



The Players' Guide

your comprehensive guide to tonight's races

Thursday, October 8, 2026 • Race Day 8

Today's selections and commentary by: **James Witherite**

Full-Card Selections

1	6-2-7-3	6	8-5-4-1	11	5-3-2-7
2	4-2-3-6	7	7-2-1-4	12	5-8-7-1
3	2-4-3-8	8	2-4-8-7	13	1-6-4-8-7
4	7-1-4-6	9	2-1-8-4		
5	4-7-6-3	10	5-9-1-3		

50¢ Late Pick-4 Play

Race 10: 1, 5, 9
Race 11: 3, 5
Race 12: 5, 7, 8
Race 13: 1, 4, 6
Total Stake: \$27

Sunday! Sunday! Sunday!

Sunday, Oct. 11 • First Post 6 p.m.

Maryland Showcase of Champions
over \$800,000 in purses

On-Track Festivities
Odds & Ends Market • Trottoberfest

Race 3

Pace • F&M NW \$1,000 Last 4 Starts or TM Rating < 70

2 - STRESS FREE was a victim of traffic trouble and rearward trips in second-level races. Here, she drops back to her last winning level (five back at Ocean) and gets a plum draw. Every chance to rebound given positive shifts, and Milby stays with her. 4 - IDEAL OUT mounted belated gains from far off the pace to earn minor checks in her last couple tries. Her :27.3 closing split on the drop to this level is the fastest on the page by a healthy margin. 3 - RB'S CATCHMEIFUCAN comes back from a four-month spell off the strength of a 1:57.2 qualifier. Before her break, she was a minor player in first- and second-level races from all sorts of trips. Picks up Plante. 8 - MOSTLY SUNNY passed tired foes from astern on arrival last week after being overmatched in Pennsylvania. A live flow can help her make better use of the late speed she showed on arrival.

Race 8

Pace • F&M Winners 1-3 Ext. PM Races Lifetime

2 - PELICAN BAY brushed to the lead up the backstretch last week, only to be reeled in by Voo Doo Vixen. The start before, she mounted late gains from a well-earned pocket trip. Cozy draw should keep her handy early and give her enough oomph late. 4 - FEAR OF GOLD is a live value proposition who just needs a little better position in order to threaten. Meadows lines showed sufficient raw speed for her to compete at this level, but she's had just a little too much work to do late in the mile from rearward dispatches. Live flow makes her a big threat. 8 - PRINCESS DI looks to make amends from an early break last week. Two back, she held sway for a N2L score on debut, and she showed pressing ability the star prior. Foster opts to remain aboard; wide draw is her biggest obstacle. 7 - STANDEROSA fought gamely after being headed by Voo Doo Vixen two weeks ago after traffic trouble hurt her the start before. Give a lot of credit to the resolve she showed under pressure.

Race 10

Pace • F&M NW \$2,500 Last 4 Starts, Opt. Clm. \$10,000

5 - KELSEYS FOR REAL sustained a first-over push to win at this level two back, and she made respectable gains into second coming right back. She stays at this proven level via the optional tag, and Foster opts aboard. 9 - TATER TOT HANOVER enjoyed success a level above this one through the summer, posting a front-end win at Ocean four back before tailing off just so slightly after early exertion in her last couple starts. While the wide draw presents a challenge, she's in with a much kinder group — and that 1:53.3 time last week stands up here. 1 - EMDOUBLEAKAY was a game second after brushing two back and made late inroads for fourth from astern more recently. While she loses Foster, she does pick up the current leading driver at Harrington. Pole gets her closer from the get-go. 3 - MEADOWBROOK KRISTA is another solid minor option after mounting sustained gains from worse than midfield at healthy odds on the drop to this class last week.

Race 13

Pace • Fillies and Mares, Claiming \$5,000-\$7,500

1 - ROSARITO BEACH N dominated in amateur competition last week, draws the pole this week, and is reunited with Tony Morgan. This is effectively a lateral move, class-wise. Lots to like; value potential makes her all the more attractive. 6 - WESTERN FLAMES gave way in the final furlong last week after doing some heavy lifting on an earned lead. She won her previous two starts against comparable company, also both on the lead. 4 - LADY KAHN showed strong turn of foot off the home turn last week, but cut off at least six pylons off the corner and was disqualified as a result. Removing last week, she's finished fourth or better in five of six, all at the level. 8 - SALTZ SHAKER likewise has shown consistent results with similar, hitting the board in six of seven. The outside draw shouldn't faze her as she's shown good leaving ability from wide posts in recent tries.