



## Picks Tip Sheet

Race Day Date	July 25, 2025
Tip Sheet By	Paul Halloran

### Race-Day Overview

*If you think you're good at handicapping maiden races, this is the card for you. There are six of them, including four maiden claimers (too many for a 10-race card, in my opinion). But, as my good friend Bob Mullins likes to say, there will be a winner in every race (clearly borrowed from Bing Crosby). And the stakes race, the Grade 2 Amsterdam, is very good, so let's build our Jim Dandy Day bankroll.*

### 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	1,5		6	1,5	\$.50 P5	\$72
2	4	2,6	1,3	1,2,3,4		
3	1,5	6	4	1,5,6		
4	5,6	4	1	4,5,6		
5	3,5	7	6	3,5		
6	4,7	2,5	6	2,4,7	\$.50 P5	\$72
7	4,6	2,5	2	3,4,5,6		
8	3,6	1	4	3,6		
9	1,6	2,3	5,7	1,6		
10	3,9	2,7	4	2,3,9		

### Top 3 Selections

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



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### Pick 5 Analysis

Good luck finding a single in either sequence. I have stronger opinions in the late Pick 5, with two Spot Plays, so I will weigh my play more heavily in that direction. In race 2 of the early P5, the #4 Spring Magic, looks to have a decent pace advantage and you may want to go Jenny Craig in that race, although if she doesn't win you need to spread. In the late sequence, leg 2 is a cluster and I would recommend as much coverage as you can afford. While contentious, the Amsterdam is a good race to form an opinion since there could be four horses within a few points of each other on the board. As you will read below, I like #6 Gunmetal, who should be no better than third choice.

*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)
4	6	I'm Solo N in Love	7-2	3	\$20 Win/Place #6
<b>Notes</b> It would behoove you to pay attention to up-and-coming trainer Ilkay Kantarmaci, who won a race Wednesday with Flavien Prat, to whom he will give a leg up here. No disrespect to Ruben Silvera, but that is a huge upgrade in the saddle. Kantarmaci is 17% off the claim in dirt routes. This New York-bred has never crossed the finish line first, having been put up by DQ in his only win. He tends to fall too far out of it, but between the 9-furlong distance and the presence of Flavien, I'm betting he may be slightly more in touch with the field. The horses in this field are a collective 7-92, so no world beaters to deal with.					
Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
6	7	Hero Status	7-2	3	\$30 Win #7 \$10 EX 7 / 4,5
<b>Notes</b> It is admittedly concerning to play a horse that was once a \$270,000 2-year-old in for a \$20,000 tag, but that auction was four years ago and the gelding has earned back his purchase price in the interim. Norm Casse claimed him for \$80K in December and while he has beaten only two horses in two starts, those were against much better company at Oaklawn. Casse has had this horse in Saratoga for six weeks and given him four works. Jay Provenzano of Flying P Stable places his horses where they can win and this looks like one of those spots. Ricardo Santana Jr. is on fire in the early stages of the meet with 7 wins and 20 in-the-money finishes. He should be forward in a race that looks like it favors frontrunners.					



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Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	6	Gunmetal	9-2	4	\$40 Win #6 \$10 EX 6 / 1,2
<b>Notes</b> PLAY OF THE DAY: Half the field exits the Grade 1 Woody Stephens on Belmont Stakes Day in which none seriously threatened. Macho Music, #1 today, set the pace and finished seventh, while Gunmetal, my selection, had trouble at the break, was last early and then ridden into mild contention by Irad before fading in the final 1/16 <sup>th</sup> . I anticipate a much different trip today with him on the outside and Luis Saez aboard. I see him sitting off the 1 and going by in the stretch. Making his third start off the layoff, there is plenty of room for this son of Gun Runner to move forward.					

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

Race	Selections	Cost
7	\$10 DD 4,6 / 3,6	\$40
10	\$1 Tri 2,3,9 / 7 / all 2,3,9 / all / 7	\$42

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

