NINTH RACE

Laurel

JUNE 20, 2026

6 FURLONGS. (Turf) (1.07[1]) BEN'S CAT S. Purse $100,000 FOR THREE–YEAR–OLDS AND UPWARD. (Registered MD Bred/MD Sired and/or VA Bred/VA Sired). Which have not been permitted Lasix within 48 hours of Post Time. By free subscription. $500 to pass the entry box, $500 additional to start with $100,000 Guaranteed, of which 60% to the winner, 20% to second, 10% to third, 6% to fourth, 3% to fifth and 1% to sixth. Weights: Three–Year–Olds, 120 lbs.; Older, 126 lbs. Non–winners of an open Sweepstakes in 2026 allowed 2 lbs.; of a restricted Sweepstakes in 2026, 4 lbs.; non–winners of $30,000 once in 2026, 6 lbs. (Maiden, Claiming and Starter races not considered in estimating allowances). Trophy to the owner of the winner. Closed Saturday, June 6, 2026 with 39 nominations. (If deemed inadvisable by management to run this race on the Turf course, it will be run on the main track at Six Furlongs) (Rail at 87 feet).

Value of Race: $99,000 Winner $60,000; second $20,000; third $10,000; fourth $6,000; fifth $3,000. Mutuel Pool $80,188.00 Exacta Pool $49,520.00 Superfecta Pool $15,374.00 Trifecta Pool $28,379.00

Last Raced	Horse	M/Eqt.	A.	Wt	PP	St	¼	½	Str	Fin	Jockey	Odds $1
29May26 ^{3}Lrl^{1}	Witty	bf	7	122	4	2	3½	2^{hd}	1^{hd}	1½	Barbosa J	0.90
16May26 ^{12}Lrl^{9}	Had to Have Him	b	5	120	5	5	1^{hd}	11½	21½	2^{hd}	Toledo J	2.40
18Apr26 ^{8}Lrl^{3}	Whenigettoheaven	b	7	120	3	1	21½	32½	31½	3^{1}	Hazlewood Y	2.10
16May26 ^{12}Lrl^{8}	Tidewater	b	6	120	1	3	4^{3}	4^{2}	4^{4}	43½	Briceno J G	11.80
11Jun26 ^{2}Pen^{3}	Thataway		6	120	2	4	5	5	5	5	Lyapustina T	28.80

OFF AT 4:22 Start Good. Won driving. Course firm.

TIME : 23[2], :45[4], :56[3], 1:08[3] (:23.56, :45.85, :56.78, 1:08.77)

$2 Mutuel Prices:

6 – WITTY	**3.80**	**2.20**	**2.10**
7 – HAD TO HAVE HIM		**2.80**	**2.10**
5 – WHENIGETTOHEAVEN			**2.10**

$1 EXACTA 6–7 PAID $3.90 $1 SUPERFECTA 6–7–5–3 PAID $8.70 $1 TRIFECTA 6–7–5 PAID $6.00

Gr/ro. g, (Apr), by Great Notion – Zeezee Zoomzoom, by Congrats. Trainer Merryman Elizabeth M. Bred by Elizabeth M Merryman (Pa).

WITTY broke well, sat comfortably outside horses down the backstretch, advanced outside HAD TO HAVE HIM in upper stretch, took command when set down in midstretch and held sway under steady encouragement. HAD TO HAVE HIM, reluctant to loa into the starting gate, rushed up after breaking last, sprinted clear entering the turn and moved to the inner rail, was hooked by the winner in midstretch and dug in gamely. WHENIGETTOHEAVEN broke alertly and was in front midway down the backstretch, saved ground on the turn, chased in the stretch, altered to the outside approaching the sixteenth pole and gained late. TIDEWATER saved ground around the turn, eased out to the three path in upper stretch and finished willingly. THATAWAY raced in the three path on the turn and was not a factor.

Owners– 1, Merryman Elizabeth M and Detampel Marc; 2, Gracie Mae Stables and Great Lake Stable; 3, Ramsey Kenneth L; 4, Little Man Farm; 5, Black and Blue Stable

Trainers– 1, Merryman Elizabeth M; 2, Salzman John E Jr; 3, Ramsey Nolan; 4, Aguirre Anthony Jr; 5, Gaudet Lacey

Scratched– Wickeddivine (16May26 ^{2}Lrl^{1}), Brightshininglight (13Jun26 ^{8}Lrl^{2})

50 CENT Pick Three (2/3–7–1/2/6) Paid $8.30; Pick Three Pool $6,737.

$1 Daily Double (7–6) Paid $11.80; Daily Double Pool $4,843.