

# Pimlico : Preakness Day Saturday

(10:30 A.M.)

By Ed DeRosa

Horse Racing Nation

**RACE 1** No. 7 Exploration has found a home sprinting since cutting back in distance to start his 4-year-old campaign and winning two straight before receiving a freshening for this. **PICKS: 7-5-3**

**RACE 2** Thinking that No. 9 Drop the Hammer will be favored here, will take a shot with No. 6 Miss Ellary, who ran out of gas last out in her first turf try in more than eight months. That was a solid front-running effort before running out of gas, but she can improve here third off the layoff. Drop the Hammer faced better last out as well as faced traffic and should improve in second start for potent Graham Motion barn. The horse to beat, but value better on Miss Ellary. **PICKS: 6-9-3**

**RACE 3** Going to try to take down a couple of big names here with Racing Hall of Fame trainers Todd Pletcher and Bob Baffert both having Triple Crown-nominated colts entered, but it's No. 7 Drill Baby who I think can pull the upset trying two turns for the first time in his third career start. No. 3 Varney might be too quick for everyone early, but I'll take the bigger price on Drill Baby striking oil for us early in the card. **\*BEST BET\*PICKS: 7-3-1**

**RACE 4 (Maryland Sprint Stakes)** If I'm wrong about No. 6 Booth then I'll take a seat, but this Mitole colt for Racing Hall of Fame trainer Steve Asmussen looks to be one of the most likely winners. The biggest concern is that he is giving 4-6 pounds to his six rivals, but any of his three consecutive stakes wins this year at Oaklawn win this. **PICK: 6-2-3**

**RACE 5** The biggest question is what to do with No. 11 River Seine in her first start in America. I am inclined to want to see one given she tailed off from at the end of her season last year. Flavien Prat aboard intrigues but will only add to the underlay. No. 4 Lilly Simone will need some pace to close into, but I'm figuring on some improvement in her second start this season. No. 5 Parola Sicura has raced locally for hot trainer Joe Sharp, who lures Luis Saez aboard. **PICKS: 4-5-7**

**RACE 6 (Skipat Stakes)** Short prices in sprint stakes seems to be the theme of the day, as No. 7 Striker Has Dial just looks better than these, possessing advantages tactically and analytically. The one caveat is both wins this year were big steps forward from what we saw from her as a 3-year-old, but trainer Horacio De Paz has done a good job spreading her races. **PICK: 7-5-3**

**RACE 7 (Gallorette Stakes)** No. 3 Ocean Club ran well in her first start for Bethany Baumgardner, chasing a fast pace before getting shuffled back and coming on again. She should improve off that in second start for barn and John Velazquez aboard. No. 1 Dana's Beauty might get the right trip from the rail assuming our top pick sets the pace. No. 9 Way to be Marie always fires, but I don't love the outside post while picking up 6 pounds off the stakes win last out. No. 7 Three Havanas a wild card, but dropping into the claiming ranks at end of last year enough for me to want to watch one stateside.

**PICKS: 3-1-9**



**RACE 8 (Chick Lang Stakes)** No. 8 One Nine Hundred caught some tough draws in his first two career starts, finishing behind next-out winners in both including the ultra impressive Colloquial. Start 3 was an emphatic gate-to-wire performance that would win this if repeated. No. 7 Faster Gator might be undervalued here given the local connections, but that bullet workout ahead of his third start-off-the-layoff intrigues. PICKS: 8-7-1

**RACE 9 (Jim McKay Turf Sprint)** Not sure where that race from No. 8 Mattingly came from last time when finally living up to his sire Buccheri's legacy with a sharp turf sprint score, but if he can replicate that here then he's the winner. No. 4 Witty will come from way out of it, and that kept me from tabbing on top, but Prat's presence can't be undersold on a consistent horse who could move forward in second start of season. No. 5 Determined Kingdom a turf sprint specialist who likely needed that first start back. PICKS: 8-4-5

**RACE 10 (Sir Barton Stakes)** Stakes debut for the regally bred No. 6 Invictus, whose sire is Into Mischief — sire of three Kentucky Derby winners including Sovereignty — and whose dam is 2019 Kentucky Oaks winner Serengeti Empress. And, oh, yeah: He cost \$1.2 million as a yearling. That's a lot of expectations, and while the career debut did not go well, the return more than eight months later was a spectacular effort. Sky is the limit for this one. PICK: 6

**RACE 11 (James W. Murphy Stakes)** No. 5 End of Romance made his two-turn turf debut last out and hopefully learned something when fifth beaten just a length after a desperate finish. Velazquez hops back aboard here and wouldn't be surprised to see more zip early given the recent drills at trainer Motion's Fair Hill base. No. 7 Reagan's Wit deserves a mulligan after not showing much as the 9-5 favorite in the Transylvania, but we already know he is capable of better. PICKS: 5-7

**RACE 12 (Dinner Party Stakes)** I certainly don't love post 13 of 13 for No. 13 Trikari, but there is no question in my mind that he is among the best in this group, and if he moves forward off that Maker's Mark Mile in now his second start as a 4-year-old then he is the most likely winner. Interesting spot here for No. 9 Irish Aces, who has only gone this 1 1/8-mile trip once in his career, but I can't imagine trainer Brendan Walsh is just coming for the crab cakes. PICKS: 13-9-6

**RACE 13 (Preakness Stakes)** The win pool of this race will be very interesting given how inefficient that same pool was in the Kentucky Derby. I am referencing No. 2 Journalism being 3-1 in the win pool but closer to 2-1 in other pools. Sovereignty was the fourth choice in win wagering but second choice in the other pools. I bring this up because there is no sense trying to get cute with exactas, trifectas and such when a horse like Journalism — easily one of the top 3-year-olds in the country and the best/most accomplished horse on paper among this group — might be more than even money. I will bet him to win at odds of 6-5 or better. No. 3 American Promise should run better here than in the Derby. That seven-week layoff is an eternity for a D. Wayne Lukas trainee. No. 8 Clever Again is the "new shooter" with the heaviest artillery. PICKS: 2-3-8

**RACE 14 (UAE President Cup)** This is an Arabian race. Enjoy your Journalism winnings.

Selections 6-9-2



## **PIMLICO STAKES SELECTIONS**

( By Patrick Moquin)

### **Seventh Race 1. Dana's Beauty 8. Sparkle Blue 2. Queen of the Mud**

DANA'S BEAUTY will have the chance to be forwardly placed on the rail in this race, and if she runs back to her performances on turf last year, she could be extremely dangerous.

### **Eighth Race 9. Perfect Force 3. Ancient World 8. One Nine Hundred**

PERFECT FORCE made his last two starts at a mile and clearly didn't appreciate going that far, so Lukas is cutting him back to a distance that worked considerably better earlier this year; colt finally broke his maiden and came right back to win an allowance in two impressive performances at Oaklawn, and if he can build on those instead of his last two stakes tries, he could be a dangerous stalking type in this field.

### **Ninth Race 6. Coppola 2. No Nay Hudson 4. Witty**

COPPOLA appears to be the speed of the speed in this field and has repeatedly proven that he doesn't mind fighting for the early lead; he was no match in two Grade 2 tries in Kentucky, but his form was strong enough over the winter to win two ungraded stakes at Gulfstream; this field is much closer to the Florida races than the Kentucky ones and he figures as a primary threat.

### **Tenth Race 6. Invictus 7. Hymn 1. Crudo**

INVICTUS made his 3-year-old debut after a long break last month and vastly improved, earning a 90 Beyer in a solid stalking effort at Keeneland; Cox had him ready to go off the bench and he immediately rewarded the trainer with a highly encouraging maiden victory; Cox has a 37% recent strike rate with stretch outs

### **Eleventh Race 7. Reagan's Wit 4. Barbadian Runner 5. End of Romance**

REAGAN'S WIT just missed in an ungraded stakes at Tampa Bay Downs two back and stepped up again to finish fourth in the Grade 3 Transylvania and Keeneland in April; the colt was knocking on the door of his first stakes win in both starts after a dominant maiden victory at Fair Grounds in January; this will be his fifth different track in five starts for DeVaux.

