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Winter, 2005 *Top 100* Insights Features Real Tough Ones to Find!

Morris Plains, NJ-February 4, 2005. The Winter, 2005 issue of *Top 100 Insights and Value Guide* featured the real tough *Top 100* Morgan dollar varieties to find, and tips on how to spot them. Morgan dollar varieties were classified as *Ultra Rare*, or nearly impossible to find, *Extremely Rare*, difficult to find yet obtainable, and *Very Rare*, obtainable but rare and in limited availability due to high demand.

Michael Fey, author of the newsletter claimed “the advanced Morgan silver dollar variety market is **RED HOT!**” With PCGS starting to grade *Top 100* coins, auction houses such as Heritage (ie. Raphael Romero Collection) starting to recognize *Top 100* coins in their catalogs, and a seemingly insatiable demand to have the best of these rare Morgan dollar varieties, prices are going sky high.

Record prices were recorded for numerous varieties, some absolutely incredible. Below is a listing of these new records along with their common price counterpart.

1878 7TF VAM 215 PCGS PR 64; formerly \$24K, now \$155,000.
1878 7TF Rev '79 VAM 223; common \$100, sold for \$1322
1879 s Rev '78 Var. PCGS 65PL; common \$150, sold for \$10,975.

1879 cc VAM 3 Capped Die PCGS65 DMPL sold for \$37,375 .
1880 “80/79” VAM 23 ANACS 62;;, common \$25, now \$2070.
1880 cc Rev '78 “80/79” VAM 4 PCGS 65 DMPL; common \$5250, now \$17,250.
1880 s “80/79” VAM 8 PCGS 68 sold for \$5060.
1882 o/s VAM 5 EDS NGC 61 DMPL; common under \$100, sold for \$4025.
1888 o VAM 4 Hotlips PCGS 58; common \$20, two sold: \$8912 and \$6600
1892 s VAM 2 PCGS 61 DMPL; unattributed in Heritage’s Platinum auction
\$74,750--A headlight!
1896 o VAM 4 Micro “o” PCGS 40; common \$15, sold for \$2990.
1899 o Micro “o” Variety PCGS 62; common \$25, sold for \$948.
1900 o Micro “o” VAM 5 PCGS 35; common \$15, sold for \$2645.
1901 VAM 3 Doubled Die Reverse PCGS 58; common \$500, sold for \$6612
1902 o Micro “o” VAM 3 PCGS 30; common \$15, sold for \$5100.
1903 s Small s VAM 2 NGC 62; formerly unknown, common \$4000, now \$10,201.

In addition, an 8TF VAM 14.9 *ultra rarity* in ANACS 63 DMPL sold for \$7800 (\$350 common), an 8TF VAM 14.13 in NGC 62PL sold for \$6500 (\$200 common), and an AU+ VAM 14.5 sold for \$1725 (\$75 common)

VAM is an acronym for Leroy Van Allen and A. George Mallis who were first to catalog varieties of obverse and reverse dies called die pairs by VAM number

For further information, please contact Michael S. Fey, Ph.D., at RCI, P.O. Box 9157, Morris Plains, NJ 07590 or call (973) 252-4000; FAX (973) 252-0481; E-Mail: Feyms@aol.com Information on *Top 100* pricing can be found in RCI’s quarterly newsletter, *Top 100 Insights & Value Guide* at <http://www.rcicoins.com>
