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NEWS RELEASE

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July 3, 2007

25 MILLIONTH LOTTERY TICKET HOLDER IS AWARDED \$25,000

Bismarck – On Saturday, June 30 at 4:14 p.m., a lottery ticket purchased by Richard Vos of Harwood, North Dakota proved to be a very lucky purchase. Richard purchased the North Dakota Lottery's 25 millionth ticket and is now \$25,000 richer. The lucky ticket was purchased at Hornbacher's Northport in Fargo.

Today, Richard and his wife, Mary, made the trip to the Lottery's office in Bismarck, to claim the \$25,000 prize.

"I was very surprised when I found out I was the winner," said Richard. "When I told my wife I won, she couldn't believe it."

Mary was busy shopping while her husband landed the 25 millionth ticket. "I couldn't believe that we won \$25,000. I felt like someone needed to pinch me!"

Richard and Mary plan to use the prize money to remodel their kitchen and vacation in Hawaii. They also said they will put some of it into savings.

Richard closed his comments by saying that he will continue to play the lottery. "I started out low, winning a couple of dollars here and there, and now I'm up to \$25,000. I'm going for the \$100,000 next," joked Richard. "You can't win if you don't buy!"

Since the Lottery was launched in March 2004, players have won over \$22 million playing the North Dakota Lottery. Lady Luck has found 223 players who won \$5,000 or more, including fifty-six \$20,000 2by2 jackpots. The largest prize won in North Dakota is a \$1 million Powerball prize.

All proceeds from the Lottery are contributed to the state's general fund which supports North Dakota citizens. Since March 2004, the general fund contribution is \$19.9 million. During the 2003 legislative session, it was projected that accumulated state general fund revenue through June 30, 2007 would total \$3.7 million.

Lottery tickets can be purchased at over 400 retailer sites. To learn more about the lottery visit the website at www.lottery.nd.gov.

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