

TROPHY TRIVIA

Here's the lowdown on some of the most famous sports awards in the world. *By Resa Nelson + Illustrations by Derek Yaniger*



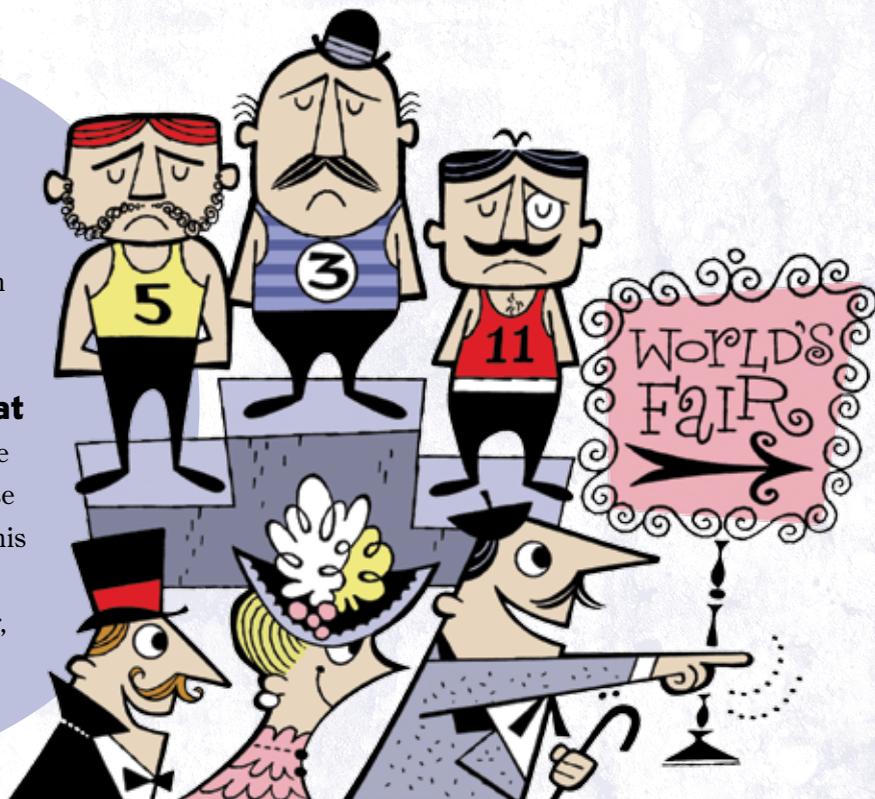
At every Super Bowl, there is an extra trophy present in case the first one is damaged in the postgame celebration. But in 1991, the New York Giants almost lost their trophy. After celebrating, everyone left the locker room. **One of the team vice presidents found the trophy left behind, surrounded by dirty towels.**

After winning his first Super Bowl in 1998, quarterback John Elway was at the ring ceremony at Denver Broncos owner Pat Bowlen's house. Elway's ring was too big for his finger, but he wore it anyway. While dancing at the party, he flailed around and his ring went flying across the room. His twin sister, Jana, brought the ring back to him, asking if he was missing anything. He didn't even know it was gone. What took Elway 15 years in the National Football League to earn took only five minutes to lose.

"Heads UP!"



When the modern Olympic Games began in 1896, winners received an olive wreath and a silver medal. But at the 1900 Paris Olympics, **no medals were awarded at all.** An Australian athlete said the Games were a "huge joke" because they were so poorly organized. This happened because people were more interested in the world's fair, held in Paris at the same time.



