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Big Payout for First Belmont – Penn National Thursday Pick 4

Grantville, PA (Thursday, September 12, 2013) – Bettors who correctly selected winners in all four legs of the first ever Belmont – Penn National Thursday Pick 4 were rewarded with a payout of \$8,358.40 based on a 50 cent winning wager.

The total pool of \$59,000.50 represented the third largest Pick 4 pool involving races at Penn National – trailing only this year's Penn Mile All-Stakes Pick 4 (\$199,514) and last year's Thanksgiving Eve All-Stakes Pick 4 (\$70,120).

The special 50-cent minimum wager, which has a reduced 15 percent takeout, was launched today by The New York Racing Association, Inc. (NYRA) and Penn National Gaming, Inc., and links the final two races at Belmont Park with the first two races at Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course.

This week's big payout was triggered early when Mewannarose won Belmont's eighth race, and the first leg of the Pick 4, at odds of 26-1, defeating even-money favorite Much Stronger by a neck. The second leg of the wager, Belmont's finale, went to Villanella, who got up in the final strides at 7-1. Penn National's half of the wager kicked off with the even-money favorite Outhaul winning an off-the-turf event, and the special Pick 4 closed out with Dimension drawing clear by 13 lengths to win at 5-1 odds.

The Belmont – Penn National Thursday Pick 4 will run every Thursday through October 24, the final week of the Belmont fall meet. The wager begins with Belmont's next-to-last race (usually race 8 or 9), and conclude with Penn National's 2nd race at approximately 6:27 p.m.

It appears on tote machines and ADWs as a separate track code titled the "**BELMONTPENNPICK4**." Customers need to ask or look for this name in order to wager on the special Pick 4.

Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course is a Penn National Gaming property that offers guests the most exciting and unique entertainment experience in Central Pennsylvania. The venue features more than 2,463 slot machines, 53 banked gaming tables, and a 16-table Poker room. Live thoroughbred and simulcast horse racing is offered year-round. An array of dining options are available including the award-winning Final Cut Steakhouse, winner of three consecutive Wine Spectator Awards of Excellence; Mountainview Dining, a 500-seat restaurant overlooking the one-mile racetrack; SkyBox Sports Bar, and the popular 350-seat Epic Buffet.

Penn National Race Course, located minutes from Hershey and Harrisburg, PA., opened on August 30, 1972, and has presented top-class live thoroughbred racing for more than 40 years. The original track was taken down in 2006 and the new Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course, a fully-integrated gaming and racing facility, opened on February 12, 2008.

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