



Race Date	7/25/26
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Race-Day Overview

Another fantastic summertime day of racing throughout the country. Today, we'll focus on the two big tracks, Saratoga and Del Mar. However, Woodbine has a VERY good card with 3 graded stakes, so watch Bettin N Boozin earlier this week for their preview of today's races.

Good luck today....in terms of weather, it looks picture-perfect on both coasts, hope for very few scratches, but of course check the toteboard. If you watched Picks & Ponies with guest David Aragona on Thursday or as a replay, you already know of a few scratches in the stake races at Saratoga.

Spot / Price Plays (National Avg. ROI is \$1.60):

***Overall ROI (since Feb. 2021): \$2.13 (\$2,437.34 / 1145)**

2026: \$2.71 (\$411.28 / 152)

2026 Plays of the Day: \$3.11 (\$146.40 / 47)

Today's Picks

**** For those of you not familiar with the "ABC" method of betting, go to our website, hhhracingpodcast.com, and click on the "Power Picks" tab on the top of the page for more information on how to read an "ABC" Grid and place bets using the "ABC" Method.**

Power Picks

Racetrack: Saratoga

Howard Kravets' P5 ABC Grid; R8 Post Time 4:30pm EDT

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
8	9	2,4,12	1,5	4,9,12	\$0.50	\$90
9	7,8	6	-	7,8	-	-
10	1,7	6,8	2,3,5	1,7	-	-
11	9,12	5,7,8	2,3,4,6,11	5,7,8,9,12	-	-
12	5,7 (13, 14)	4,(12)	1,2,6,9,10	4,5,7		

Paul Halloran's Late P5 ABC Grid

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
8	9,12	2,4		2,4,9,12	\$1 P5	\$96
9	1,8	7	6	1,8		
10	1	6,7	8	1		
11	4,5	7,9 (13AE)	11,12	4,5,7,9		
12	5,7	4 (14AE)	2 (13AE)	4,5,7		

Pete Visco's Late P5 ABC Grid:

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
8	5,9,12	2,4	1,7,8	2,5,9,12	\$0.50 P5	\$108
9	1,8	6,7	3	1,8	-	-
10	1,6	7	8	1,6,7	-	-
11	7,12	3,4	5,11	3,7,12	-	-
12	4,5,7	1,9	2,10	4,5,7	-	-

Howard's P5 Analysis

Per usual, the Saratoga Late P5 is challenging. However, there are spots where you can narrow down your choices, so I don't think a huge ticket is necessary to hit. It starts with a tough turf allowance, but if it holds to form, only a few can win realistically. The next two graded stakes are somewhat small fields, so I won't be spreading there either. You could single #8 Built in the Vanderbilt, and possibly single either #1 Counting Stars or #6 Always a Runner, although I think both races are more complicated than that. R11 is absolutely impossible, the biggest spread race for me by far. Then the last is a cheaper turf event, but I think you can narrow down to three horses depending if any of AE's get in...if they do, that complicates matters.



Price/Spot Play(s)

(Reminder, “stars” are rated from 1 – 5, with 5 being the most confident of plays)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	9	Bella Knows	4-1	5	\$30 Win #9 BIG Exactas: 9 / 2,4,12 Smaller Exactas: 4,12 / 9

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT SARATOGA!! #9 Bella Knows is one of the best if not THE best closer in a race that figures to have some early pace to it, although you never know around Saratoga. She lost to Right Timing in her 2026 debut, who would be odds on in this race and is 2-for-2 on turf. Irad will have to work out a trip, but if she’s within striking distance turning for home, look out. Her final 3/16th last time was a very good 29.38 sec....she was moving late.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	7	T Kraft	8-1	3	\$10 Win, \$20 Place #7

Notes:

