



## Picks Tip Sheet

Race Day Date	August 8, 2025
Tip Sheet By	Paul Halloran

### Race-Day Overview

*Welcome to another 6-maiden Friday at the Spa, but they are all maiden special weight and five of them are on turf, so we can live with it. With the Ballston Spa Stakes on the grass, you know the long-range forecast had to look good and it will indeed be fast and firm Friday. Very good betting card, with one of the biggest ML favorites, Be Your Best in the Ballston Spa, likely scratching to run in the Beverly D Saturday at Arlington ... I mean Colonial. Sorry, Howard and Matt.*

### Today's Picks

***\*\*For information on how to read an "ABC Grid" and ticket construction, please refer to our podcast website, [hhhracingpodcast.com](http://hhhracingpodcast.com), and go to the "Power Picks" section...you have to scroll down a bit under the SPP promotion...a video explanation is also available on the page.***

**Go to the next page for our analysis of the races.....good luck!**



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Racetrack: Saratoga

ABC Grid - Post Time 1:10 p.m. EST

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
1	3,7	4	1,2	3,4,7	\$.50 P5	\$54
2	3,6		2,5	3,6		
3	2,9	1,4	6,7	1,2,4,6,7,9		
4	1,2	7		2		
5	7,10	2	6	2,7,10		
6	6,8	5	3	6,8	\$.50 P5	\$96
7	2,3	6,8	1	2,3,6,8		
8	2,6	3	5,9	2,3,6		
9	6,7	1,2		1,2,6,7		
10	3,5	4	7	3,5		

### Top 3 Selections

Race	1st	2nd	3rd
1	7	3	2
2	3	6	5
3	2	9	4
4	2	1	7
5	10	7	2
6	8	6	5
7	3	2	6
8	6	2	3
9	6	1	7
10	5	3	4



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### Pick 5 Analysis

Both sequences look approachable, with no obvious singles jumping off the PPs, though betting efficiency leads me to use one in the early P5. You get to see where the money lands in the first race, which has six FTS. I like the 10 a lot in the fifth and on a caveman would try to get by with only the 2 in the fourth, because including the entry doubles the cost of the ticket and costs you equity. The third race looks wide open. In the late P5, same situation with odds-watching in the first leg (race 6) and the seventh looks wide open. You may have to force yourself to go Jenny Craig in the featured Ballston Spa, and while anything can happen in the last leg, I would feel comfortable being alive to the 3 and 5. Good luck.

*Below are today's Price / Spot Plays. These are not usually the favorites, but horses that will provide some value. The "Stars" rating is 1-5, with 5 being the MOST CONFIDENT.*

### Price/Spot Play(s)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
3	2	Bisclavret	6-1	4	\$20 Win-Place #2
<b>Notes</b> I wouldn't hate it if this horse took a little action as a FTS, indicating he could be live. There are several reasons to like this George Weaver trainee. Not This Time is an 18% win sire with 2YO FTS on turf. The dam won on turf and two siblings won on debut. George Weaver wins at 21% with 2YO FTS on turf. It does drop to 12% in routes as Weaver is terrific in turf sprints in general. The Chad Brown firster with Prat will be the favorite by default, but Chad is only 13% with 2YO FTS on turf. There should be value here.					
Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
5	10	Moonlight Drive	5-2	4.5	\$50 Win #10
<b>Notes</b> <b>PLAY OF THE DAY:</b> I know what you're thinking: What kind of spot play is a FTS who is the slight ML favorite in a race with six FTS? Hopefully, the kind that is going to win. Speightstown gets 14% winners with 2YO FTS and the stats hold up when you include turf sprints. This colt has siblings that won 6 of 12 on turf and 2 of 4 on the lawn. Here's trainer Jorge Abreu talking about Moonlight Drive in last Saturday's Saratoga Special: ""He's one of the most precocious 2-year-olds that I have ... In the morning, he looks like he's going to be OK. It's fun when you have 2-year-olds that are starting to peak at the right time." Today is the time.					
Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	5	Antietam	9-2	4	\$30 Win #5 \$10 EX Box 3-5



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**Notes** Curlin colt is a half to three turf winners in Europe, one of them at the Group 1 level. Hall of Fame trainer Todd Pletcher wins at 24% when going dirt to turf in maiden races at Saratoga the last five years. Prat rides. Any more questions?

### Favorite Vertical/Horizontal Plays in addition to the Price/Spot Plays Bets

Race	Selections	Cost
1	\$10 DD 3,4,7 / 3	\$30
6	\$5 Pick 3 6,8 / 2,3 / 2,6	\$40

**Good luck with all your wagers.... CRUSH YOUR BETS!!**

