

Race Day Date	August 19, 2023
Picks By	Charlie Freeman

## **Race-Day Overview**

Saturday's card is yet another at Saratoga that could be majorly impacted by the weather as rain is expected. Thankfully the main feature race of the day which is the Grade 1 Alabama Stakes will take place on the dirt going a mile and a fourth so a surface change isn't a concern. That is not the case for the other stakes race which is the Grade 2 Lake Placid Stakes going a mile and a sixteenth on the turf. Be sure to note that in addition to the Lake Placid Stakes races 2, 3, 6, 10, and 11 are also on the turf. As a result of the weather and many turf races there are plenty of MTO entries on the card to look out for that will likely be tough to beat should any of the races be moved to the dirt. Some MTO entries to look out for include In Right to Vote (15) in race two for Chad Brown who has been working forwardly, Obrigada (10) and Little Prankster (11) in race three are coming off of massive wins on the dirt, and in race ten Accretive (12) and Tonal Impact (13) are the two MTO entries that stick out with very strong and consistent beyer figures on the dirt. Finally, as I mentioned earlier the Lake Placid Stakes could move to the dirt and if this happens Undervalued Asset (10) looks awfully difficult to beat coming off a career best performance for Chad Brown.

# **Spot/Price Play ROI**

F	ROI	Calculation	Note
\$#	#.##	\$###.## / ##	The average horseplayer's ROI is \$1.60; anything above \$2 is a net profit.

## **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 under the SPP promotion...a video explanation is also available on the page.

Racetrack: Saratoga Post Time 1:10pm EST

#### **ABC Grid**

Race	Α	В	С	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
1	3,6	1,8	10			
2	2,6,15		5			
	2,6		7			
3	10,11		7,9			
	1,6		3			
4	1,10		3,7			



5	1,3,8					
	11,16	5	4,7			
6	9,10	5	3,4			
7	10 4,7,8	6,9	2 1,2,3	10 4,7,8	\$0.50	\$27 \$27
8	1,3,7		4,6	1,3,7	-	-
9	2	8	1,7	2,8	-	-
10	12,13 2,5,9	14	3,8 3	12,13,14 2,5,9	-	-
11	10 10	1,14	5,7	1,10,14 10	-	-

Black = Dirt Blue = Turf

#### Late P5 Analysis

I want to start by encouraging you to carefully read over my ticket as I provided what my selections would be for both the turf and dirt for races 7, 10, and 11 which make up 3 of the 5 races in the late pick 5. In race 7 if the race is moved to the dirt as I mentioned earlier, I expected Undervalued Asset (10) to be extremely difficult to beat which is why the horse is a single for me. If the race does stay on the turf, it will be much more open and exciting. I like a little bit of a price in this race as my top selection in the number 8 Prerequisite who is coming off of two very impressive efforts and I believe with a repeat effort can pull off the minor upset at 9-2. Surge Capacity (7) anjd Tax Implications (4) also are coming off great efforts against each other so I had to include them. In race 8 I believe there are three clear contenders which the morning line odds seem to back in the 1, 3, and 7. I ended up going with the longest shot of the three Movie Moxy (1) on top coming off a career best 93 beyer figure going away and believe she can perform well again and provide nice value, but don't count out Gerrymander (3) and Nostaligic (7) who both look to provide a challenge to Movie Moxy. For race 9 I believe that Wet Paint (2) is a well-deserved favorite at the short price of 2-1 and will likely be very difficult to beat. I decided to throw in the 8 horse Randomized because she is stretching out to this distance for the first time and seems to me like an interesting wildcard who could surprise. Race 10 is arguably the most interesting race in the sequence as it's the only race I felt the need to spread in regardless of the surface it ends up on. If the race stays on the turf I really like the value on the 5 Whisper Not ridden by Tyler Gaffalione who last time out guided the horse to a very impressive closing win with a career best 93 beyer, certainly a horse to watch out for especially with the nice odds of 9-2. If it does switch to the dirt I like the favorite number 13 Tonal Impact for Linda Rice who had a tough outing last time, but any sort of bounce back performance would likely lead to a win. Still, there are other contenders to watch out for regardless of the surface. Lastly, in race 11 I love the number 10 horse Henson trained by Brad Cox and ridden by John Velazquez. Henson nearly pulled of the upset at 25-1 and ran a respectable 66 beyer on debut. The horse is working forwardly and looks the clear cut best on paper and primed for a nice step forward second time out for Cox. If it does end up on the dirt the win doesn't look as easy as Blue Plate Special looks to provide a challenge and you can't count out the 1 and 1A.

