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Silver Heart Takes On Nine Rivals in Quest for Repeat

(Charles Town, WV (October 17, 2012) – Seven-year-old mare Silver Heart looks to become just the third filly or mare to win the West Virginia Jefferson Security Bank Cavada Breeders' Classic in consecutive years as she takes on 9 rivals this Saturday night at Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races. The \$250,000 Cavada is the second richest race on the track's West Virginia Breeders' Classics XXVI card that's comprised of more than \$1.3 million in purse money.

Worse than second just once in her last 13 starts – with the lone blemish being a fifth place finish in the Barbara Fritchie (G2) at Laurel early this year – Silver Heart once again comes into the Cavada off a second in the Maryland Million Distaff Handicap. That formula worked for the gray mare in 2011 and the two weeks in between races doesn't concern her trainer.

"No, she's done it the past two years," says Capuano when asked if he was concerned about the spacing of the races. "It's pretty much the same program, and she's familiar with it."

Part of what has made Silver Heart successful over a career that has seen her bank more than \$537,000 in earnings is a versatile running style allowing her to adapt to whatever pace scenario she encounters. In last year's Cavada, Silver Heart allowed her competition to duel through a :23 1/5 opening quarter and :47 1/5 half mile before closing from last to win by a length. In her last start at Charles Town, the \$35,000 Ann Hilton Handicap on September 22, Silver Heart lead every step of the way through fractions of :24 and :49 before drawing off to a 3 ¼ length win.

"She is pretty versatile," Capuano added. "If there is a lot of speed, she can come off of the pace. If she needs to be closer she can be there too. We will see how it plays up. Hopefully she gets a good position and breaks good, and she'll put herself in the race."

A victory by Silver Heart would also mean her dam, Holy Princess, has produced the last three winners of the Cavada, with her daughter Aspenglow also having won the race back in 2010.

Silver Heart's regular rider, Travis Dunkelberger, has the call.

On Saturday night, Silver Heart will have to deal with a familiar foe as John Casey's **Down Town Allen** hopes a third try in the Cavada is the charm. The five-year-old mare by Windsor Castle has competed in 14 restricted stakes in her career and has crossed the wire first or second in 11 of them. However, 2 of the 3 efforts that aren't part of those 11 races are the last two runnings of the same Cavada that Down Town Allen will try and conquer on Saturday. In 2010, she finished fifth

beaten 4 ¼ lengths and last year set the pace before tiring to finish sixth, beaten more than 8 lengths.

Down Town Allen had one of the best three-year-old seasons a WV-bred filly has ever had back in 2010 when she won 5 of her 7 outings, with 4 of the wins coming against stakes competition. However, the mare Casey also owns and bred, has had a tough go of it since, dropping 7 straight decisions in her 4 and 5 year old seasons before back to back wins in her most recent 2 starts. The consecutive wins against stakes company, including a win over Silver Heart in the 7 furlong Sadie Hawkins, should give her backers some confidence that she's turned the corner.

Jockey Matt McGowan will be aboard Down Town Allen on Saturday night.

Grams' Racing Stable's **Blushing B.J**. has finished second in West Virginia Breeders' Classics races as both a 2 and 3 year old, but now tries the deeper waters of the Cavada off a 5 month layoff. The filly by Rock Slide hasn't been out since a second place effort in an allowance on May 16 but has posted a pair of solid works in preparation for the richest race she'll have competed in.

Oscar Flores has the mount on Blushing B.J. who breaks from the rail.

Outside of Silver Heart, Down Town Allen and Blushing B.J., the only other horse that's a single digit price on the morning line is veteran **Little Shiney** who will be making her 52nd career start in the Cavada. Despite collecting just 6 wins in her first 51 starts, the Larry Myers trainee has banked nearly \$250,000 in earnings and will be coming from off the pace on Saturday night under jockey Luis Batista.

The remainder of the lineup is completed by **Cat o' Nine Tails**, **Thefun'sjustbegun**, **Belle of Camden**, **Little Miss Jane**, **Ample Opportunity** and **Dixie Heat**, who was 9th in the 2011 Cavada.

\$250,000 WEST VIRGINIA JEFFERSON SECURITY BANK CAVADA BREEDERS' CLASSIC

October 20, 2012

Race 7 – Post time 10:15pm EST

F&M 3&up, 7 furlongs

PP. Horse, Jockey, Weight, Trainer

- 1. Blushing B.J., Oscar Flores, 122, Timothy C. Grams
- 2. Cat O' Nine Tails, Sylvester Carmouche, III, 122, Geoffrey Schneider
- 3. Thefun'sjustbegun, Antonio Lopez, 122, James W. Casev
- 4. Silver Heart, Travis L. Dunkelberger, 122, Gary Capuano
- 5. Belle of Camden, T.D. Houghton, 122, Jamie Stokes
- 6. Little Shiney, Luis A. Batista, 122, Larry M. Myers
- 7. Down Town Allen, Mathew C. McGowan, 122, John A. Casey
- 8. Lil Miss Jane, Joseph Schneider, 122, Edwin L. Tobin
- 9. Ample Opportunity, Jose Montano, 122, David Walters
- 10. Dixie Heat, Clifford D. Dooley, 122, Christopher Keller

Also Eligible

- 11. Princess Aly, Jose Montano, 122, Jeff C. Runco
- 12. Tropical Behavior, J.D. Acosta, 122, Annette M. Aulbach