



Picks Tip Sheet

Race Day Date	Sat., Aug. 24th
Tip Sheet By	Howard Kravets

Race-Day Overview

IT'S THE DAY WE'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR, TRAVERS DAY! This is simply one of the best cards of the entire year...a 14-race extravaganza, including 5 G1 Races in a row, Races 9 – 13. But not only that, there are incredible allowance races, loaded baby races, and a ridiculous betting menu with enough P3's, P4's, and P5's to tempt even the most speculative bettors. The weather is scheduled to be perfect, the crowd huge, and racing outstanding. Have a great day today...let's find some winners!

Based on the variable weather patterns in upstate New York, it is imperative that you CHECK FOR SCRATCHES AND CHANGES, because we often send out the SPP's BEFORE scratches are officially posted. So, our final selections might be VERY DIFFERENT if races taken off the turf!! We send out the SPP's early to give you ample amount of time to study and make decisions before the races begin.

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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Racetrack: Saratoga

ABC Grid - Post Time 11:20am EST...NOTE THE EARLY START TIME!!

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks (use in horizontal bets)	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
1	5,8	1,6	4	5,8		
2	5,6,9	3,4	1,7	3,4,5,6,9		
3	1,5	3,8	9	1,3,5,8		
4	3,5,6	2,4	-	3,5,6		
5	1,1a,7	4,6	9	1,7		
6	1	4,8,10	3	1,3,4,8,10		
7	2,3	4,8	1,6,7,10	2,3		
8	5,8	-	4,7	5,8		
9	4	2	1	4	\$0.50 P5	\$94.50
10	3,4,5	-	1,8	3,4,5		
11	1,5,8	-	3,4,6,7	1,5,8		
12	3,8	1,2,5,11	4,6	1,2,3,5,6,8,11		
13	2,7	3,4	1,6,8	2,4,7		
14	4,6,8	2,7,9,10	-	5		

Top 3 Selections

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



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11	8	5	1
12	3	5	8
13	2	7	4
14	4	6	8

All Grade One P5 Analysis: R9 - 13

All I can say is...WOW! Five G1 races in a row, with the last three being especially difficult handicapping puzzles. It starts with a turf race that has basically two contenders. As we discussed on our podcast w/Nick Tammara this past Tuesday, IF YOU INSIST ON PLAYING A NON-WEIGHTED "CAVEMAN"-STYLE TICKET, you really ought to pick one of the Godolphin runners and take a stand. However, the prudent thing to do if you're able is to play a weighted "ABC"-style ticket and use both them. The Ballerina (R10) is interesting and may produce a mid-priced winner if Vahva doesn't get the job done. Next up is the Forego....a very difficult race with many possible winners. Don't take too low a price on anyone. The H. Allen Jerkens is simply one of the best races of the year. I think you can narrow down the possible winners to only a few, but wouldn't be shocked if something crazy happens, because the pace could be red-hot. Finally, we have the Travers. Gambling is about taking strong stances, right or wrong. BASED ON THE STONG CHANCE OF A FAST EARLY PACE, I see no reason to go against Sierra Leone now...ESPECIALLY because he just might be 3-1 or higher. And, I'm just COMPLETELY AGAINST FIERCENESS today. I'm still waiting for him to go by high-quality horses into a fast pace. Dornoch is a fighter and in the form of his life. I'm leaning on Sierra and Dornoch. Good luck on this fantastic Pick 5.

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. THIS IS A NO-CHALK ZONE....THE WHOLE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION, FROM THE BEGINNING, WAS TO TIP OUT HORSES THAT ARE UNDER THE RADAR AND COULD PRODUCE VALUE!

Now, 2-1 could be value if you think the horse should be 4-5. But we take big swings here...and based on the ROI of this section, for over 3 years, it's proven to be successful. Use your discretion, and play whichever horses you think are best. So here we go! Turn the page for an extensive list of Price/Spot Plays today at Saratoga.



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Price/Spot Play(s)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
1	5	Paula's Star Sister	8-1	3	\$5 Win, \$15 Place BIG Exacta 8-5 Small Exacta 5-8

Notes

Early in the card, it's crucial to pay attention to any biases. Throughout the meet, it's been advantageous to be forward early. I doubt they'll be a path bias (rail for example), as it's been pretty fair all meet from that standpoint. Paula ran perfectly fine in her debut, running 3-wide into a hot pace after showing really nice speed in her debut. She's bred well and has been working very solidly. She projects to be the best inside speed. The outside horse, #8 Geopolitics, is the most likely winner. But she's got seconditis and may not want 7f, plus she'll be 3-5. Paula could upset, but I'd be happy with a second place finish at a price too.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
2	6	Main Beach	8-1	4	\$20 WP #6

