



## Picks Tip Sheet

Race Day Date	July 27, 2025
Tip Sheet By	Pete Visco

### Race-Day Overview

*Closing out another weekend at Saratoga with a Sunday card that features the Grade 2 Glens Falls Stakes going 12f on the Turf. Let's hope we can have a repeat of last Sunday where my Price/Spot Plays had 3 wins and 1 second out of the five that I suggested.*

*As of the time I am writing this, the weather on Sunday looks to be dicey with thunderstorms in the forecast. For any of you that watch our Picks & Ponies show on Thursdays, you know weather is not something I like to talk about, but figured I needed to mention it since there are five turf races on the card. I handicapped the card and made the picks below based on the races saying on the turf, so, obviously, be mindful of any scratches to changes announced Sunday morning. Regardless of the weather, I thought this was a really difficult card to handicap from start to finish with more than a few that I thought were potentially complete spread races if you are playing horizontals.*

*Good luck and let's cash some tickets!!*

### 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 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 1:10pm EST

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks (use in horizontal bets)	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
1	4,5	1,6	-	4,5	\$0.50 P5	\$90
2	3,6,7	5	1,4	3,6,7	-	-
3	2,10	1,5,6	4,8	1,2,5,6,10	\$0.50 P5	\$90
4	2,5,6	4,7	3	2,5,6	-	-
5	2,8	-	3,5,6	2,8	-	-
6	2	3,8	1,5	2,8	\$0.50 P5	\$108
7	1,6	5,8	2	1,5,6	-	-
8	3,4,5	7,9	2,8	3,4,5	-	-
9	5,6	1,2,4,7	3	2,5,6,7	-	-
10	3,7,9	1,5,11	2,4,10	3,7,9	-	-

### Top 3 Selections

Race	1st	2nd	3rd
1	4 - Colonial Rose	5 - Our Liberty Belle	6 - Pistol Liz Ablazen
2	3 - Five to Two	7 - Florida Flower	6 - Backstretch Rose
3	10 - Sunrise	2 - Olivetti	1 - British Invasion
4	2 - Bestfriend Rocket	6 - Just Licorice	5 - Georgia Magic
5	8 - Makeyourmoment	2 - Powered by Coal	6 - Sunshine Dancer
6	2 - Keepinitreal	8 - Crescendo's Rein	3 - Solo Jim
7	1 - La Mehana	6 - Bellezza	5 - Long Ago
8	4 - Likely Perspective	5 - Speed of Sound	3 - Alpine Giant
9	6 - Warrior Richard	5 - Gamblers Trail	7 - Capital Idea
10	3 - Iron Sight	9 - Elko County	7 - Blast Furnace



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### Late P5 Analysis: R6-10

*The late Pick-5 sequence on Sunday turns into one of the more difficult sequences I can think of recently. It's funny because it kicks off with a potential single in the 6th Race with #2-Keepinitreal and then gets progressively more difficult from there. Next, we roll right into the Grade 2 Glens Falls in which I think you can make a solid case for half the field. After that, the 8th race seems like it could be top heavy, but then the 9th and 10th are races where you can go nuts. When I first did my normal run through of each horse in the 9th race and assigned A-B-C-X to each, I wound up having an initial A next to every horse in the race because I felt like I could make a logical case for each to win. Obviously, that's not where you want to end up, but it feels like it could be an All-Button race if that's something you don't mind doing. I generally don't do that myself, but I could see why you might want to in a race like that. Then the 10th, I thought, was almost as difficult. You have a ton of horses dropping from MSW to Maiden Claiming with some 1st timers sprinkled in. Definitely not an easy way to close out a sequence.*

*The following are today's Price / Spot Plays. These are not usually the favorites, but horses I like that will provide some value (hopefully 5-2 or higher in general). The "Stars" rating is 1 – 5, with 5 being the MOST CONFIDENT / RECOMMENDED PLAYS.*

### Price/Spot Play(s)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
2	3	Five to Two	7-2	3	\$20 Win - 3 \$5 Daily Double 3 / 2,10

#### Notes

In a race that looks to be pretty wide open on paper, I landed on a horse based partially on circumstance, trip in last, and some favorable stats. That horse is **#3-Five to Two**. She is a horse who, after she broke her maiden, immediately jumped into higher level optional claiming and allowance races, and actually raced pretty well even if she wasn't getting in the winner's circle. Along the way, she switched trainers a couple of times and then two back, she finally got her 2nd win when she dropped into Claiming 40k. In that race, she was claimed back by L. Rice and then was off for almost eight months. She had her comeback race on 7/10 sprinting here at Saratoga and it didn't go great. She broke awkwardly, was stuck in the back early, had to be used making a middle move, and then swung way wide in the lane. All of that left her flat late. Now, she is 2nd off the long layoff, 2nd at this level, and stretching out to 9f. Based on her breeding (from Honor Code out of a Curlin Mare), I feel like the 9f is in her reach, and based on the stats below, I think a move forward is coming.