### **Twelfth Race 13. Trikari 10. Fort Washington 6. Balnikhov**

TRIKARI made his 4-year-old debut in the Grade 1 Maker's Mark Mile and ran remarkably well to finish third fresh off his winter break; Motion took this colt on a very ambitious tour in 2024 and didn't waste much time testing the waters again this year; it's rare that a Grade 3 race can provide class relief to a runner, so he should be seen as a likely winner in his second start back.

### **Thirteenth Race( Preakness ) 2. Journalism 6. River Thames 1. Goal Oriented**

JOURNALISM seems likely to set the record straight after a hard-fought runner-up finish in the Kentucky Derby; that race is all about navigating and he actually managed to find a half-decent trip, but he was simply outkicked in the stretch by a runner making a later move; in California, he never faced a stakes field with more than five horses, but this field is a lot more similar to those than it is to the Derby; if rain becomes a factor, he just proved it isn't an issue. RIVER THAMES ran just behind the Kentucky Derby winner at Gulfstream two back and came up short again in the Grade 1 Blue Grass at Keeneland last time out; his Beyers don't inspire much confidence against the top pick and a few new shooters in this field, but the fact of the matter is that his performances match up well against some of the best runners of the crop. GOAL ORIENTED wouldn't be as seriously regarded with another trainer beside him, but Baffert tends to know when his runners can handle this sort of step up in





# PREAKNESS 150

By Jeremy Plonk  
Exclusive to Countdowntothecrown.com

## Fearless Forecast - Previews

### WIN CONTENDERS

**CLEVER AGAIN** (Steve Asmussen): Of all the horses in Preakness 150, this one has the most potential to surprise. Not surprise in the sense that he'll be a big upset price. But surprise in the manner in which he might deliver a victory. His upside is immense after visually impressive scores at Oaklawn in both starts this year. He comes in fresh, running the day after the Arkansas Derby, a 48-day break that could see him really geeked up on the front end. He's a \$500,000 son of 2015 Triple Crown winner American Pharoah and could sizzle or fizzle on Saturday. His ceiling could be to win by daylight; his cellar is that he stops in a race a furlong longer than he's ever tried and in his first major class test. His damside pedigree indicates he should handle more. His BRIS late pace figures indicate how fast the tempo goes Saturday likely will tell what he's got left in the tank. **AMERICAN PROMISE** likely will be the key to the trip in terms of how fast he has to go to make the front. He easily dispatched a credentialed runner in **GAMING** (Bob Baffert) in the Hot Springs Stakes, but that one would be a double-digit price in the Preakness. Jose Ortiz rides here and not aboard **SANDMAN**, but that's more to do with timing than anything. The **SANDMAN** camp was slow to commit to the Preakness and Ortiz had given his commitment to Clever Again. Ortiz rode both to victory in a whirlwind Oaklawn weekend back at the end of March.

**GOAL ORIENTED** (Bob Baffert): There's no doubt some blind leap of faith here with the least-experienced Preakness 150 starter. The 2-for-2 son of Not This Time handled his Derby Day undercard stretch-out and earned a stakes date, but it didn't necessarily have to come 2 weeks later in the Preakness. Stablemate **RODRIGUEZ** (Bob Baffert) did not sufficiently recover from the foot issue that reportedly kept him out of the Derby and subsequently the middle jewel as well. Enter this maternal grandson of 2005 Preakness and Belmont winner **Afleet Alex**. He broke patiently in his route stretch-out at Churchill, just naturally pulling himself to the front around the clubhouse turn and never looking back despite being on arguably the worst part of the track. This colt also was patient in stalking and pouncing in his Santa Anita sprint debut April 6. Whether on the lead or rallying, he's been truly finishing strong and that's what is most promising. He posted a 100 BRIS late pace figure in holding off stakes-tested **HYPNUS** (Kenny McPeck) at CD, while his 97 BRIS late pace figure in the sprint debut was outstanding as well. To finish as strong as he did while setting a solid pace at Churchill is what puts him so high on my pecking order for Saturday. What's more, as we talk about how nobody wants to run back on 2 weeks anymore, this colt was on the workout tab 8 days after the Derby Day card and drilled a half-mile in a fast 47-3/5 (fourth-fastest of 35). He'll handle an off track, handle having to stalk if Flavien Prat opts to do so as the race shakes out and we'll see simply if he handles the level of competition and distance with a light and late-arriving foundation. Baffert has won the Preakness 8 times, most recently with a new shooter in 2023 victor National Treasure. Baffert hasn't been Baffert on this trail, but there ain't exactly a slew of Grade 1 players listed previously on this rundown.

**JOURNALISM** (Michael McCarthy): He's been the top-rated horse in this class from the first week of January until the furlong marker of the Kentucky Derby. There, **SOVEREIGNTY** (Bill Mott) laid claim to the current crown when forging past and delivering the first 2-turn loss of Journalism's career. Perhaps they'll get a chance to continue their debate either in the Belmont Stakes or beyond, but it's this son of 2007 Preakness winner Curlin who shows up in Baltimore. And that's significant on many levels for both the race and the horse. The Preakness needed Journalism on a marquee that lacked the Derby winner for no other reason than his connections said it was more important to have a Travers horse in August. Journalism was back on the track just days after the Derby and returned to jogging and galloping while showing signs of recovery worthy of making him the trip to Baltimore. There's not enough on video or to the eyeball to know for sure how he'll respond in the stretch after 2 taxing races in 14 days as only racing stress will give us those answers. But from a handicapping standpoint, here's enough on paper, pedigree and continued prominence over this particular group of challengers to assume he's strictly the one to beat. Journalism's routine, triple-digit BRIS late pace figures made him a Derby standout to me, so it was shocking to see him not give more response when Sovereignty came to him. But he had never had a horse rally outside of him in a race and never felt a left-hand whip - it was just after the left-hander from Umberto Rispoli that he basically submitted to the threat. I would prefer him to get out mid-track while stalking the pace, and with a long run to the clubhouse turn and manageable field size, the 2-hole likely won't keep him buried inside. McCarthy didn't want him 8 lengths back in the Derby, but some start and early trouble left him there. Figure him to be 4-5 lengths back at Pimlico and if he finishes with what we saw at Los Al, Del Mar and Santa Anita, it will take a freakish front-running effort by someone to beat him.

JP's Picks: W) <sup>2</sup> **JOURNALISM**; P) <sup>1</sup> **GOAL ORIENTED**; S) <sup>8</sup> **CLEVER AGAIN**; 4) <sup>7</sup> **SANDMAN**





## THE PREAKNESS STAKES 150 AT PIMLICO

Gr 1 - 1-3/16 Miles - PURSE \$2,000,000

POST	HORSE	ML ODDS
1	Goal Oriented	6-1
2	Journalism	8-5
3	American Promise	15-1
4	Heart of Honor	12-1
5	Pay Billy	20-1
6	River Thames	9-2
7	Sandman	4-1
8	Clever Again	5-1
9	Gosger	20-1

### TOP PICKS

#2 Journalism

#3 American Promise

#8 Clever Again

#7 Sandman

### WAGERS

\$10 exacta 2 with 3,7,8

\$1 trifecta 2 with 3,7,8 with all

\$1 superfecta 2,3 with 2,3 with 7,8 with all

#1 GOAL ORIENTED (6-1): Unbeaten Baffert pupil looked good in defeating allowance foes on the Derby undercard at Churchill Downs in his second lifetime appearance and will take a big class rise in the second leg of the Triple Crown. Not This Time colt has won from on the lead, and also off of the pace, and the fine prospect put in a swift half-mile morning drill in advance of this start, as well. Flavien Prat retains the ride.

#2 JOURNALISM (8-5): Santa Anita Derby (G1) star was a strong runner-up in Louisville most recently and is the clear one to beat for conditioner Mike McCarthy. The son of Curlin gets a tricky draw near the rail for his local debut, but he is all class and also has the versatility to work out a favorable trip with regular pilot Umberto Rispoli in the stirrups.

#3 AMERICAN PROMISE (15-1): Virginia Derby hero endured a tough trip in the Kentucky Derby (G1) off the layoff and will show big improvement on Saturday. The Justify chestnut will be put into the race early under Nik Juarez, and I consider the colt to be a major factor at a big price while always prominent on Saturday.

