



### 'Wooden Warrior' Gets High Marks In Poll Of Experts

1/15/2013

MIDDLEBURY, Conn. – Take it from the experts: big isn't always better. That's what roller coaster connoisseurs from throughout the world said in rating Quassy Amusement Park's "Wooden Warrior" against more than 150 other rides in the 2012 Best Roller Coaster Poll. Quassy's coaster tied for 23rd place in the balloting, which ranked 168 operating wooden coasters at parks around the world. Wisconsin coaster guru Mitch Hawker, who started the poll in 1994, recently announced his findings tallied from 635 coaster buffs who participated. "Wooden Warrior is the best small coaster in the world!" said Theme Park Review's Robb Alvey. "Despite its size, 'Wooden Warrior' packs a punch and ranks right up there with the big boys!" "Don't let its size fool you; 'Wooden Warrior' is one wild ride!" Alvey added. "I've ridden over 200 wooden roller coasters all over the world and 'Wooden Warrior' ranks in the top tier!" Alvey, who operates the popular Theme Park Review Web site out of California, visited Quassy in 2011 to experience the new coaster in its inaugural year. Personally, he ranks "Wooden Warrior" number 15 in the world. Another Expert Comments On Rating "Most everyone agrees this poll is one of the most accurate in its rankings of roller coasters worldwide," noted Ruz Ozana, New England regional representative for American Coaster Enthusiasts (ACE). "For 'Wooden Warrior' to come in at position number 23 is astonishing, as it's right up there with 'the big boys.' This is possible because 'Wooden Warrior's' design allows for it to provide all the features that coaster lovers are seeking: speed, laterals, positive and negative-Gs." Ozana continued, saying: "The fact that 'Wooden Warrior' travels at only 35 mph. is a testament to its perception of speed in relation to the height of the coaster, the tunnel at the turnaround and its physical surroundings. It is a very fun ride and should attract many additional fans in June when ACE visits New England for Coaster Con XXXVI." "This is a tremendous accolade for our coaster," Quassy President Eric Anderson said of the report. "It certainly reinforces our position to provide quality attractions the entire family can enjoy." "Wooden Warrior" tied for 23rd on the list with "The Raven," a large coaster at Holiday World in Santa Claus, Ind. In fact, most of the rides in the top 50 on the poll are two to three times larger than the Quassy coaster. "It was a challenge for us to design a ride for all family members - youngest to oldest – in the allocated space at Quassy," asserted Korey Kiepert of The Gravity Group, Cincinnati, Ohio, designers of the ride. "Given the site, we were able to use the difference in height elevation for some exciting airtime time and bunny hops on a relatively small ride." "Wooden Warrior" is the first "junior" coaster in the firm's portfolio with a track length of 1,250 feet and a maximum height of 35 feet. Due to the topography at the park, the coaster actually drops more than 40 feet along its course with a number of exciting airtime hills and a tunneled turnaround. The ride also features a state-of-the-art Timberliner train by Gravitykraft, sister firm of The Gravity Group. Quassy was the first park in the United States to feature the sleek, new train. The ride has been honored with numerous awards during its short life. About dot com named 'Wooden Warrior' the best new roller coaster of 2011 and it was named Attraction of the Year in a poll conducted by the theme park enthusiasts' Web site Behind The Thrills. Since opening in April of 2011, roller coaster and theme park enthusiasts from around the world have converged on Quassy to experience the ride. Each May Quassy hosts what is titled "Wooden Warrior" Day for roller coaster buffs to have exclusive riding time as well as a private dinner. About The Park Quassy Amusement Park is in its 105th year and features more than two-dozen rides and attractions. The lakeside property is also home to "Splash Away Bay" waterpark with the new "BulletBow!" water raft ride and "FreeFall" extreme body slides. In addition, a



## Press Release

---

children's splash pad titled the "Fish Pond" will open this year. The park also has a restaurant, redemption arcade, games, live entertainment and special events. Quassy opens April 27 for the 2012 season with Quassy Beach and the waterpark opening on May 25. Season passes are on sale now at the park office and through the Quassy Web site at [www.quassy.com](http://www.quassy.com). Company picnics, school fieldtrips and other catered events are also being scheduled through the park office at 203-758-2913. --30— On The Web: [www.ussho.com/bestrollercoasterpoll.htm](http://www.ussho.com/bestrollercoasterpoll.htm) [www.themeparkreview.com](http://www.themeparkreview.com) <http://www.acenewengland.org> <http://www.aceonline.org> [www.thegravitygroup.com](http://www.thegravitygroup.com) [www.quassy.com](http://www.quassy.com) With photos Into The Darkness 'Wooden Warrior' riders head for the tunneled turnaround at Quassy Amusement Park in Middlebury, Conn. (Quassy photo) Emerging From The Tunnel The train emerges from the tunnel on 'Wooden Warrior,' the award-winning family roller coaster at Quassy Amusement Park. (Quassy photo)