For some reason, I don’t fully trust #8 Built. He should win, but lost last time (albeit a sloppy track) as the favorite. **#7 T Kraft** (the “other” Bill Mott) is a bit inconsistent, but ran huge two back and seems to prefer being outside of others, which he’ll be here. I assume the rail horse will go forward, but T Kraft in theory should sit right off, but just behind his stablemate and Built if the latter is more aggressive. He has talent, he just has to show it and get a good trip...plus maybe a slight regression for Built. For what it’s worth, David Aragona picked him on top on our show. For our Spot Play ROI, I’ll go \$1 Win and \$3 Place and hope he finishes in the Top 2.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
11	9	She’s Our Tiz	8-1	4	\$15 WP #9 Trifectas: 9 / 5,7,12, (13) / all 7,12,(13) / 9 / all

Notes:

Right off the top, this race is skullbuster, so maybe you just ignore this tip and skip the race, I’d understand. But, I know I’ll get a price due to the difficulty, and I like a challenge! **#9 She’s Our Tiz** is 2nd off the layoff, and has two very sharp works to prepare for this. Last time, she was 4-wide in no man’s land and much closer to the pace than normal...felt like a prep for today. Hope Kendrick is mid-pack today and closes when the abundance of speed collapses late. Her numbers absolutely fit and just needs to run back to last year’s efforts and get a good trip. I’d take 5-1 all day, but no less than that.

[Go to the next page for Del Mar analysis.....](#)

Power Picks

Racetrack: Del Mar

Howard Kravets' Late P5 ABC GRID - Starts at 8pm EDT

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	9,10	1	3,6,7	9,10	\$0.50 LP5	\$96
8	7,9	4,8	3	4,7,8,9	-	-
9	1	3,4,5,6,10	2,7,8,9	1,3,4,5,6,10	-	-
10	1,3,5,6	2	7,9	1,3,5,6	-	-
11	3	7,8	6,10	3	-	-

Howard's Late P5 Analysis

Really nice Late P5 at Del Mar, our first look at the seaside oval on the Standard Tip Sheet this summer. It's not easy....first two legs are somewhat formful, and I'd try to get away with using only a few. The Daisycutter, R9, is really tough, although if the rail horse runs her best, I think she'll be tough. The G1 Bing Crosby is a good race too with many possible winners. I'm fascinated to see what the Midwest interloper rail horse does here. Then, I'd take a stand basically in the last race. If I'm alive to the #3, I'll be very happy.

Price/Spot Play(s)

(Reminder, "stars" are rated from 1 – 5, with 5 being the most confident of plays)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
7	10	Ventry Strand	7-2	4	\$25 Win #10 BIG Exactas: 10 / 1,9 Smaller Exactas: 1,9 / 10

Notes:

I strongly considered an aggressive Late P5 single on **#10 Ventry Strand**, but I'm concerned about turf horses' ability to close with the rails out. Anyway, he is a 3yo facing older, however there's a ton of early speed on paper and he's a very good closer who has every right to get a bit faster too. It looks like he was pointed to this race, and no one really stands out other than him or looks like they can get an easy front-end lead, although you never know. Jock has to work out a trip from the far outside, but hope the speed spreads out field enough where he can tuck in early and save ground.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	7	Indispensable	4-1	2+	\$10 WP #7 Trifectas: 4,8,9 / 7 / 3,4,8,9 4,8,9 / 3,4,8,9 / 7

Notes:

Really solid allowance dirt route typical of the great meet at Del Mar. I hate the ML on **#7 Indispensable**, as I thought he'd be more like 6-1. However, in a race full of speed, he will be closing late, albeit off the layoff. Will he need one? Perhaps, let the board be your guide, but he's got plenty of back-numbers that not only fit but exceed many running in the race. A fast pace and fit horse is crucial if I have a chance to be right with Indispensable.

Power Picks

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
11	3	Lady In Paris	5-1	5	\$30 Win #3

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT DEL MAR! I have no idea who does the morning line at DM, but I'm sure ain't David Aragona. 5-1 is ridiculous. If #3 Lady in Paris is half that I'd be happily surprised, more like 2-1 IMO. She ran great first out from Europe, and D'Amato rested her up for this spot. My only concern is she'll be too far back in a race with a short amount of early speed. But maybe 2nd time in the U.S. she'll show more speed, and jock Fresu, who rode her last time, is no dummy. If she repeats that effort or hopefully runs even better, she might be tough to hold off in the lane. It'll be about the trip, not fitness and talent, for this gal.

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