#4 HEART OF HONOR (12-1): Son of Honor A. P. has been first or second in each of his six career runs to date, led by a game second in the UAE Derby (G2) last time out. Jamie Osborne trainee is proven at the distance, and he could factor against this crew with a step forward while making his U. S. debut. Saffie Osborne will take the reins once again.

#5 PAY BILLY (20-1): Local hope is in a fine form cycle in advance of his stakes debut with tallies in the Private Terms S. and Federico Tesio S. in his last pair of outings. Michael Gorham pupil seems like a good fit at the 1 3/16-mile voyage, but he will have to prove that he is capable of running at this level. Regular rider Raul Mena will have the son of Improbable stalking the pace from the start.

#6 RIVER THAMES (9-2): Pletcher pupil won his first two races prior to coming home second in the Fountain of Youth S. (G2) and third in the Bluegrass S. (G1) as of late. Bay son of Maclean's Music hasn't done much wrong leading up to his Pimlico debut, and he will get first run on the deep closing types turning for home, too. Irad will be in the silks.

#7 SANDMAN (4-1): Arkansas Derby (G1) victor didn't have a smooth voyage in Kentucky last time out and will hope for clear sailing from off the pace against this group. Mark Casse-trained son of Tapit will receive a strong pace to rally into and will be doing his best work inside the final furlong with John Velazquez accepting the mount. Tapit colt could be the one.

#8 CLEVER AGAIN (5-1): Jose Ortiz opts to stick with this budding star from the barn of Steve Asmussen. Bay son of American Pharoah is two-for-two this campaign led by a win in the Hot Springs S. at Oaklawn Park in his latest appearance, and the well-bred colt is surely moving in the right direction in advance of his first run in the graded stakes ranks. The Kentucky-bred will be in the mix from the opening bell at a fair price.

#9 GOSGER (20-1): Nyquist colt didn't topple a great field in the Lexington S. (G3) at Keeneland last time, but the improving prospect did it the right way for conditioner Brendan Walsh. The homebred has never run a bad one from three career outings to date, but he will have to get faster to overcome





## BELMONT @ AQUEDUCT

POST 12:40

Kevin Cox / David Aragona

**Race 1** #6 THAT'S FUNNY cuts back from two turns to one, takes the biggest drop in the game, and leaves the eye cups on the back side. Would only need to find one of those changes palatable to make an impression here, especially as she has done nothing but improve in all her one turn engagements. 4 CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE is backed by solid DRF Formulator stat, as shedrow is a tight four for five with females at this level who hit the board 27-50 days in the rear, and are in receipt of the wonder drug. The winners came back \$13, \$8, \$9, and \$3. #5 LUMENIQUE was in the rear with the gear in the most recent, but that's no surprise, as this one hasn't hit the board in all four starts when breaking from posts 1-3. Chance to rebound. **6-4-5**

**Race 2** #6 ERIC FROM MIAMI has set money ablaze in the last pair, but drops in class a bit, and is supported by a strong trainer statistic, which has this barn at a whopping 7 for 10 with mid level dirt stock off breaks of 19-60 days. The return on investment for that study is \$3.70+, and we'll give this boy another shot. #3 PROVISION was a gamely and decently clear runnerup in this race at 16-1 last out, and we see no reason to dismiss. #2 BECAUSE THE NIGHT has always been better on a fast track than one with moisture in it. **6-3-2**

**Race 3** #7 DEAR MOON showed nice improvement from her first start to the followup, Ran on well in her debut but start No. 2 saw a big move forward; not only ran 2nd, she finished far clear of the others; certainly looks headed the right way and she showed speed last time, too, which from this post translates to a nice stalking trip; 1 CLOUDY CHANCE was marooned in the curtain raising right here at the end of March, but gave a solid account of herself when completing the triple @ 21-1. Papa Engelhardt is on a surreal 7:6-0-1 run with locally based dirt stock who hit the board 47-56 days back. The winners for that study came back \$7 x 3, \$12, \$15, and \$11. **7-1-3**

**Race 4** #2 ARTEMIS SOUND has gone 63-72-83 in her three sand starts to date, so right off the bat, who knows where her ceiling is in that regards. Gal was a going away victress in her last pair, and both of them came right here with one of them at today's tricky distance, while being first to load. From a Formulator pov, the Toddster is a whopping 17 for 34 with dirt dashers who got the job done 28-45 days in the rear, that are 5-1 or beneath. Lots of things to like here. **2-1a-8**

**Race 5** #1 ARGENTIERA may not have appear to have shown much in either sod start to date, but if you adjust those numbers a bit, they stand out quite favorably against most signed on. Bay gal slides in 10 slots for today's second try off the brake, and sheds a handful of pounds as well. Bond has the Golden Gun when it comes to his turf dashers off breaks of less than 48 days, as he is two for five with that type, while owning a subcategory of one for one at this level. **1-9-6 OFF TURF: 3-10-4-2**



Race 6 #1 MAKES SENSE was a hard trying runnerup finisher versus similar sort down in Hallandale Beach 7 weeks in the past, and has fired off a couple of bullet breezes since, one of them coming up at Oklahoma, which is pretty impressive for a maiden, as that track plays very slow this time of year. Slight edge. #7 TIME PASSES has been beset by back-to-back layoff lines, but has recently received the unkindest cut of all, and could perk up a bit in today's second time on the dirt. #8 HOP SING ( "You named names!" ) has completed the exact in three or four career outings, while posting Beyers in the 80's in each of those. Completely logical.

Race 7 #2 PONANT nearly went all the way in his loan turf engagement down in Florida back in January, and the fellow who finished directly in front of him that afternoon got the job done when next in action, improving in the speed figure area by approximately 5.3%. Would not be surprised to see this boy try to go all the way once again beneath Javy, has done nice work for this outfit. 2-10-5 OFF TURF: 5-1-7-1a

Race 8 #3 ESCONDIDO owns a win and a third from three turf starts to date, while slowly increasing his figures over that stretch. The aforementioned tally was the only time he was made available for purchase, while also being his only start at today's distance of ground. Timid margin. #8 MR FLOWERS has received a trainer upgrade since last in action back in October, but owns a solid turf resume', and must be incorporated. #9 MODICA has partaken in the superfecta in five of his last starts on the poly or turf, but despite that, we feel he is going to be overlooked parimutually. Could jazz things up beneath. Off the turf 5-11(MTO)-1-12

Race 9 #4 CRIMSON LIGHT had a visually impressive win when starting things out last January, which was spoken about ad nauseam on social media. But something went amiss that day, or shortly thereafter, as he didn't face the starter again for 15 months. That being said, he came back victorious, and is now backed by a strong trainer stat. Over the last 60 months, T.P. rolls right along with his locally based dirt sprinters at this level who got the job done 36-50 days in the rear, and are beneath the 6-1 watermark. He's six of nine with that type, and has an R.O.I. of more than three and a half bucks. #3 LOTS A TROUBLE ( uncoupled entymate with the above ) hasn't faced the starter since the first of March, but is 3 fer 7 beneath the seagulls, and that's enough reason to include. #2 WHITTINGTON PARK has done his best work right here, and may plod along for a piece.

