



Saratoga

Picks Tip Sheet

Race Day Date	8/25/23
Picks By	Paul Halloran

Race-Day Overview

Travers Eve and yet another Friday at Saratoga where it's appropriate there is a canoe in the infield. Based on the heavy rains that fell here Thursday afternoon and evening, it looks like another off-the-turf festival. Will base today's Power Picks on that being the case, and give picks for both turf and dirt only in the Smart N Fancy (Race 3), figuring if one race can stay on it will be the stakes. The highlight of the card is the Personal Ensign Stakes – a rematch between the phenomenal filly Nest and magnificent mare Clairiere. This is their third meeting, with Clairiere finishing one spot ahead (3rd) in last year's Breeders' Cup Distaff and Nest dominating the Shuvee at Saratoga five weeks ago. There's a lot a buzz about Idiomatic's chances to wire the field, and this is Saratoga, after all, where nothing is guaranteed. The sixth race is a classic Saratoga maiden special, with eight 2-year-olds lining up. The six who sold at auction went for an average of more than \$700,000, including two million-dollar yearlings who are 8-1 and 15-1 on the ML. My play of the day will be in that race, but more on that later. No matter how your Friday goes, you can look forward to one of the five best cards of the year on Travers Day, but let's try to build up the bankroll.

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

Early P5: 5A - \$16 4A1B - \$40 3A2B - \$36 4A1C - \$56 - TOTAL -\$148

IF 3rd race OFF Turf: 5A - \$16 4A1B - \$24 3A2B - \$12 4A1C - \$56 - TOTAL - \$108

Late P5: 5A - \$1 - \$16 4A1B - \$36 3A2B - \$56 4A1C - \$20 TOTAL \$128

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
1*	4,16	6	1,7	4,16	.50	\$80
2	3,5	4		3,5		
3	T- 3,5 D- 7,8	T- 2,4		T- 3,5 D- 7,8		
4*	13,14		2,11	1,4,6,8		
5	1,10	3	4,6,9	1,3,4,6,10		
6	3,6	1,2		1,3,6	.50	\$54
7	1,2	3,7	4	1,2,7		
8*	10,11	7		10,11		



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9	1,5,6			1,5,6		
10*	10,12	7	1	10,12		

*= Based on OFF the turf

Late P5 Analysis

If you are playing a Caveman ticket, you should really consider taking a stand in the Personal Ensign, or at the very least play a press-up ticket with your top choice (presumably Nest or Clairiere). I will go with Nest as the lone "A" and use Idiomatic as a "B" as well as Clairiere. Going to lean on Apollo Ten in the opening leg and hopefully be alive with an "A" that pays double digits. At least that's the plan. Going to try to beat the favorite, Headland, in the second leg. Complexion of the 8th changes considerably if off turf as expected. I'll be on the MTO train in that case. In the finale, thinking Chad might keep the 10, Arrasou, in even if off turf, based on the fact that's what he did 7/30 when the race was taken off, and her father, Mendelssohn, ran second in the Travers to the incomparable Catholic Boy. The lone MTO, White Chocolate, figures to be the favorite, but note that Chad Summers is 1-29 when taking over a horse for the first time.

Top 3 Selections

Race	1st	2nd	3rd
1*	16	4	6
2	5	3	4
3	Turf - 5 *Dirt - 7	3 8	4 2
4*	14	11	13
5	1	10	4
6	3	6	1
7	2	1	7
8*	10	11	7
9	5	1	6
10	10	7	12

Price/Spot Play(s)

** Price / Spot Plays are not usually the favorites, but horses we 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)
3	3	Train to Artemus	10-1	3	\$20 win 3, \$10 exacta 2,4,5 with 3

Notes This play is based on the race staying ON the turf. I'm going to take a stand vs. the three fillies coming out of the Caress with the very consistent Train to Artemus. This daughter of Tapizar has won half of her 18 career starts and has been in the money 14 times. She may have to improve a bit on her career best 90 Beyer, but she is 2-3 on the Saratoga sod. Roses for Debra was impressive in winning the Caress and posting a 99 Beyer, so she is the horse to beat. I'll play the 3 to win and back up with her second in a few exactas, looking for a price either way.



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Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
6	3	Apollo Ten	8-1	4.5	\$30 WP 3 \$20 DD 3-2
<p>Notes To quote Uncle Howard, this is my Play of the Day. The Clemente barn unleashed a monster 2YO on 8/12 when Deterministic beat a very good maiden field at 7-2. Apollo Ten has worked with Deterministic and word is the barn is also very high on this son of Violence, who wins with 20% of his 2YO first-time starters. The one caveat is that this field looks loaded, almost like the race should be on the Travers undercard. All the usual suspects are in here: Cox, Mott, Brown, Shug, Pletcher, even the coach, D. Wayne Lukas, so the price should definitely be right. Clemente may be known as a turf trainer but he wins at 27% with 2YO FTS in dirt sprints (5-year sample). At Saratoga, the percentage rises to 37. Throw Manny Franco in the circumstances listed above and they are a perfect 4-for-4. All systems go and waiting for blastoff.</p>					
Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
7	2	Unsung Melody	5-1	4	\$25 WP 2
<p>Notes</p> <p>Yes, I realize I am bucking the Linda Rice-Jose Ortiz juggernaut, which has combined to win an amazing 14 races at this meet thus far. But trainer John Ortiz is no slouch, winning 2 of 5 starts this year on Union Avenue, including Brightwork's dominance of the Adirondack. Unsung Melody chased Randomized in the Wilton Stakes on Day 2 of the meet, only to finish third. That effort looks better when you consider that Randomized dominated the Alabama last Saturday. I like the cutback to 6F for this daughter of Maclean's Music and think whoever fills in for the injured Luis Saez should be forward and in position to pounce when they turn for home. A wet track shouldn't hurt, though if it does come up muddy or sloppy you would be wise to take a long look at First to Act (#7), a daughter of Curlin.</p>					

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

Race	Selections	Cost
1*	\$25 DD 16 with 3,5	\$50
9	\$15 exacta 5,6 w/ 1 \$15 exacta 5-1 \$5 tri (Curlin special) 5-1-6	\$50

*based on OFF turf



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

