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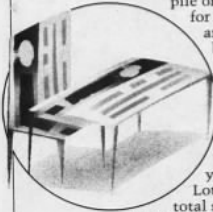
HIGHLIGHT

It Was A Very Good Year! The Illinois Lottery gave everyone something to talk about in 1989, its best year in history. Here are some of the highlights:



OK, IT DIDN'T QUITE HAPPEN IN 1989, BUT IT'S A GREAT STORY
Greg Hernandez of Chicago won a \$20 million Lotto jackpot on New Year's Eve 1989, one week after advising John Evancho on how to claim his December 24, 1988, \$39.6 million Lotto prize. Hernandez, a 29-year-old radio producer for WGN-AM, took a call from Evancho and provided him with the Lottery claim information. Hernandez almost didn't buy tickets for the winning December 31 drawing. "I told myself, 'Why buy tickets this week — it would be too ironic if I won after being so close to all that money,'" Hernandez said. But he conceded, "Maybe some of the good luck rubbed off on me!"

WE'VE COME A LONG WAY!
The Lottery marked its 15th birthday with the Celebration '89 instant game. Veryl Cole, who opened the Lottery sales office in Rock Island in 1974, remembers when he sat on a pile of tickets for a chair and brought in his own card table for a desk. That first year, the Lottery had total sales of \$129 million. In fiscal year 1989, the Lottery topped \$1.5 billion in sales and transferred \$586.1 million to the state's Common School Fund.



THE LARGEST JACKPOT IN ILLINOIS LOTTERY HISTORY, AND THE LARGEST IN U.S. HISTORY... FOR AWHILE
The Lottery's April 15 \$69 million Lotto jackpot was the largest in United States history at the time. Winners of the four \$17.5 million prizes were sisters Barbara and Linda Lambert, the Matlosz Family Partnership, the Barbara, Ron and Scott Miller Partnership, and Pat and Mel Baeske. Less than two weeks later, the jackpot in the Pennsylvania lottery set a new record of \$115 million.

STRANGEST RITE OF CELEBRATION
Sam LaPorta of Berwyn said, "I burned my overalls," when he was asked what was the first thing he did upon hearing of his \$14.4 million Lotto win. His wife was in the shower when he saw the winning numbers. "I started screaming and kicking the bathroom door, shouting, 'We're millionaires.' Then, I called my boss up and said, 'Moose, find somebody else.'" LaPorta is, or was, a commercial painter.



MOST MONEY CHANGING HANDS WITHOUT HARDLY ANYONE NOTICING
Last April 15, when the \$69 million jackpot was hogging the headlines, \$8.5 million was quietly awarded to second and third place Lotto winners. 1,220 won a second prize of \$2,316.50 by matching five numbers, while 73,452 won a third prize of \$76.50 by matching four numbers



THE NAME MAY HAVE CHANGED, BUT THE BIG PRIZES HAVEN'T
The Lottery changed the name of the Cash 5 game to Little Lotto in 1989. Since Cash 5/Little Lotto started in June 1988, more than 800 players have claimed first prizes of as much as \$600,000.

ENTERING THE TV AGE
The \$100,000 Fortune Hunt TV game show made its debut on September 16. Co-hosts Jeff Coopwood and Linda Kollmeyer took six contestants through the 30-minute game. Ralph Meier won \$100,000, Denise Goad took home a new living room, and Nick Idrizi walked away with \$10,000.



THE CONVERSATION WE ALL WANTED TO HAVE
It was between Barbara and Linda Lambert, one of the four \$17.5 million winners of the April 15 \$69 million Lotto drawing. Barbara: Linda, we have a winning ticket. Linda: Oh yeah? How many numbers? Barbara: All of them. Linda: Yeahhhhhhhh!

BEST PLACES TO PLAY THE LOTTERY
Dale McCarty's "Quick Trip" food store in Pekin has turned out five millionaire Lotto winners since 1983. Gene and Vallary Hamilton, owners of the Hamilton Newsstand in downstate Marshall, have seen their customers win more than \$16 million in grand prizes, with four millionaires and three other winners who shared million dollar jackpots. Gene and Judy Wilkin's "Liquor Rack" in Robinson have hosted \$8 million, \$2.4 million, and \$1.6 million winners since 1984. These are obviously

good places to play. On the other hand, you might want to play at a location which has never had a millionaire winner. It might be about due.

A FRIEND OF ILLINOIS EDUCATION
The Lottery transferred a record \$586.1 million to the state's Common School Fund to help support primary and secondary education in Illinois. Money provided by the Lottery accounts for an average of \$1.5 million for Illinois schools each day of the year.