Race 10 #4 CARA'S DREAMWEAVER comes in today off of career best number, and if you prorate that her sole turf routing try, then when you come up with is an adjusted 63.3, which came without using the wonder drug, or blinkers - - both of which that are now a part of the makeup. We're betting this one gets overlooked here, and we'll take a swing in a wide open event. #5 RED BURGUNDY hasn't faced the starter since Christmas time, but flashed a lot of speed the only time she came back off on absence, and although she faded late that day, it was versus steeper competition & without the "Big L.". 4-5-8 OFF TURF: 1-9-10-11

Race 11 #7 GATTATIZ has been MIA since late October, but is made available for purchase for the first time right here, while getting Lasix as well. Given the way that she improved from her first turf start to the next, we can see an avenue for a strong effort here. #8 PRINCESS SUMMER will likely take some pounding at the windows off of the dropdown, but it would behoove you to take a gander in he paddock given the long absence. #3 GOOD MISSION has only been out of the superfecta one time in her nine race career, and has to be left in the hopper. OFF TURF: 1-3-13-5





# GULFSTREAM PARK

(12:50)



**Saturday, May 17** By Brian Nadeau (check @Brian\_J\_Nadeau for OFF turf updates)

Royal Palm Meet Statistics (through 5/4):

**GP Meet:** 189-49-39-34 (\$\$1.79/\$5.34) **Best Bet:** 19-8-4-2 (\$2.29/\$6.32) **Longshot:** 18-4-2-3 (\$3.94/\$9.26)

**Race 1:**

4 – Disattached  
3 – Katheeb  
7 – Dixie Preach

**Race 2:**

4 – Triunvirato  
5 – Mustang Bay  
7 – Firstflashofmoon

**Race 3:**

3 – Three Zero  
1 – Mr Narcissistic  
4 – Chaplin

**Race 4:**

8 – Laila Bella Girl  
7 – Swift Candy  
2 – Love Actually

**Race 5:**

6 – Bal de Mar  
2 – Not Guilty  
4 – Garuda

**Race 6:**

2 – R Delray  
3 – Luz de Guia  
1 – Keep On Moving

**Race 7:**

2 – More Than Glory  
6 – Ashima  
3 – Sarah's Dream

**Race 8:**

**1 – Lady O'Brien (Lonshot)**  
2 – On the Nile  
4 – China Blue

**Race 9:**

1 – Turbulent Force  
5 – Ortlely Avenue  
6 – Mr. Binks

**Race 10:**

3 – Grand Mo the First  
10 – Lightning Tones  
5 – Big Data

**Race 11:**

**3 – Abrumar (Best Bet)**  
2 – Cash Equity  
6 – Boppy O

**Best Bet: R11: #3 Abrumar (2-1)**

- \* Big 2<sup>nd</sup> in comeback facing older
- \* More upside than anyone here
- \* Well-drawn with tactical speed

**Longshot: R8: #1 Lady O'Brien (8-1)**

- \* Strong 2<sup>nd</sup> at level on Tap two-back
- \* Stiff class drop out of 17.5k turf run
- \* Meets sketchy tough-to-trust field



GULFSTREAM  
PARK



# MONMOUTH PARK

( POST 12:50) By Brad Thomas

Race	1st Pick	2nd Pick	3rd Pick
1	#5 Crazy Legs Hirsch	#2 Mac Daddy Too	#6 Persistent Danger
2	#5 La Dinamita	#2 Awesome Sunshine	#7 La Vecchia Signora
3	#1 Just Be You	#2 Tavin	#3 Winkiwinki
4	#2 Designer Bag	#5 Apple Shake Shake	#1 Classy Disposition
5	#8 Auroralinna	#1 Layered	#6 Bee Bluff
6	#3 Postino's Prophecy	#7 Summer Flower	#9 Exclusive Champion
7	#3 Summer's Comin	#1 Bel Pensiero	#5 Riding Pretty
8	#7 Awesome Ruta	#6 Vamos Viejo	#4 Gins and Tins
9	#4 Knox	#2 Likebelievingnmagic	#8 Midnight Onyx

1<sup>st</sup> This sprint try off the nearly year-long layoff for router 5 CRAZY LEGS HIRSCH looks like a prep for longer at first glance but he has run well in sprints in the past and he fits the projected race flow in this opener as a closer, since there's a good amount of speed in here; may be able to make the last run given a clean trip.

2<sup>nd</sup> 5 LA DINAMITA is easy to like and likely the one to beat based on her last couple, running 2nd in consecutive races and putting up the best figures in this field; that will also likely mean a fairly light price, which is the main knock.

5<sup>th</sup> 8 AURORALINNA is kin to only one other starter but Love My Jimmy was a stakes-winning sprinter who won 13 of 38 starts and earned over \$284K; this filly has been training steadily toward her debut for trainer Dimitrios Synnefias, who has won with five of 17 firsters at Penn National, Pimlico and Monmouth over the past five years.

9<sup>th</sup> 4KNOX is a major upgrade candidate off his recent form, having raced off the pace in races where the speeds held the edge in three of his last four starts (note the bold "S" symbols in DRF running lines); that shouldn't be an issue today, as there does seem to be enough pace in this race to ensure an honest tempo up front, and he could be in line for a much improved effort in this nightcap.



## Wheeling Greyhounds ( Post 1:00)



1<sup>st</sup> 7 2 4 1

2<sup>ND</sup> 4 7 2 3

3<sup>RD</sup> 4 2 8 6

4<sup>TH</sup> 8 4 6 1

5<sup>TH</sup> 7 8 3 1

6<sup>TH</sup> 2 4 5 6

7<sup>TH</sup> 4 5 2 1

8<sup>TH</sup> 5 3 8 4

9<sup>TH</sup> 2 7 3 6

10<sup>TH</sup> 2 7 5 1

11<sup>TH</sup> 1 2 8 4

12<sup>TH</sup> 2 1 7 4

13<sup>TH</sup> 5 8 2 7

14<sup>TH</sup> 7 2 6 1

15<sup>TH</sup> 6 3 4 8

16<sup>TH</sup> 3 1 7 4

17<sup>TH</sup> 8 7 3 1

### Best Bets

**6-2 B L COMMUNITY**

**9-2 ARKWILD B KENNY**





# REMINGTON PARK (1:00)

RACING ♦ CASINO

By Jerry Shottenkirk  
Saturday, May 17

## Preakness Stakes

2 JOURNALISM  
1 GOAL ORIENTED  
8 CLEVER AGAIN  
7 SANDMAN

### 1<sup>st</sup> Race

3 TURNPIKERS SILOS  
9 HES LIGHT  
8 WF WIREMEMONEY  
4 JESS A LOTA HO

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Race

8 FLYIN COWGIRL  
10 JIM APOLLITICALPEARL  
4 RREFLECTION  
3 SENORITA CANDY CAN

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Race

1 TURBULENT  
4 PT GLITZ  
9 JM TEXAS TURNPIKE  
3 ROYAL CHIL

### 4<sup>th</sup> Race

4 SLINGSHOT ENGAGED  
7 FLIGHT RISK  
8 CANCEL CULTURE  
1 JS MAFIA CHICK

### 5<sup>th</sup> Race

2 PRETTY LIL POISON  
8 PT ANGEL  
3 RIVER FLOWER  
1 OLD HABITS NEW TRICKS

### 6<sup>th</sup> Race

7 CARDIAC COWGIRL  
6 JC SPEEDING  
3 MAMASLETTHEMBECOWBOYS  
4 LIVEWIRES APOLLO

### 7<sup>th</sup> Race

4 WIRED CARTEL  
8 CUZ EYEMA COWBOY BABY  
5 SEXY ROSS  
6 GIGIS GUCCI GLASSES

### 8<sup>th</sup> Race

1 ICY TURNPIKE  
6 OG SIN CITY  
4 LIVEWIRES MISS  
7 SHOWIN YOU SOME KVN

### 9<sup>th</sup> Race

4 WIRE TRANSFER  
5 COWGIRL CHAOS  
1 PAINTED TO BE QUICK  
7 WF APOLITICAL BULLET

### 10<sup>th</sup> Race

10 DASH FOR POWER  
1 THIRD FABULOUS SIGN  
9 IM CHICA FRESA  
7 IM FISH HOOK

### 11<sup>th</sup> Race

4 RAZOR HAWK CARTEL  
8 APICASSO JESS  
1 JONES HERO  
2 MISTAKIN IDENTITY

### TODAY'S BEST BET

PRETTY LIL POISON (5<sup>th</sup>)

### PICK FIVE

(Races 1-5)  
3-9-7-4 with 8-10 with 1-4 with 4-7-8 with 2-8 (\$48)

### PREMIER PICK FOUR

(Races 2-5)  
8-10-4 with 1-4 with 4-7-8-1 with 2-8 (\$24)

### PRIMETIME PICK FOUR

(Races 8-11)  
1-6 with 4-5 with 10-1-9-7 with 4-8-1-2 (\$32)



# WOODBINE (1:05)

Handicapper's Journal – Doug McPherson  
Saturday, May 17th 2025

## Race 1

### #4 Bennys Jets

### #5 Backonthechaingang

### #1 Temple Hall

### #6 Happy Quad

#4 BENNYS JETS threw in a clunker when kicking off his season two weeks ago at the OS/\$40,000 level. He takes a drop for his second start off the bench; last year he ran a similarly poor race on debut before immediately improving in his next start. #5 BACKONTHECHAINGANG was only 2 ¾ lengths better than Bennys Jets when offered for a tag for the first time on May 3. He will go with blinkers for the first time while taking another drop. #1 TEMPLE HALL has speed and figures to be a front-end threat. He showed potential in his first two starts at the maiden special weight level before regressing in two starts for \$40,000; blinkers will be removed. #6 HAPPY QUAD picked up a few checks last year; he has some speed and is worth a look.