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### Key Stats:

- L. Rice - Sprint-to-Route on Dirt at SAR - 9/38 W (24%), 23/38 ITM (61%), \$2.01 ROI
- L. Rice - 2nd Off 210-270 Day Layoff in Dirt Routes - 7/13 W (54%), 9/13 ITM (69%), \$3.99 ROI

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
3	10	Sunrise	8-1	3	\$10 Win/Place/Show - 10 \$5 Exacta Box - 2,10 \$0.50 Trifecta Key Box - 10 w/ 1,2,5,6

### Notes

The 3rd Race is a bunch of 1st time starters making their debuts routing on the turf. That always makes for an interesting race to me. My choice, **#10-Sunrise**, is purely a breeding play with the following being some of the keys:

- Sire Side (Karakontie)
  - 17% W 2yo 1st Time Starters
  - 15% W Turf Routes
  - Sired Multiple Graded/Group Stakes Winners (She Feels Pretty, Spendarella)
- Dam Side (Spanish Bunny)
  - 57% W 1st Time Starters
  - 40% W, 63% ITM Turf Route
  - Full Sister to Grade 1 Winner Spendarella
  - Produced Multiple Graded/Group Stakes Winners (Spendarella, Spanish Queen, Spanish Loveaffair)

The two biggest questions I have are the post (breaking from 10 hole can be tough especially for 1st timers) and the fact that T. Pletcher hasn't been good with 1st timers in Turf Routes (14/137 W (8%)). At the price, though, I will take a chance that the breeding can overcome any trainer questions. Getting J. Ortiz up doesn't hurt either.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
4	2	Bestfriend Rocket	7-2	3	\$15 Win - 2

### Notes

#2-Bestfriend Rocket is a horse that there seemed to be high hopes for early on based on the \$575k purchase price at the April 2024 OBS Sale. Unfortunately, the results on the track have not lived up to that early optimism. 2025, however, started out promising after a move to the D. Wayne Lukas barn with a nice win in OC200k while getting lifetime Beyer and Timeform tops at the time. That prompted the Coach to enter him in the Arkansas Derby, which was obviously way too much. The next two runs were equally disappointing. Two of the losses, however, were at 9f, which I think may be more distance



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than he wants. The other race, two back going 8.5f, he stumbled badly out of the gate, rushed up into contention, and faded in the lane. In those three, he was facing much better competition with stakes-level horses like Sandman, Coal Battle, Crudo, and So Sandy. Now, I think he is back at a level that fits him better. The other thing I really like is the cutback to 8f. He has shown decent tactical speed even in the bad losses and just couldn't sustain it going longer. Now, I am hoping the weaker competition and shorter distance combine to have him run his best late. The fear is that he just isn't any good any longer and that's why he's in for the \$75k tag, but I hope the nice work he has coming in and a fresh set of eyes in R. Mott can get him back on track.

### Key Stats:

- R. Mott - 1st After Trainer Switch on Dirt - 2/24 W (8%), 6/24 ITM (25%), \$0.61 ROI
- R. Mott - 1st After Trainer Switch on Dirt in 2025 - 1/2 W (50%), 2/2 ITM (100%), \$4.87 ROI

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	4	Likely Perspective	7-2	4	\$20 Win - 4

### Notes

**#4-Likely Perspective** is mostly a pace and class play for me in the 8th Race. This horse added blinkers two back and started blazing fractions on the lead while routing against much tougher company. Those races ended with this horse fading badly getting run over. In this race, she is now cutting back to 5.5f where her speed can be more dangerous, she is losing the blinkers so maybe she won't run off so quickly, and she is taking a significant class drop. With that combination of factors, I think she can either be the speed-of-the-speed and take this race all the way around or sit just off and still have run late going shorter.

### Key Stats:

- A. Stall - 50% Claiming Tag Drop - 8/24 W (33%), 14/24 (58%), \$1.88 ROI
- A. Stall - 50% Claiming Tag Drop in Past 15 Months - 3/7 W (43%), 6/7 ITM (86%), \$2.87 ROI

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	3	Iron Sight	5-1	4	\$25 Win - 3 \$5 Exacta Box - 3,7,9

### Notes

**This is my Play of the Day at SAR** - Let's try and close out the Sunday card with a win just like last week's Power Picks. Taking the C. Brown / F. Prat combo in a turf route race is usually a pretty good way to get a win. As I write this, though, F. Prat hasn't exactly been lighting it up at Saratoga. That's not going to shake my confidence too much here, though. This horse, **#3-Iron Sight**, is making only his 2nd career start and 1st on turf as a 4yo after debuting last year in October. Although it was on dirt and now we are on turf, that race still looks valuable to me even though this horse lost by so many lengths.



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The winner of that race came back with multiple wins with low-to-mid-90's Beyers and the 2nd place finisher broke his maiden two races later with a 97 Beyer, so there wasn't a lot of shame in that loss. Plus, even though the Beyer came back a little light at 62, the Timeform a much more solid 97, which, with any improvement off that, would put this horse right in the mix.

From a pedigree standpoint, the breeding doesn't scream turf, I think there is enough of a turf influence to give me confidence that this horse can make the switch. Plus, C. Brown obviously can be trusted when deciding to move a horse to the turf like this (see stat below). Also, C. Brown is one trainer where I don't worry about his horses coming off lengthy layoffs especially on the turf (see stat below).

### Key Stats:

- C. Brown - 2nd Career Starters Going Dirt-to-Turf Routes in 2025 - 3/5 W (60%), 4/5 ITM (80%), \$3.22 ROI
- C. Brown - 1st After 270-330 Day Layoff in Turf Routes - 24/69 W (35%), 48/69 ITM (70%), \$2.64 ROI

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

Race	Selections	Cost
1	\$20 Daily Double - 4/3	\$20
2	\$5 Pick-4 - 3/2,10/2,6/2,8	\$40
5	\$10 Daily Double - 8 / 2,8	\$20

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