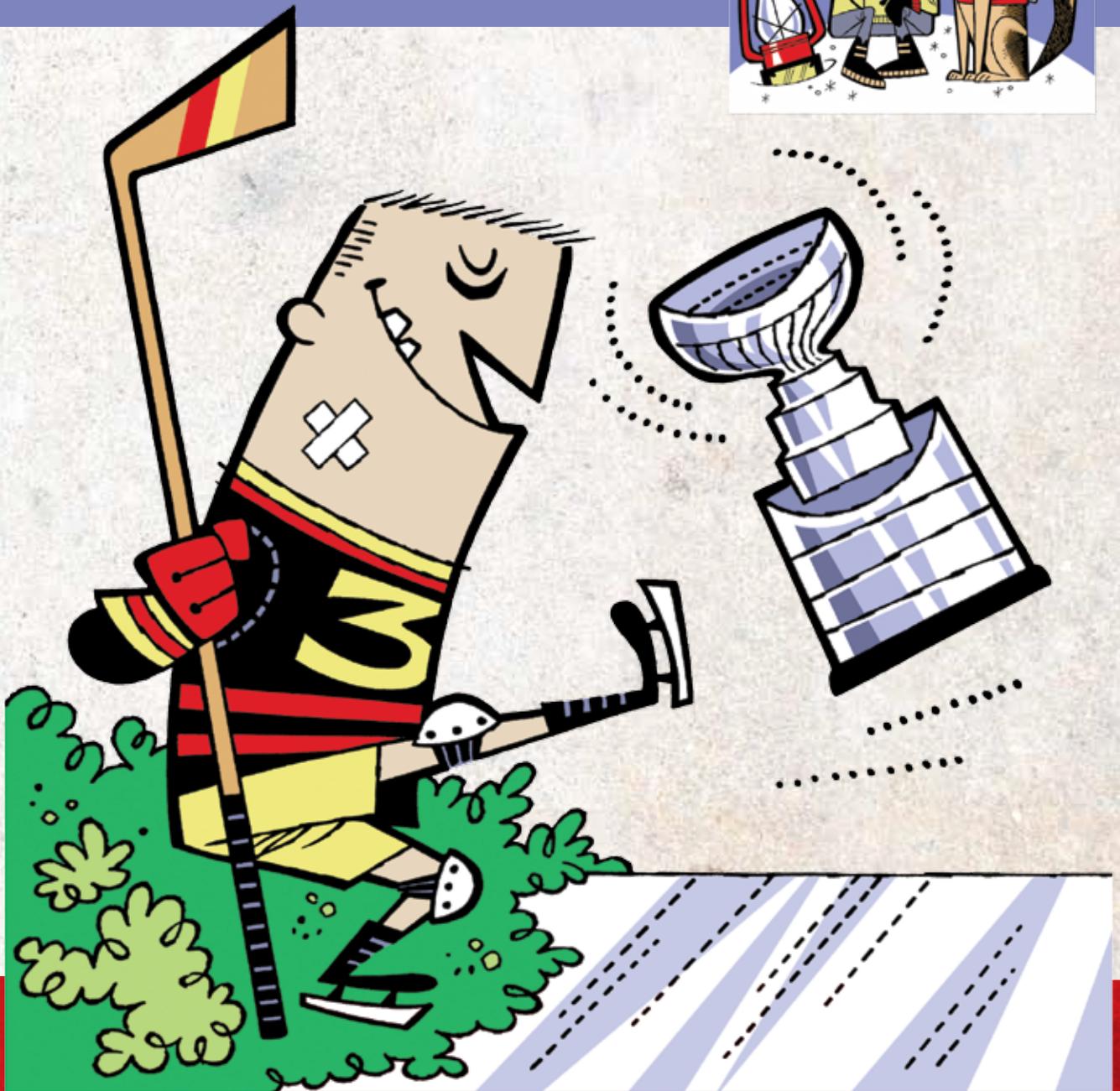
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The Kentucky Derby trophy is the only solid gold trophy awarded in the U.S. for a sporting event. It has a horseshoe design that used to point down. In 1999, the design was changed so that the horseshoe now points up. Horse-racing fans are superstitious: **When the horseshoe points down, it means all your luck will run out.**



Every year the **Masters Tournament** is held at the Augusta (Ga.) National Golf Club. In addition to a trophy, the **winner receives a green jacket**. He can wear his jacket anywhere in the world for one year. After that, he must return it to the club.

The Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race has been called “the last great race on Earth” and is run 1,150 miles from Anchorage to Nome, Alaska. The most famous trophy of the Iditarod race is probably the Wells Fargo Red Lantern Award, which has become an important symbol of perseverance. It is given to the person who finishes in last place.



The Stanley Cup, awarded to the National Hockey League champions, is the oldest trophy in pro sports. The winning team keeps it for one year, and every player gets to take the cup home for one day. From 1902 to 1905, the Ottawa Silver Seven won the cup. One night, teammates dared a player to drop-kick the trophy into a nearby canal. The next morning, the players went down to the frozen canal. They found the Stanley Cup on top of the ice. ♣