## Race 2

### #2 People Are People

### #5 Alpha Kadin

### #7 Castle Harbour

### #3 Big Lew

#2 PEOPLE ARE PEOPLE loomed a threat but did not kick on when finishing a decent fourth in the first race of the year. The winner of that race came back to run a good second against OS/\$40,000 non-twos; this one should be live on the drop in for \$15,000. #5 ALPHA KADIN showed speed and prevailed in a battle for the place spot for this tag on December 15. He could be in a good tracking spot behind Hard Reload early. #7 CASTLE HARBOUR broke slowly on debut but showed some tactical speed and ran a credible fourth, three lengths behind People Are People on December 13. Lightly-raced five-year-old goes without blinkers here. #3 BIG LEW had run some quietly decent speed figures before running a solid third, a length behind Alpha Kadin on December 15; minor player.

## Race 3

### #1 Magic Modie

### #3 Worry Less

### #2 Ain't No Lady

### #6 Ondine Lady

#1 MAGIC MODIE hit the board in six of eight starts last year. She has had some quick breezes since moving to the Tiller barn for the new season; could be a pace threat.

#3 WORRY LESS had two close runner-up finishes to close out 202, both at this level. Her speed figures are solid; another who figures to be forwardly-placed. #2 AIN'T NO LADY had some time to train in Ocala before throwing in a disappointing effort over the Tampa turf on May 4 after a couple of times being vet scratched before that. She has run her best races on synthetic both here and at Presque Isle; cuts back in distance for her second start off of the bench. #6 ONDINE LADY was more forwardly-placed than expected in an OS/\$40,000 race on opening day and ran a decent fifth; she should find this spot more to her liking.

## Race 4

### #2 Classy War

### #8 Big Screen Boss

### #4 Springer

### #5 Lasting Silence

#2 CLASSY WAR raced evenly against three and up for \$50,000 on the Churchill dirt last time but had a good run over the Gulfstream Tapeta two back, encountering a bit of trouble going into the turn that is not mentioned in the footnote. He adds blinkers for his return to a synthetic surface. #8 BIG SCREEN BOSS was purchased for \$75,000 at the 2023 CTHS Yearling Sale and will debut here. Big Screen is not a particularly strong debut sire but the dam has produced three debut winners in 13 foals to race, including Stakes-winners Cooler Mike, Cruden Bay and Sav. He worked well with company from the gate on the training track on May 9. #4 SPRINGER was claimed for \$40,000 on November 24 and will waive the tag for his return to the races for the new connections. He has had poor luck at the break but has raced well in both of his tries over the Tapeta. #5 LASTING SILENCE picked up a check in three of five starts at two with competitive speed figures and looks competitive.

## Race 5

### #3 Verdejo

### #6 Breezero

### #4 Haley's Honor

### #5 Give Me the Boots

#3 VERDEJO had just one win in 12 starts last year but put in a number of solid efforts against tougher company than this. Hard-knocking six-year-old could have some pace to close into for her first start off of a claim at the end of last season. #6 BREEZERO was a chasing third behind restricted Stakes-winner Little Teddy and rapid stablemate Miss Vyvyanne when making her local debut on opening day; figures to be stalking the pace here. #4 HALEY'S HONOR secured the lead and spurted clear to break her maiden against allowance company on April 27. If she doesn't get softened up by Give Me the Boots



early she could easily double up. #5 GIVE ME THE BOOTS threw in a clunker against N2X/\$50,000 on May 3. She was able to win at this level on December 14 in a race where she got an easy lead; she will likely have to tussle with Haley's Honor here.

#### Race 6

##### #5 Secret Load

##### #4 Glorianna

##### #3 Super Sicily

##### #8 Anam Cara

#5 SECRET LOAD never missed a check in 10 starts last year, winning twice and running a very close third in the Ashbridges Bay late in the season. Closing filly may not have an ideal pace scenario but looks worthy of respect in her four-year-old debut. #4 GLORIANNIA closed out the 2024 season with a pair of runner-up finishes behind the ultra-consistent My Sunny Valentine. She made a start at Turfway on March 22, finishing well to be fourth at a similar class level and looks like a logical contender. #3 SUPER SICILY gets a bit of a class test here after closing out 2024 with a gate-to-wire win against \$25,000 non-threes on December 12. She could potentially be the lone speed here. #8 ANAM CARA was a chasing fourth when kicking off her season on April 26. She was able to win in her second start off of the bench last year.

#### Race 7

##### #2 Somethinaboutther

##### #9 Brindi (IRE)

##### #4 Shotgun Wedding

##### #1 Madame Obey

#2 SOMETHINABOUTHER angled out and tried to launch a bid in the stretch run of the Bourbonette Oaks but got in tight at the  $\frac{1}{8}$  pole and finished evenly. It was a better effort than it looks on paper and she already has a Stakes win over the Woodbine surface to her credit. #9 BRINDI (IRE) responded to a challenge on the front end and kicked clear to win the Star Shoot on opening weekend. She looks like the quickest of the quick; dangerous if she gets clear. #4 SHOTGUN WEDDING was a credible third behind a pair of four-year-olds in an N2L allowance on April 26. She showed she has some Stakes class when finishing third in last year's Catch a Glimpse. #1 MADAME OBEY was able to beat winners on debut on December 15 before running a credible third against allowance company at Turfway on February 13. She clearly has some ability and is worth a look in her Stakes debut.

#### Race 8

##### #3 Zo Lee - Best Bet

##### #2 Bolt Enoree

##### #7 Uphill Dance

##### #6 Liam's Gift

#3 ZO LEE broke very sharply but was outsprinted, raced wide and finished evenly after some early stretch bumping at Keeneland on April 10. She has had success racing on the lead and may find herself there in this paceless affair. #2 BOLT ENOREE closed out 2023 with an N2L allowance win routing. She only finished worse than fourth once last year and should have no problem cutting back to seven furlongs for her four-year-old debut. #7 UPHILL DANCE had no luck for Bill Mott after being privately purchased last year and is now returned to the Rachel Halden barn. Her only recent one turn races have both been on dirt which is not her ideal surface; would not be surprised to see her form turn around here. #6 LIAM'S GIFT made just one start last year but it was a winning one, a perfectly-tripped N2L allowance on turf. She has never run a bad race at Woodbine but does not race very often and I would not take too short a price on her.

#### Race 9

##### #2 Night Striker

##### #1 So Called Vacation

##### #7 Audax Minor

##### #4 Contrivance

##### #3 Legs Like Gizmo

#2 NIGHT STRIKER was flat when adding blinkers for his final start of the 2024 campaign. He has done his best running without the blinkers; though he probably prefers a route he looks like he could get a good pace setup following some cheap speed here. #1 SO CALLED VACATION was beaten a head in his first start off of the claim for these connections on December 8. He has hit the board in half of his 20 starts to date. #7 AUDAX MINOR had no success racing on dirt at Oaklawn this winter; his synthetic speed figures are fine and he should have a fitness edge over most of his competition. #4 CONTRIVANCE dueled on the lead and gave way to be third against non-twos on May 4. He will be going for the lead here; hopefully he does not get worn out by Legs Like Gizmo. #3 LEGS LIKE GIZMO had no success in three starts last year and now returns for a new low tag; he has speed but never leaves anything in reserve.



