

# Harrah's Chester Week In Review

Thursday, May 15, 2008

by James Witherite-Rieg, on-course commentator at Harrah's Chester Casino and Racetrack

With the Maxie Lee Memorial trot just around the corner, trotters have been heating up throughout the week at Harrah's Chester Casino and Racetrack, flashing some quick miles on the heels of Wildfire Julie's track-record 1:53.1 performance last week.

The Wednesday (May 14) co-featured conditioned trot saw Woody Woodrow (\$8.80) turn in a wire-to-wire performance, holding late comers at bay through a 1:54 mile. George Napolitano, Jr. handled the driving duties for trainer Alan Sacco. In the Thursday (May 15) feature, Kaline (\$3.80) made his local debut a successful one, scoring the winning run in a lifetime best 1:54.1. Cat Manzi was at the lines for trainer Anouk Busch.

The top pacers on the eastern seaboard turned in some impressive performances on Sunday (May 11) afternoon, with three miles clocked at 1:50 or faster. Quality Western (\$8.80) was a neck winner in the \$40,000 Open Pace, closing from just off the pace for a 1:50 win. Cue The Paige (\$3.60) also stopped the timer in 1:50, leading the \$35,000 Four-Year-Old Open from gate to wire. Philos Hanover (\$53.80) scored the fastest mile of the week, overtaking Psilvuheartbreaker in deep stretch for a 1:49.3 effort in the \$35,000 Winners Over Pace.

## Speed name of the game at Chester

In the past two weeks, of 104 races contested, 37 of them (35.6%) have been won by the leader at race's midpoint. Likewise, 19 races (18.3%) have been won from a pocket trip, and 15 (14.4%) from a first-over position.

## Chester Pick 4 a winning proposition

This season, the Harrah's Chester Pick 4 (offered daily on races 6 through 9) offers a 15 per cent takeout, one of the lowest in all of horse racing. As a result, Pick 4 dividends have averaged over \$1,100, and have yielded on average a return 79 per cent higher than a corresponding win parlay.

Live racing takes place at Harrah's Chester Casino and Racetrack every

Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, with first post scheduled for 12:25 p.m. On Memorial Day (Monday, May 26), first post will be 3:00 p.m.