



Picks Tip Sheet

Race Day Date	Sat., July 18th
Tip Sheet By	Howard Kravets

Race-Day Overview

Good morning from Saratoga Springs!! It's great to be here on-site, and I hope you have a great betting day today.

The first two weekends have been very challenging, and today is no different. When I handicap the card, I always right down the word "spread" next to races that seem difficult and where I need to use as many as possible in my horizontal wagers. For today's card, I wrote "spread" in 8 of the 12 races, lol! I would suggest you bet smartly and pick your spots!

The feature is the G1 Diana, and I do have a strong opinion in that one, which I'll explain in this Tip Sheet. Note it runs earlier in the card due to Fox TV coverage, Race 5. There are many allowance races, and some VERY talented younger horses are running, starting right away in R1, so don't miss it! CHECK FOR SCRATCHES AND CHANGES...50% OF LIGHT RAIN TODAY, bigger chances and heavier rain possible towards the very end of the card. I'm not tipping out main track-only (MTO) horses because I'm not expecting turf races to come off the grass.

Today's Picks

***For information on how to read an "ABC Grid" and ticket construction, please refer to our podcast website, hhhracingpodcast.com, and go to the "Power Picks" section...you have to scroll down a bit on the "Standard" Power Picks page...a video explanation is also available on the page.*

**Go to the next page for our analysis of the races.
Good luck to everyone today!**



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ABC Grid - Post Time 12:35pm ET

(Alternate dirt selections IF OFF TURF are in **RED**):

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks (use in horizontal bets)	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
1	4	2,5,7	6	4	\$0.50 EP5	\$75
2	4,8	1,5,7	6,9	1,4,5,7,8	-	-
3	4,7,8	1,2,3	5,6	1,2,3,4,7,8	-	-
4	2,5,7	3,4	1,6,8	2,3,4,5,7	-	-
5	3	2,4,6	-	3	\$0.50 MP5	\$87.50
6	1,7	2,4,5,8	3,6	1,2,4,5,8	-	-
7	6,7	1,5,8	2,3,9	1,5,6,7,8	-	-
8	2,3	-	4	2	\$0.50 LP5	\$84
9	3,5,6,9	1,8,10	4,7	1,3,5,6,8,9,10	-	-
10	5,8	3,7	2	5,8	-	-
11	6,7,10	4,8,(11)	1,2,3,5,9	6,7,10	-	-
12	4,8	2,3,7	6,9	4,8		

Top 3 Selections (alternate dirt selections IF OFF TURF are in **RED**):

****Keep in mind, there are a bunch of first-time starters running today...let the board be your guide and help with your decisions...makes creating these grids much more difficult without seeing the tote obviously.**

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



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

Middle P5 (Mandatory Payout) Analysis: R5 - 9

**** (Tipping this sequence instead of the Late P5 because middle P5 includes the G1 Diana and Bettin N Boozin covered the Late P5 on their show this week.)**

As usual, this Pick 5 sequence is challenging. But what's unusual is that it starts with a Grade 1, the Diana. Chad Brown has dominated this stake over the last 10 years, and I think today will be the same, but no guarantee as the Euro is talented. I'm gonna start with a single in that leg, and backup with others, including all the other Chads and the Euro. The next two races (R6 and R7) and R9 (last leg) are VERY difficult and would spread. To lower the ticket, I'd single Cy Fair, but honestly, I do think her next-door neighbor (#3 horse) has a decent shot to beat her. If you don't take a stand in the Diana, you're looking at a very expensive ticket.

Price/Spot Play(s)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
1	5	Jack's Golden Gal	9-5	3	\$10 Win, \$20 Place BIG Exacta: 4-5 Small Exacta: 5-4
Notes					
This is a loaded maiden race, with a potential superstar in #4 Powerline. But, if he is just that, the time to beat him is today, his maiden voyage. Nothing can replace experience. #5 Jack's Golden Gal ran better than it looks in his debut. Blinkers-on should help, and he lost to a nice one in Booked, who came back and won a stake. I'm not sure if he's as talented as some in here, but maybe today is the day. I'll use Jack underneath for sure in exactas.					
Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
3	4	Come Full Circle	4-1	4	\$15 WP #4
Notes					



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#4 Come Full Circle ran a very nice race last time....I love turnbacks in distance, and he takes blinkers off, which is a very good angle for trainer Joe Sharp. He shouldn't be too far back, and this field is completely wide open. If he can repeat that effort (he lost to odds-on Egyptian), he's got a big shot. Just like a lot of races / horses today, he needs to get the right trip. \$1 WP for our Spot Play ROI.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
5	3	Kathynmarissa	9-2	5	\$50 Win #3 Trifectas: 3 / 2,4,6 / all 2,4,6 / 3 / all

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT SARATOGA!! First, I believe #5 Five G will scratch and run in a much easier spot at Monmouth. I prefer she runs here because I think it would help my top choice, but don't expect it to happen. Chad has 4 horses in here, and one of them has NOT won a Grade 1. Guess who? That's right, **#3 Kathynmarissa**. Laugh at that angle all you want, but I've seen him do this before. She's just as talented as the other Chads and fits like a glove today. Last time, she was 3-4 wide into the first turn, then took on her stablemate Portfolio Duration on the final turn and flattened out a bit late, but still ran very well. Today, I think she'll sit a much better trip, and 9 furlongs is perfect for her. She also won easily on the inner turf last year...and keeps Jose O., who knows her well. I think a career effort is coming today, although MAYBE a solid mid 90's Beyer wins today, unless the Euro freaks, which is possible. For me, Kathy is BY FAR the Chad you want today...I'd like Segesta more but I'm concerned about the distance. Let's go Kathy!!

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	3	Simulate	2-1	2	\$10 WP #3

Notes:

This is an educated guess frankly in a wide-open field....but I'm not enamored with many here, so I'm going with a "fresh face." **#3 Simulate** ran into a good field last summer in his debut, a race it looked like he needed. Now, he's a much more mature horse (in theory), gets to go a longer distance, and has been working well, including the last one with the uber-talented Baeza. He was basically even with that one throughout the work until very late into the gallop out, which is understandable. Hope he breaks well, and let Junior figure it out from there.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
12	4	Red Velvet Cake	3-1	2	\$10 WP #4 BIG Exactas: 4 / 2,3,7,8 Small Exactas: 2,3,7,8 / 4



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Notes:

Hungry for a winner in the finale? How about some Red Velvet Cake (#4), yummy!! The 4yo filly makes her belated 2026 debut, and she's never been on the turf. But this NY maiden field is pretty weak, and she's been working very well in the mornings. Her mama won twice on turf and almost \$80k and her daddy's progeny have earned almost \$1million on the turf while sprinting...but fair to note at only 8% win rate. Johnny V. rode her in the debut last year when she earned a 73 Beyer. If she break well and avoids a speed duel, I think she'll run big. Know her early...and hopefully late across the finish line.

Race

Program # - Horse

Short Rationale

Most Likely Winner	8	#2 Cy Fair	I'm a bit hesitant here because I truly believe #3 Sapphire Beach could beat her, but no one else on the card stands out more than her....unless Powerline in R1 is the freak he could be.
Best Longshot (over 10-1 ML)	8	#7 Grunge	IF he gets loose, look out. This is a dead send with only one other real speed...maybe he gets the lead?

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

Race	Selections	Cost
1	\$5 Daily Double: 4,5 / 4,8	\$20
5	\$10 Daily Double: 2,3 / 1,7	\$40

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