# Cumberland (Maine Harness)

( 3:15 p.m. )



By Lucky Lou

1. 5-2-1

2. 1-6-2

3. 4-3-6

4. 5-2-3

10. 4-3-5

5. 5-4-2

11. 5-1-4

6. 3-4-1

**Best Bets :**

**Race 3 # 4 ALWAYS AT MY PLACEE**

3 for 4 here this year for a high pctg . barn

7. 1-4-6

**Race 9 # 5 CONTROL THE PIPER**

Comes in from Plainridge, looks well spotted  
with Switzer from Post 5.

9. 5-4-1

Pick 4 Play Race 8: 2,3 / 4,5 / 3,4,5 / 1,5





# SANTA ANITA

## Expert Analysis

(4:00)

By Brad Free

**BEST BET: Kitty Kitana (4th race)**

First Race **1-2-3**

- |               |           |                |
|---------------|-----------|----------------|
| 1. Innovative | 2. Nafisa | 3. Church Lady |
|---------------|-----------|----------------|

Close call between 3yof ~INNOVATIVE^ and 4yof ~NAFISA^ in this maiden turf race at a mile and one-eighth. INNOVATIVE has improved each successive start, she finished well and missed by only a nose last out racing one mile. She did benefit from a rail-skimming trip, but she ran her final quarter-mile in 24 seconds and acts like another furlong will benefit. She gets an eight-pound weight break (118 to 126) over her main rival NAFISA. The latter finished more than two lengths behind as the even-money favorite in the same race, but NAFISA actually ran okay. She put away the pacesetter, got challenged immediately, tried to fight back, and tuckered out in deep stretch. The pace of this longer race could be easier, NAFISA takes off blinkers but will be positioned in front of her main rival turning for home. ~CHURCH LADY^ raced evenly to split the field in the same race. It was the U.S. debut for CHURCH LADY, who is likely to improve second start back, second start stateside. Third-time starter TIME TO SHINE has an even-paced style racing one mile that suggests she wants this longer mile and one-eighth distance.

Second Race **6-1-4**

- |                     |           |             |
|---------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1. Winds of Freedom | 2. Panuco | 3. Cascabel |
|---------------------|-----------|-------------|

~WINDS OF FREEDOM^ and ~PANUCO^ meet for the fifth straight time, after finishing 3-2 last out in a similar claiming sprint for 3yos. In a close call, WINDS OF FREEDOM may hold an advantage from his outside post while his rival is buried on the rail. FREEDOM has more natural speed based on his last start, and figures for an up-front trip. He finished in front of his main rival two starts back, although PANUCO finished in front of FREEDOM three of the last four. PANUCO finished a clear second last out, more than two lengths clear, and his four starts in claiming races produced two wins, two seconds. Close call between the top pair. ~CASCABEL^ wired maidens two weeks ago at Turf Paradise, and could influence the pace scenario.

Third Race **2-7-4**

- |                  |                 |             |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. Always On Cay | 2. Momo's Kiddo | 3. Trinidad |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------|

~ALWAYS ON CAY^ takes a subtle but significant class drop from a fifth-place finish in a an open \$8k claiming sprint down to restricted \$8k (N3L or \$12.5k starter) sprint. It might be enough of a drop for CAY to win. He has faced better and run well; the best race of his career was at this mile distance in February. He has enough speed to be forwardly placed pushing the slower pace of a two-turn race. ~MOMO'S KIDDO^ stretches to a route for the first time, following a runner-up sprint finish last out. With a seven-pound apprentice rider aboard, and enough speed to make the lead, he merits a chance on the front end in his first career route. ~TRINIDAD^ also stretches out, first off the claim by Bob Hess. Jr. Both wins by TRINIDAD were around two turns, in January and June 2023. DEVILINTHBLUEGRAS defeated easier last out; RIGHT HAND RYDER was overmatched last out, but fits with these. He enters with the highest last-out speed figure.

Fourth Race **5-7-1**

- |                 |                   |                    |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Kitty Kitana | 2. Special Flower | 3. Free and Humble |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|

Grade 3-placed ~KITTY KITANA^ drops to the lowest level of her career (\$30k claiming, N3L) for her first start in two months. She has been repeatedly foiled at the N2X class level, this low-restricted claiming level is where she fits best. ~SPECIAL FLOWER^ is speed, in a turf sprint that does not have much early pace. Runner-up last out with a pressing trip on easy fractions, FLOWER could get a loose-on-the-lead trip in this otherwise paceless race. Trouble-prone ~FREE AND HUMBLE^ had another bad trip one week ago, fifth as the favorite in a similar N3L claiming turf race while once again blocked badly in the lane. She is overdue for a clean trip.

Fifth Race **3-2-1**

- |                |                    |             |
|----------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 1. Begin Again | 2. Audible Silence | 3. Fincairn |
|----------------|--------------------|-------------|

Bottom-level maidens race for an \$8k claim tag, ~BEGIN AGAIN^ is the logical choice in a conspicuously weak race. His third-place comeback was his first start in nearly four months, he finished in the money five of his six starts in dirt route, and faces a field of slow, distance-challenged basement-level maidens. ~AUDIBLE SILENCE^ stretches back out to two turns, the last time he ran long he ran the best race of his career. that was three starts when he split the field in a maiden-20 route. That 60-Beyer fifth-place finish matches the career-high figure of the top choice. SILENCE will be rolling from behind. ~FINCAIRN^ finished off the board all 12 starts, but he has never faced a field quite this weak. This is his first time racing at the bottom level at SA.

Sixth Race **5-8-10**

- |                     |                 |                      |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1. Titanic Thompson | 2. Just a Graze | 3. Highplainsdrifter |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------|

~TITANIC THOMPSON^ is ready to win, third time out after two good races to begin his career. He ran better-than-looked in his debut in a stakes race (off slow, middle move, wide), and improved two weeks later finishing second in a six-furlong Cal-bred maiden turf sprint. He set the pace but got worn down by the even-money favorite who returned to win his next start. Now with a month between starts, and experience on turf, THOMPSON should be set for the best race of his career third time out. ~JUST A GRAZE^ shortens back to his preferred sprint trip after losing his punch late in both recent turf routes. He finished in the money three of his four previous sprints, and will be rolling from behind. He is trained by Mike Puype, who also entered comebacks ~HIGHPLAINSDRIFTER^. The latter runs well fresh, and might also prefer the shorter distance of his six and one-half furlong trip. Also-eligible CURLIN COMMAND finished second both recent starts, but is marooned on the far outside; BONNEVILLE JIM can improve off his respectable fourth-place debut.

Seventh Race **6-4-7**

- |                    |                  |               |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 1. Touchdown Brown | 2. King of Clubs | 3. Kerry Gold |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------|

Front-runner ~TOUCHDOWN BROWN^ and turf-to-dirt late-runner ~KING OF CLUBS^ top this Cal-bred N1X dirt mile. The call is the speed. TOUCHDOWN BROWN had a wide trip from an outside post (10 of 10) last out and misfired. He meets easier in this state-bred race, and he showed in his runaway win in January that he does not require the lead



to be effective. That is key, because he does face other speed. Dropping in class with a 3-year-old, BROWN can win if he holds off the rally of KING OF CLUBS. The latter is a lightly raced 4yo who won both recent starts on turf in decisive fashion (maiden, Cal-bred allowance). He showed in his third-place career debut three back that he also can run on dirt. There is plenty of pace here to set up his rally. ~KERRY GOLD^ has a pressing style that matches the speed-friendly track profile for a mile on dirt. Since the sprint meet began last month, 14 of the 16 dirt miles (through Sunday) were won by horses positioned 1-2-3. WINDRIBBON stretches out with decent sprint figures and speed for an up-front trip.

