



***** MEDIA ALERT *****

Contacts: Robin Stinnett, Running Aces Harness Park, 651-925-4565 or 651-260-1799
Andy Skoogman, Leer Communication & Consultants, 612-803-1868

RUNNING ACES HARNESS PARK OPENS CARD ROOM *RAHP to host Heartland Poker Tour & Women's Tourneys*

WHAT: Running Aces Harness Park will open a state-of-the art card room on Monday, June 30 after its 50th day of live harness racing. The card room will cater to all players' skill levels and to both sexes. It will have 50 tables – 25 poker tables and 25 casino games. In the card room area, Running Aces will deal blackjack, Ultimate Texas Hold 'em, seven-card stud and other games.

Running Aces will also host the 2008 Heartland Poker Tour sometime during the week of November 9-16 with the final round being filmed. The modern card room will hold dozens of weekly tournaments, including a "Ladies Only No-Limit Hold' em" Tournament on the third Sunday of every month. Women now make up 35 % of the 75 million poker players in the U.S., according to Woman Poker Player Magazine.

In addition, there will be a "Learner's Table" where experts will teach novice card players the rules of the various card games dealt at Running Aces.

The only professional harness park in Minnesota, Running Aces opened on April 11 with four stables and 300 stalls. The track has all breed simulcast wagering on thoroughbred and harness tracks from around the country and after the card room opening, will operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Seven days of live racing remain with racing tonight, Saturday and Monday, 6:30 pm post and Sunday 3:00 pm post. Racing will conclude on over the 4th of July weekend with a Friday and Saturday, 6:30 pm post and Sunday, July 6, 3:00 pm post.

WHEN: Monday, June 30th at approximately 9:00 pm after the evening harness races conclude

WHERE: I-35 and Highway 97/County Road 23 (Exit 129) in Columbus, Minnesota - near Forest Lake

INFO: 651-925-4600 or 1-877-RUN ACES (786-2237)
www.runningacesharness.com

MORE: Running Aces Harness Park is a harness race track and card room owned by North Metro Harness Initiative, LLC, 50% of which is owned by Southwest Casino & Hotel Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Southwest Casino Corp. (SWCC) and 50% of which is owned by MTR-Harness, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of MTR Gaming Group, Inc., (MNTG).

###