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Lottery Player Passes on \$150,000 for Chance at \$1 Million

“Replay for Riches” promotion gives player second chance at the grand prize

East Chicago, Ind. – September 25, 2008 –The Illinois Lottery recently held the final qualifying round for its “Replay for Riches” summer promotion, and Ascension Tristan made sure things ended with a bang. After spinning the “Replay for Riches” wheel, Ascension could have gone home with \$150,000, but decided to take her chances at being a millionaire. Ascension’s daring move placed her third overall, and guaranteed her a spot at the “Replay for Riches” finale, where she and five other finalists will compete for a \$1 million grand prize.

Throughout the 12-weeklong “Replay for Riches” promotion, the Lottery selected weekly winners from a pool of players who submitted \$30 in non-winning tickets. The 12 winners attended special qualifying events and spun the “Replay for Riches” wheel, which featured prize amounts from \$25,000 to \$150,000. Each contestant then decided whether to receive a prize check for the amount shown on the wheel or to place the amount won on the “Replay for Riches” leader board. The top six finalists on the leader board will participate in the summer promotion’s finale, where one lucky winner will go home with \$1 million and the remaining five finalists will walk away with \$100,000.

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Because Ascension placed \$150,000 on the leader board, if she doesn't hit the jackpot at the finale, she will lose out on \$50,000, but still go home with \$100,000. However, Ascension has no regrets, saying, "Losing \$50,000 is a lot, but going for the \$1 million beats it all. Winning big is everything." Ascension will have her opportunity to win big on September 27, when U.S. Cellular Field hosts the "Replay for Riches" finale during a Chicago White Sox home game.

All qualifying non-winning instant tickets were marked with the "Replay for Riches" logo in the upper right hand corner. Mega Millions, Lotto, Little Lotto, Pick 3, Pick 4 and Pick n' Play tickets purchased after April 22, 2008, were also eligible.

About the Illinois Lottery

Founded in 1974, the Illinois Lottery is a state agency with annual sales over \$2 billion. Since its inception, the Lottery has contributed more than \$14 billion to the state Common School Fund to assist K-12 public schools. Players must be at least 18 years old. For more information on the Illinois Lottery please visit our Web site at www.illinoislottery.com.

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