**Eighth Race** 6-3-2

- 1. Our Bucky Charm
- 2. Mystic Spirit
- 3. Yacowlef

Off two months and returning to the surface on which he ran the best race of his four-start career, ~OUR BUCKY CHARM^ can upset this wide-open N1X/optional claiming turf sprint. He misfired with an uncomfortable trip last time breaking from the rail on dirt, but he worked well recently and can improve returning to turf. He is not a cinch; this race is wide open. ~MYSTIC SPIRIT^ makes his first start since September with a solid work pattern, ability to fire fresh, and established form on turf. ~YACOWLEF^ won both recent starts, and three of his last four, against claiming-caliber rivals. These rivals are tougher, but YACOWLEF is razor sharp. DANIEL'S MAGIC might be ranked too low. He flirted with stakes company multiple time last year, he won a N2X here last June, and drops in for the \$50k optional claim tag for his first start since October. Based strictly on speed figures, one could argue DANIEL'S MAGIC is the one to beat.

**Ninth Race** 1-4-8

- 1. Atomic Drop
- 2. Zimba Warrior
- 3. Nameless

Six days after he romped by more than 10 lengths and was claimed for \$16k, ~ATOMIC DROP^ is the choice. Not sure if the 9-for-35 gelding can run two alike wheeling back on such short notice, but if he runs as well Saturday as he ran last Sunday, this race is over. ~ZIMBA WARRIOR^ will be running from behind. A 10-time winner in top form, his three starts this season at SA produced two wins and second. ~NAMELESS^ has won five straight against easier than these, while KINGMEISTER scored his eighth career win last out while finishing in front of ZIMBA WARRIOR. This race is wide open.

**Tenth Race** 3-7-9

- 1. Uncorked
- 2. Granny Budgie
- 3. Lunar Impact

Grade 3 winner ~UNCORKED^ and up-and-coming allowance winner ~GRANNY BUDGIE^ give trainer Phil D'Amato two big shots in this \$100k turf sprint stakes for fillies and mares on the hill. UNCORKED is arguably the class of the field, and sure to benefit by a return to "firm" turf. She misfired last out in a graded stakes on "good," her jockey said she did not care for the footing. She worked well since; D'Amato has long contemplated a switch to the hill for the veteran mare who has been facing better company since her most recent win last spring. The drop into a non-graded stakes is another positive factor. UNCORKED must hold off late-running stablemate GRANNY BUDGIE, who returned from a six-month layoff with an impressive N2X win on the main turf oval. The 5-for-10 mare filly ran well on the hill last fall, she enters the spring season in peak form. She definitely can sprint; the question is if she is good enough to handle the hike in class. Comebacker ~LUNAR IMPACT^ ran well on the hill last year, her up-front style is an advantage in a race that could unfold at a tepid clip. VENGANZA also is proven on the hill: two allowance wins, third in a G3. She ran okay last out finishing fourth in a G3 turf mike; it seems sprinting is her best gig. ANG N ASH looms the upsetter; she finished only a neck behind VENGANZA last out and is another who likes the hill.

## **Emerald Downs (Post 4:50)** **By Joe Withee**

- Race 1: 5-El Berrinches, 2-Tribunal Love, 4-Surprise Fashion
- Race 2: 4-Rail Town, 8-JacobYen, 7-Precedent Luke
- Race 3: 2-The Great Haynes, 1-Yoderando, 7-Libby's Gambit
- Race 4: 6-Mars on Fire, 7-Square Cat, 4-Bertacchi
- Race 5: 4-English Meadow, 5-Smilingatthemoon, 8-Pocket Knife
- Race 6: 5-Belle Weather, 6-Shesayshello, 2-Moonlight Grey
- Race 7: 8-Slews Tiz Whiz, 7-Executive Chef, 2-Papas Golden Boy
- Race 8: 2-Lovely Story, 7-Roman Bronze, 8-Lovingkindness

### **Race 6 # 5 Belle Weather**

**Won when fresh 10 months back and she has been working steadily toward return without a missed beat; smart gate bullet on April 30 while Gutierrez retains the mount.**

### **Race 7 # 8 Slew's Tiz Whiz**

**First pick; He flew home in the slop last year off the bench and now gets more distance; 7yo was 1st, 3rd and 3rd in the past three Longacres Mile renewals and has won 4 of past 7 sprint contests; screws have been tightened in the mornings.**



# CHURCHILL DOWNS - POST 6:00

## FIRST RACE

11 Lamorna Corrales G 11-7-13-3

## SECOND RACE

9 Big Salt Lick Bejarano R 9-5-8-6

## THIRD RACE

2 Divine Machado L 2-4-3-8

## FOURTH RACE

3 Goodasiwonswas Saez G 3-4-5-1

## FIFTH RACE

7 Frosty Indulgence Hernandez B J Jr 7-1-5-3

## SIXTH RACE

9 Sy B Hernandez B J Jr 9-2-1-3

## SEVENTH RACE

4 Redemption Time Concepcion A 4-5-6-7

## EIGHTH RACE

3 Fever Night Hernandez B J Jr 3-5-4

## NINTH RACE

6 Utah Beach Cheminaud V 6-2-9-3

## TENTH RACE

6 Baddest Good Boy Torres C A 6-7-9-1

## ELEVENTH RACE

1 Me and Molly McGee Dettori L 1-4-8-11

EVE.  
TRACKS

- CHURCHILL

- PRAIRIE DOWNS

- MDWLANDS





SHADES' PLAYS



(6:15)

## PERFECT PLAY

- R1 (1) Smart Guy  
(8) JP Hoodini  
(5) Farkle
- R2 (5) Madden Oaks  
(7) Red Blooded  
(4) Idealofaday
- R3 (1) Celtic's Whitesox  
(4) Number One Child  
(2) Devious Paul
- R4 (4) Prairie Kitten  
(1) Bea Nameless  
(6) Emmie One
- R5 (7) Dox Nixon  
(4) Ms Titan  
(1) Dryden Hanover
- R6 (3) Yucatan Party Man  
(2) Discus Hanover  
(6) Starlitcresentroll
- R7 (5) Rosey Time  
(6) Abby Rose  
(1) Hunts Flower
- R8 (5) Knight Angel  
(4) Smart as Hill  
(7) Blue Eyed Babe
- R9 (7) B Like Cruiser  
(4) Barley a Sin  
(5) Checkerswthgrandpa

### Race 8, #5 Knight Angel

Veteran gelding hasn't shown much this season but perked up on the drop to the bottom at PHL. Lands in a similar spot locally and fits well with these. Should be aggressively handled off car.

## PRICE PLAY

### Race 9, #7 B Like Cruiser

Meadowlands shipper raced well when last entered for the tag and meets a suspect crew. Put a line through his last. Capable of more.



# HOOSIER PARK ( 6:15 )

Race 1	#2 BOOK THE FIGHT	2-1-6-4
Race 2	# 1 GRAN REVIVAL	1-6-7-5
Race 3	#6 DASH OF LUCK	6-5-1-4
Race 4	#2 GALLEYS IMAGE	4-3-10-5
Race 5	#5 EASTER JACK	5-1-7-3
Race 6	#4 MIRACLE MAVEN	4-1-3-5
Race 7	#3 LLOYD WRIGHT	3-2-5-7
Race 8	#6 ROSE RUN VISION	6-5-4-3
Race 9	#5 CHANDLER BING	5-3-1-4
Race 10	#3 ODDS ON ALEXANDRIA	3-1-2-8
Race 11	#5 PONDA JET	5-4-1-3
Race 12	#2 WILD ROSA	2-6-5-4





#### RACE 1

7 DA DELIGHTFUL 3-1  
5 DANCE PARTNER 7-2  
4 TRUMPSTER BLUES 4-1  
2 BOBCAT BAY 7-1

( Post 6:20) By BOB PANDOLFO

DA DELIGHTFUL steps up off a win but fits well at this NW7500 level...DANCE PARTNER comes out of two sub 1:50 miles where he held his ground well...TRUMPSTER BLUES just missed against a somewhat weaker field in last but Beckwith took him over the 2 and 3...BOBCAT BAY got a perfect trip to beat weaker.

#### RACE 2

2 OUR CORELLI N 5-2  
1 BOLT THE COURT 7-2  
3 LAZARULS 4-1  
5 ALI 7-1

OUR CORELLI N beat weaker easily in last. Three starts back he had a tough trip from post 9 at this level...BOLT THE COURT drops and should show more...LAZARULS comes off an improved effort...ALI drops and can show more.

