Hometown</u></b>	<b><u>Amount Won</u></b>	<b><u>Store Where Ticket Was Purchased</u></b>
George Carr		\$111,159	Food Lion 6430 W. Sugar Creek Road, Charlotte

Winner in the March 10 "Powerball" drawing:

<b><u>Winner</u></b>	<b><u>Hometown</u></b>	<b><u>Amount Won</u></b>	<b><u>Store Where Ticket Was Purchased</u></b>
Unknown		\$10,000	Mountain Stop 308 Archie Whitesides Rd., Gastonia

Winner in the March 9 "Mega Millions" drawing:

<b><u>Winner</u></b>	<b><u>Hometown</u></b>	<b><u>Amount Won</u></b>	<b><u>Store Where Ticket Was Purchased</u></b>
Unknown		\$250,000	Castle Hayne EZ Mart 1619 Castle Hayne Road, Wilmington

Winner in the March 7 "Carolina Cash 5" drawing:

<b><u>Winner</u></b>	<b><u>Hometown</u></b>	<b><u>Amount Won</u></b>	<b><u>Store Where Ticket Was Purchased</u></b>
Luis Victoria	Charlotte	\$120,031	City Mart #3 2217 Village Lake Drive, Charlotte

Instant scratch-off ticket top tier prize winners:

<b><u>Winner</u></b>	<b><u>Hometown</u></b>	<b><u>Amount Won</u></b>	<b><u>Game Played</u></b>
Kokeela & Kamal Thapa	Apex	\$500,000	"\$500,000 Jackpot"
Patsy Bowman	Statesville	\$200,000	"\$200,000 Cash"
Christine Sellars	Burlington	\$50,000	"Match & Win"
Wejdan Allan	Lumberton	\$10,000	"Cash Spectacular"
Bryan Carr	Weaverville	\$10,000	"Cash Spectacular"
Johnnie Ledford	Charlotte	\$10,000	"Spicier Hot Cash"
Jerry Boiter	Cherryville	\$5,000	"\$200 Million Extravaganza"
Teresa Bray	Gastonia	\$5,000	"Cash Spectacular"
Jeffrey Brown	Clayton	\$5,000	"\$200 Million Extravaganza"
Kevin Brown	Conover	\$5,000	"Cash Spectacular"
James Butler Jr.	Roseboro	\$5,000	"\$200 Million Extravaganza"
Francis Peterkin	Lilesville	\$5,000	"\$200,000 Cash"
Betty Robertson	Troutman	\$5,000	"Cash Spectacular"

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**“Carolina Cash 5” Top Prize Winners Tally**

<u>Prize</u>	<u># of winners</u>
\$50,000 to \$856,998	287

**Powerball Winners Tally**

<u>Prize</u>	<u># of winners</u>
\$2 Million - \$200,000	175
\$100,000 - \$10,000	1011

**Mega Millions Winners Tally**

<u>Prize</u>	<u># of winners</u>
\$1 Million - \$250,000	0
\$40,000 - \$10,000	1

*The Powerball numbers above are since May 31, 2006.  
The Mega Millions numbers above are since January 31, 2010.  
The totals do not include unclaimed prizes.*

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*100% of the North Carolina Education Lottery net proceeds are used for pre-kindergarten programs for at risk youth, reduction of class size in early grades, school construction and need-based college scholarships.  
For prizes of \$5,000 and greater, 25% federal tax and 7% state tax are withheld.*