### **Top 3 Selections**

Race	1st	2nd	3rd
1	6	3	1
2	2 6	15 2	6 7
3	11	10	7



# **Picks Tip Sheet**

	6	1	3
4	10	1	7
5	1	3	8
6	11 10	<b>16</b> 9	5 5
7	10 8	9 7	6 4
8	1	7	3
9	2	8	1
10	<b>13</b> 5	12 9	<b>14</b> 2
11	10 10	<b>14</b> 7	1 5

Blue = Turf

### Price/Spot Play(s)

\*\* Below 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). These horses will be included into our "ROI" Stats at the beginning of the SPP's. The "Stars" rating is 1 – 5.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
1	6	Act of Mutiny	5-1	3	\$20 win on 6 \$5 EXB 3-6

#### Notes

I believe Act of Mutiny is a very intriguing horse on debut that looks like a legitimate contender at a nice price of 5-1. Trained by Claude R. McGaughey III and ridden by Jose Ortiz, his works indicate that he is definitely ready to fire in this spot and to me, looks like the horse to beat. I like that Act of Mutiny has seemed to have taken some solid steps forward in the workouts and looks to be a horse on the improve. I think that the 48 and 2 and 48 and 3 on August 12<sup>th</sup> and August 6<sup>th</sup> after a disappointing 52 flat on July 30<sup>th</sup> indicates the horse has grown in confidence and has found its groove. Jose Ortiz is one of the best in the business and will have him in the right position and should guide Act of Mutiny to a nice trip. I also like that the siblings of Quality Road showed great success on the dirt which indicates Act of Mutiny could take well to the surface. Lastly, I think Hunt Ball for Bill Mott is a deserved favorite and could be ready to run big on debut. The workouts indicate that he should be ready, but I believe that the horse may need a race while still running well enough to be in the money and complete the exacta with Act of Mutiny.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
7	8	Prerequisite	9-2	3	\$20 win on 8 \$10 EXB 4-8 \$10 EXB 7-8

#### Notes

As I mentioned earlier Prerequisite is coming off of two very impressive efforts with back to back 85 beyers and should bring in nice value as a winner at 9-2 I like that she has shown some versatility early on in her career and has proven that if the pace



is hot she doesn't need the lead and content to sit off the leaders and make her move late. I believe that this versatility will prove crucial to Prerequisite and make her difficult to beat because she doesn't have speed right next to her (the main speed is all the way inside) so she could get to the lead, but if she doesn't she can sit a nice trip right of the speed and move late. The other two horses that stand out to me are Tax Implications and Surge Capacity who are coming off of a great battle against each other, but neither will be as forwardly placed as Prerequisite. I believe that Prerequisite will get the first jump on the leaders and have enough left in the tank to get home a winner for Chad Brown thanks to a great ride from Irad Ortiz Jr. In case Prerequisite doesn't have quite enough late kick I decided to cover myself by boxing her with each of Tax Implications and Surge Capacity in case one of them gets there in time.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	1	Movie Moxy	4-1	4	\$20 win on 1 \$10 EXB 1-3 \$10 EXB 1-7

#### Notes

Movie Moxy took a major step forward last time out by defeating the opening favorite Gerrymander going a mile and recording a 93 beyer figure. I noticed that she is just a completely different horse going a mile and performs much better by running a different style that works for her. At a mile, she likes to sit just behind the leaders and waits patiently before blowing by the competition down the stretch and winning going away. She did that on May 26<sup>th</sup> and repeated that effort on June 24<sup>th</sup> blowing right by Gerrymander. It appears that Jose Ortiz understands how to ride her well and knows exactly where she needs to be placed in order to reach her full potential from the right trip. It's certainly nice to also see that she is working well as she most recently ran a bullet going five furlongs in 1:00 and 3. I believe what makes Movie Moxy most intriguing besides having the best recent form and seemingly discovering where and how she runs best, is the pace should work out perfectly for her and give her an edge on the other top choices. Gerrymander will have to deal with speed on either side where Movie Moxy will happily sit behind them and as for Nostalgic, while there should be a solid pace to close into, I don't know if she has enough early speed to stay close enough to get there in time. I decided to box Movie Moxy with each of them still in case Gerrymander starts to get away and Movie Moxy has to catch up or if Nostalgic picks up the pieces and shows enough early speed to strike well late.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	5	Whisper Not	9-2	3	\$20 win on 5 \$5 EXB 2-5 \$5 EXB 5-9

#### Notes

Whisper Note looked incredible last time out after surprising the field by pulling off the upset at 14-1 with a tremendous closing performance and late kick. It looked as though Tyler Gaffalione found a new gear for Whisper Not which is evident by the career best 93 beyer and the different approach of sitting farther back. I believe that Brendan Walsh getting Tyler Gaffalione back on the saddle will prover very beneficial for Whisper Not and if he can get a similar performance from Whisper Not as last time could very well win again at a solid value of 9-2. The one thing I will note with Whisper Not is because it is a slight cutback in distance and this is likely a faster and higher quality field, he will need to make sure Whisper Not is a little bit closer so that impressive late kick shown last time out doesn't end up showing up too late. The good news is there is a lot of early speed in this race so I believe from a pace and positioning standpoint Whisper Not is primed for another great effort and is a legitimate contender at 9-2. Still, there are other nice horses in this field that I needed to include such as Napoleonic War for Chad Brown and ridden by Flavian Prat who last time out got the jump on Whisper Not, but was caught and of course the opening 5-2 favorite Verbal for Chad Brown and ridden by Irad Ortiz Jr. looked great second time off the layoff and if the improvement continues could prove verry difficult to beat in this spot.



## Favorite Vertical/Horizontal Plays Not Included in Price/Spot Play Bets

Race	Selections						
	\$20 win on 11, \$10 EXB 10-11	\$40					
3	\$20 win on 6, \$10 EXB 1-6						
9	\$20 win on 2, \$10 EX 2-8	\$30					
	\$20 win on 10, \$10 EX 10-1,14	\$40					
11	\$50 win on 10	\$50					

# Good luck with all your wagers.... CRUSH THOSE BETS!!!

