

Harrah's Chester Week In Review - July 10

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

Philos Hanover, Ball Gown A, and Four Starz Robro headlined the past week's racing action at Harrah's Chester Casino and Racetrack, each capturing their respective \$40,000 Open event.

In Sunday (July 6) afternoon's Open Handicap Pace, Philos Hanover (\$14.80) scored a one-length victory off a textbook second-over trip, stopping the timer in 1:49.3. With Fake Denario N (Tony Morgan) absent from the early pace, Took Hanover (Andrew McCarthy) and Psilvuheartbreaker (Jim Meittinis) duelled to an opening quarter of :26.1. Shortly thereafter, Larry Stalbaum angled Yukon Cornelius first-over to further press the pace, with Philos Hanover not far behind. Continuing second-over through intermediate fractions of :54.1 and 1:22.0, driver Cat Manzi angled the five-year-old Cam's Card Shark entire three-wide, steadily gaining before taking the lead mid-stretch.

Joe Polisenno trains Philos Hanover for owner John Cancelliere.

Ball Gown A (\$6.20) lived up to her billing, sitting a perfect pocket trip and making a measured move in the stretch to take Monday (July 7) afternoon's Fillies and Mares Open Handicap Pace in 1:51.2. After showing early speed and leading through an opening quarter of :27.2, Eric Goodell and Ball Gown A yielded the front to Pacific Philly (George Napolitano, Jr.). Through a middle half of :55.4 (:54.3, 1:23.1), Pacific Philly was under no pressure at all, while Ball Gown A tracked intently. At the head of the stretch, Goodell angled the seven-year-old Presidential Ball mare out of the pocket, coasting home through a :28.0 final quarter for the win.

Peter Tritton owns and trains Ball Gown A.

The Thursday (July 10) afternoon feature--the Open Trot--saw Gabby Glide make his 2008 seasonal debut. However, the prohibitive 4-5 favorite came up short to Four Starz Robro (\$20.80) in a 1:55.2 mile. Tony Morgan sent the six-year-old Conway Hall entire immediately to the front, with early speed as well from Ripped (Greg Grismore) and Angelo Kosmos (Daniel Dube). After a quarter of :28.0, Four Starz Robro faced constant pressure, with Jabez (George Napolitano, Jr.) making an extended first-over bid and Gabby Glide (David Miller) sweeping three-wide up the backstretch. After reaching three-quarters in 1:25.4, these three were practically on level terms, before Jabez began to fade at the head of the stretch. The battle continued through the final 150 yards between Four Starz Robro and Gabby Glide, with Ripped tipping to the open

stretch. Despite racing all-out in the final strides, Four Starz Robro prevailed by one-half length.

Judy Welty trains Four Starz Robro for owner Kelley Rogers.

Live racing takes place at Harrah's Chester every Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, with first post slated for 12:25 p.m. eastern time daily.