

IN FOCUS:

CHARLES TOWN OAKS DAY STAKES

RACE 4: IT'S ONLY MONEY STAKES

- **Race particulars: Post time 6:22 p.m., \$50,000 purse, 4 1/2 furlongs, WV-bred 3yo and up**
- 1. **#7 Eutaw Street (4-1)** – Speedy sort's never been worse third at the distance and had a useful '17 bow last out when second in allowance company after leading most of the way; defending champ rates a major shot to repeat.
- 2. **#6 Cat Come Home (10-1)** – Will need a more alert break than he got last out, when running on from last, but he rallied willingly for the place; can improve in third off freshening
- 3. **#3 Greenway Court (5-2)** – Let's not worry too much about that last; this guy never was too partial to 7f, and the effort probably gave him a big fitness bump for his second start of the year as he cuts back to preferred distance; will look for stalk-and-pounce trip

RACE 7: RACHEL'S TURN STAKES

- **Race particulars: Post time 7:48 p.m., \$50,000 purse, 4 1/2 furlongs, WV-bred 2yo fillies**
- 1. **#8 Hip Hop (4-1)** – Throttled TIM maidens last out and one of three to run back has won; solid 2yo barn, but this one's not likely to have it her own way on the distance cutback; drawn well outside and bullring win gets her the nod here; talented local Gerald Almodovar keeps the mount
- 2. **#6 Noblame (9-5)** – How this Joe Sharp-trained Blame filly will react to the bullring or the 4 1/2 furlong distance remain to be

seen, but she's done enough right -- including being the only one here with two wins -- to warrant a long look; longtime local pilot JD Acosta takes the mount

- 3. **#5 Bound to Windsor (7-2)** – Super-impressive debut for this Windsor Castle filly who overcame troubled trip to win easily; normal second race improvement plus a smoother trip makes her a player in here

RACE 8: HENRY MERCER MEML. STAKES

- **Race particulars: Post time 8:17 p.m., \$50,000 purse, 4 1/2 furlongs, WV-bred 2yo**
- 1. **#4 William and Mary (5-2)** -- Nice effort racing out of the outside stall to overtake foes for debut score, and one from there has won on return; interesting to see him gelded off last; sharp work 9/16
- 2. **#9 Dionysus' Chalice (9-2)** -- Figgins trainee romped on debut, defeating two who are here; barn just 2-for-23 with last out maiden-breaking 2yo; gelded since last
- 3. **#6 Grand Fiber (8-1)** -- Third time was the charm for this Fiber Sonde gelding who got away with a slightly easier pace in last and kicked on home nicely; Peltroche picks this runner over *Mr. Jacoby*, but he'll have to overhaul two that have beaten him

MULTI-RACE WAGERS

- ✓ Race 7 – 0.20 Jackpot Pick 6
- ✓ Races 7, 8, 9, 10 – Pick 3
- ✓ Race 9 – 0.50 Pick 4

RACE 9: SADIE HAWKINS STAKES

- **Race particulars: Post time 8:46 p.m., \$50,000 purse, 7 furlongs, WV-bred fillies/mares 3yo and up**
1. **#10 Moonlit Song (3-1)** – Talented Grams trainee already has three stakes wins, and two-back third came after a terrible start; that let her show a new tactical dimension though, and breaking from the outside gives regular pilot Hiraldo the chance to lead or stalk as circumstances warrant
 2. **#3 T Rex Express (8-1)** – Apparent experiment in taking her off the pace didn't pan out two back, so back to front-running ways - and winning - in last; should be involved from the first jump, but note winless ledger in 3 stakes tries
 3. **#6 Candy Man's Girl (6-1)** – Last year's Cavada winner prepped in this event then, too, finishing second; nothing wrong with last when late momentum stopped by drifting winner, and regular Casey rider Antonio Lopez will be up

RACE 10: FRANK GALL MEML. STAKES

- **Race particulars: Post time 9:15 p.m., \$50,000 purse, 7 furlongs, WV-bred 3yo and up**
1. **#6 Start Line (3-1)** -- Seven-time winner at the trip has tactical ability, enters with 2-race win streak, last under a confident ride as he was wide on both turns; dead-headed with favorite *Charitable Annuity* three back
 2. **#9 Prince of Windsor (6-1)** -- Five-time winner at the trip ran a big one last out when nearly holding on after being hounded by multiple rivals throughout; may have a chance to work out a better trip from outside post
 3. **#4 Charitable Annuity (5-2)** -- 2015 WV Breeders Classic winner (and '16 runner-up) has had only a middling season with a win from five starts but two back effort was strong; seems not to be quite the horse he was last year, but still a solid presence here, especially if a lively pace develops

RACE 11: PINK RIBBON STAKES

- **Race particulars: Post time 9:45 p.m., \$50,000 purse, 7 furlongs, Fillies and mares 3yo and up**
1. **#10 Kathballu (7-2)** – Ken McPeck trainee has kept the right company and should appreciate class relief here; Javier Castellano in the irons a good sign, and though she's never raced here, she does own a stakes win at the distance over a similar bullring at DeD
 2. **#3 Lake Ponchatrain (15-1)** – Game try to be third in the Shine Again at 37-1; seven-time winner over the strip and never out of the money at the distance, this Ernest Haynes trainee can outrun those odds
 3. **#2 Line of Best Fit (9-2)** – Brave effort in last when, after being on hold a long way, she darted through a narrow opening to get up late in the Shine Again; two-turn 7f trip here could work too, and she has a win doing it

RACE 12: G3 CHARLES TOWN OAKS

- **Race particulars: Post time 10:18 p.m., \$300,000 purse, 7 furlongs, 3yo fillies**
1. **#13 Shimmering Aspen (5-1)** -- Ultra-talented Rodney Jenkins trainee rates a major shot if she draws in
 2. **#5 Tequilita (7-2)** -- Matz trainee has kept the right sort of company and outside of seventh-place showing in the KY Oaks when 40-1 has shown up every time; fifth-place finisher from last won G2 Prioress in her follow-up, and this one rallied late to just miss the place. Has a graded win at the distance.
 3. **#8 Munny Spunt (4-1)** -- Talk about a successful claim -- \$25,000 claim for trainer Doug O'Neill won G3 Torrey Pines via DQ two races later, rallying late with positive pace scenario after wide journey. Race shape may portend a repeat