#### RACE 3

4 LAUGH SHOP 4-5  
5 LUKE MCGOOK 5-2  
7 BET A BUNDLE 9-2  
6 VICIOUS 6-1

LAUGH SHOP was off a 1 year layoff in last, saved ground and held the show in a quick mile. Much improved 4 year old takes a key drop...LUKE MCGOOK is the only horse in the race that has won a race this year and may be the main rival...BET A BUNDLE drops and may try leaving...VICIOUS was shuffled back and finished willingly in last.

#### RACE 4

1 SELECT FRIDAY 5-2  
3 VANDALISM 7-2  
2 FERRAGAMO HANOVER 4-1  
4 BARBOSSA HANOVER 9-2

SELECT FRIDAY has climbed the ladder and steps up to the next level looking for his 4<sup>th</sup> straight win...VANDALISM was first over and weakened in last, drops back to level of his win two back...FERRAGAMO HANOVER doesn't win that often but has rounded back into form...BARBOSSA HANOVER has some speed.

#### RACE 5

1 SOUTH BEACH STAR 3-5  
6 WEHADABABYETZABOY 9-2  
5 STONEBRIDGE REEF 9-2  
7 GALANTE A 10-1

SOUTH BEACH STAR was involved in a fast pace in last and weakened; speedy veteran drops, makes his fourth start of the year, and has a class edge here.

#### RACE 6

5 KENDRA\*\* 4-5  
6 CONVERSANO 5-2  
2 TRULY AUTHENTIC 6-1  
3 HALFADOZEN 8-1

KENDRA was a solid and good gaited 2 year old trotter, shows two good qualifiers for the Takter barn and looks ready to roll...CONVERSANO showed some potential last year and she came off a layoff to win the Lady Suffolk off a ground saving trip...TRULY AUTHENTIC returns for Svanstedt, who is always a threat to have them ready...HALFADOZEN set a slow pace and was third behind Conversano.



- RACE 7  
 6 FALLOUT 8-5  
 7 ZEPPOLE HANOVER 7-2  
 4 BUILD THE WALL 7-2  
 5 TARANAKI 7-2

FALLOUT was brought along nicely by trainer Tony Alagna last year as he sharpened steadily and won the Metro, then turned in a game effort in the Breeders Crown Final. He faces older horses in his 3yo debut and might not leave but he could still prove fastest...ZEPPOLE HANOVER is sharp and might be the last one to the lead for Bartlett...BUILD THE WALL always tries hard and is usually right there...TARANAKI stepped up in class and was used pretty hard in last but dug in gamely for the win; I could see him regressing off that effort but he does fit well here.

- RACE 8  
 1 GRANDE VIA 7-5  
 3 FLIGHTLINE 5-2  
 8 HIDALGO 7-2  
 7 MR WALNER FASHION 7-1

GRANDE VIA well bred colt sold for \$450,000 last year but was erratic and only hit the board once in 10 tries. The hobbles came off for his two qualifiers and he looked like an improved horse...FLIGHTLINE was a decent two year old and won both of his starts at Philadelphia to start his 3yo campaign; faces tougher here...HIDALGO was a solid two year old but broke at 6/5 in his first start of the year...MR WALNER FASHION qualified three times since he broke in his second qualifier. Might have a shot at a price if he can stay flat with hobbles added.

- RACE 9  
 5 GO AHEAD MAKEMYDAY 8-5  
 4 TRAVOLTA HANOVER 2-1  
 6 YANNICK G KEMP 7-2  
 8 SKY LEGACY 12-1

- RACE 10  
 5 PERICULUM 2-1  
 3 ARI FERRARI J 5-1  
 11 GET A WISH DK 8-1  
 4 ANTOGNONI S 6-1

PERICULUM had a strong 5 year old season last year, qualified sharply for this year's edition of the Arthur J Cutler Memorial and strong closer draws well. It's a tricky race to figure out the odds with five horses coming off layoffs but I do feel that this classy horse is the deserving favorite...ARI FERRARI qualified well twice and is in good hands...GET A WISH DK came in for the International Trot last year but made a break. He's now in the Svanstedt barn, should be ready, and may be a live longshot...ANTOGNONI S broke last week. He's been tough to beat since coming in from Sweden but this is a tougher field than he's been facing.

- RACE 11  
 2 YO TILLIE 8-5  
 6 SPICY NICE 5-2  
 4 ADMIRING 4-1  
 1 GET IT ALL 5-1

- RACE 12  
 4 SAULSBROOK HERO 7-5  
 6 KNEEDEEP N CUSTARD 5-2  
 2 TOTO HANOVER 7-2  
 8 MIDNIGHT THUNDER 8-1

SAULSBROOK HERO left and was parked to a quick opener, was shuffled back to 6<sup>th</sup> and rallied sharply for the place...KNEEDEEP N CUSTARD left and parked the top pick to the lead, yielded and was shuffled, finished well in his first start over the track and it was an improved effort...TOTO HANOVER didn't have an easy trip in last and Dunn took him over the 5 and 8 here...MIDNIGHT THUNDER drops and may show more.

- RACE 13  
 5 BLUEBIRD TIME 5-2  
 3 CLASSIC FRANK 3-1  
 9 LOCKDOWN LOUIE N 7-2  
 2 MY ULTIMATE STAR A 4-1

- RACE 14  
 3 LOU ON THEBEACH 9-5  
 4 SOMBODYITREASURE 2-1  
 6 IMINURBLINDSPOT 7-2  
 1 SEEYOU AT THEBEACH 9-2

BEST BET: KENDRA 6<sup>th</sup> Race





# Race Selections



## Saturday May 17, 2025

7:00

	<b>Bobby Neuman</b> Track Announcer	<b>Trackside Tina</b> The Unbridled Spirit	<b>TV Drew</b> "Iowa Energy???"	<b>Tipster</b> The Wizard Of Calle Ocho
<b>1</b>	4 Addasquecktoit 6 Quiet I'm Not 1 Delacina	4 Addasquecktoit 1 Delacina 2 Sipping Firewater	6 Quiet I'm Not 1 Delacina 2 Sipping Firewater	6 Quiet I'm Not 4 Addasquecktoit 1 Delacina
<b>2</b>	1 Red River 3 Remaining Nameless 6 Irish Coast	3 Remaining Nameless 1 Red River 6 Irish Coast	6 Irish Coast 7 State School Smart 5 Southfork	7 State School Smart 6 Irish Coast 3 Remaining Nameless
<b>3</b>	3 Count De Monet 7 Max's Map 5 Charter Oak	7 Max's Map 3 Count De Monet 5 Charter Oak	5 Charter Oak 3 Count De Monet 7 Max's Map	3 Count De Monet 5 Charter Oak 4 Absolute Chaos
<b>4</b>	4 Tribest 5 Golden Edge 1 Blame Nellie	1 Blame Nellie 6 Cherbourg 5 Golden Edge	<b>1 Blame Nellie</b> 2 Highwood 7 She's My Kindagirl	4 Tribest 5 Golden Edge 6 Cherbourg
<b>5</b>	7 Cherry Glen 3 Steely Eye 2 Dontdrinkanddrive	3 Steely Eye 7 Cherry Glen 2 Dontdrinkanddrive	5 Gettistown 3 Steely Eye 2 Dontdrinkanddrive	4 La Fee's Secret 3 Steely Eye 6 D D's Legacy
<b>6</b>	5 Time To Fly 6 Lock And Load 4 Spinning Pride	<b>5 Time To Fly</b> 6 Lock And Load 2 Don't Fly Standby	5 Time To Fly 2 Don't Fly Standby 4 Spinning Pride	5 Time To Fly 2 Don't Fly Standby 7 Hola Joey
<b>7</b>	7 Tell Me When 3 Aloha Bay 6 Motown Dynamic	6 Motown Dynamic 5 Caitlin Time 3 Aloha Bay	6 Motown Dynamic 5 Caitlin Time 7 Tell Me When	<b>7 Tell Me When</b> 2 Kiki Krazy 3 Aloha Bay

Most probable winner noted in **BOLD** /Please verify all horse names and numbers in the official program!