Notes

When Main Beach last ran, I was there in person with the podcast crew. I was against him because I thought he'd be and underlay into a tough field. I was right and wrong. He didn't win, but ran very well, coming up the rail in a tight spot and finishing strong. And yes, he galloped out well in front of talented winner West Hollywood. There's more early speed in this affair than his last, and perhaps more importantly, this field is coming up a little lighter on talent than the previous one. Irad will lower your price (probably around 5-1), but with the right trip, he'll be finishing fast and hopefully in front.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
4	3	Banishing	6-1	4	\$10 WP #3 Trifectas: 3 / 2,4,5,6 / 2,4,5,6 5,6 / 3 / 2,4,5,6

Notes

New trainer for Banishing, David Jacobson, is a tough nut to crack. He's 16% for the year and 13% this meet. I've been very right, and very wrong, with his horses in the past. But #3 Banishing has too much talent, back class, and upset potential to ignore in this field. He was fantastic in early 2024 at the Fairgrounds and looked like a real up-and-comer. But then, he stumbled twice in Kentucky and



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switched trainers to Jacobson. I see no reason why he can't bounce back here with a good post and tracking style. And perhaps what stands out the most is the workout times. Jacobson works horses about as slow as anyone I've ever seen. But this horse (have to check the workout grades) seems to be working REALLY fast. I'm expecting a big effort today.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	8	Slapinthe face	6-1	3	\$15 WP #8 Big Exactas: 8-5 Small Exactas: 5-8

Notes

#5 Rhetorical could be an absolute monster. His debut win was quite impressive. But I think there's quite a bit of early speed in this race, and this is a much more difficult spot for the favorite. Slapinthe face is the most likely horse to take advantage of this pace scenario. He was in between horses for a while, then steadied back, then came again in the stretch finishing better than most. He's well-bred and improving, and will be a good price in this competitive field if you exclude the favorite. Watch for him late in the lane.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
11	8	Cagliostro	9-2	4	\$15 Win #8 Trifectas: 8 / 1,5 / 1,3,4,5,6,7 1,5 / 8 / 1,3,4,5,6,7 1,5 / 1,3,4,5,6,7 / 8

Notes

#8 Cagliostro was a very popular pick on our podcast Tuesday, except for guest Nick Tammara, who's Play of the Day is #1 Gun Pilot, another serious threat. There's little to knock against Cagliostro. He's getting faster, has a cozy gate draw, has faced very good horses, and is turning back slightly in distance. I suppose he might not be a 7f horse, but we don't know that yet. He did race once at Saratoga but has been working well at Keeneland. I hope he sits off the speed mid-pack, and shows his class in the lane vs. some formidable foes...yet many are inconsistent. Perhaps today is his day.



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Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
12	3	Domestic Product	9-2	5	\$50 Win #3 BIG Exactas: 3 / 2,5,8,11 Small Exactas: 5,8 / 3

Notes

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT SARATOGA!! The G1 H. Allen Jerkens is a fantastic race filled with talent, intrigue, and star-power. Some of the best 3yo's are here, and the winner will have to run his best to take down the big trophy. One thing appears certain...there almost has to be a quick early pace, set by either the rail or furthest-outside horse. Plus, if some in the middle section of the field break, it could even get hotter. Most importantly, my top choice, #3 Domestic Product, should sit a good trip no matter the early pace. He exploded last time (albeit a small field) and looked like a horse who really appreciated a shorter distance. He's been dancing every dance this year, and now is ready to prove he's the real deal going one-turn, much like his last race triumph. Trained by Chad Brown, he's primed for a monster effort on the biggest stage...today's his day...I'll take any odds of 7-2 or higher on the win end.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
13 – The Travers Stakes	2	Sierra Leone	7-2	4	\$25 Win #2

Notes

I can here it now...."here goes Howard again with Sierra Leone." I get it, I really do. I almost divorced him last time, but when you examine carefully the last 2 races, there are LEGIT excuses for him. In the Belmont, it was an ultra-speed favoring day. Last time, the speed didn't really develop, and Fierceness was able to take over the lead on the far turn WITH NO RESISTENCE. Sierra ran his best figure and closed very well up the inside, not his ideal place to do so. This race could not be set up better for him. He gets extra distance. AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, HE'LL BE A DECENT PRICE. How can I go away from him now? I will promise you one thing...if he does not win today, I won't make him my top pick for a very long time, especially on these Power Picks Tip Sheets. Good luck if you're like me and still believe in this talented son of Gun Runner.



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

Race	Selections	Cost
2	\$10 Daily Double: 6 / 1,3,5,8	\$40
12	\$20 Daily Double: 3 / 2,7	\$40

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

