



Picks Tip Sheet

Race Day Date	Saturday, 8/22
Tip Sheet By	Paul Halloran

Race-Day Overview

Happy Alabama Day, when we mark the second-most important race for 3-year-old dirt fillies on the calendar. Counting Stars will try to make it three straight at Saratoga and she looks like a prohibitive favorite. Chad Brown's My Gun's Loaded is a bit of a wildcard, coming in off maiden and allowance wins, and the fact that CB throws her in the deep end so soon should give you confidence if you want to try to beat the chalk. Competitive card otherwise. Note that the Ballston Spa (Race 10) and Alabama (11) are the first two legs of a fantastic Cross Country Pick 5 that concludes with three Del Mar Stakes, concluding with the \$1 million Pacific Classic. That is a must play. Only a dozen Saratoga racing days after today so make the most of them.

Based on the variable weather patterns in upstate New York, it is imperative that you CHECK FOR SCRATCHES AND CHANGES, because we typically send out the SPP's BEFORE scratches are officially posted. Final selections might be VERY DIFFERENT if races are 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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ABC Grid - Post Time 1:10pm ET

(Weather looks good; no off-turf picks today):

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks (use in horizontal bets)	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
1	6,7	8	3	6,7,8	\$.50 EP5	\$60 (72)
2	4,7	3	1	4,7		
3	1,8	3	2,4	1,8		
4	1,6	2,9	8	1,6		
5	3,8,10	1,5,11(AE)	2,6	1,3,5,8,10,11(AE)		
6	4,5,11	8,9	3	4,5,8,9,11		
7	7,8	5,6	4	7,8		
8	6,9	3,11	4	3,4,6,9,11	\$3 LP5	\$90
9	5	6,9	7	5		
10	6	5,7	1,2,4	6		
11	6	4	1,3	6		
12	4,6	5,8	1,2	1,2,4,5,6,8		

Top 3 Selections:

Race	1st	2nd	3rd
1	6	7	8
2	7	4	3
3	1	8	3
4	1	6	2
5	8	3	10
6	5	4	11
7	8	7	6
8	9	6	11
9	5	9	6
10	6	7	2



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11	6	1	3
12	6	4	8

Late P5 Analysis: R6 - 10

As you can see, if I were playing one caveman ticket – which I'm not – I'd try to get a decent price at the beginning and end and hit it multiple times. Realistically, I'd probably play 2 other tickets – one with Counting Stars singled in the Alabama and a smaller one trying to beat her. If you can beat Segesta and/or Counting Stars, you could get a decent payoff. It is Saratoga and you may have heard that heavy favorites don't always win there!

Price/Spot Play(s)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
3	8	Art Museum	4-1	3	\$30 WIN #8 \$10 EX 1 / 8

Notes

Into Mischief colt will have to deal with a heavy favorite in the much ballyhooed #1 Powerline (son of Flightline), who ran second with a complicated trip at 8-5 on July 18. I don't think the rail helps his chances today, but he will be formidable. Leading trainer Chad Brown has two in here, but main man – *homme principal* – Flavien Prat lands on Art Museum, by top-class sire Into Mischief, who gets 15% winners with his 2-year-old first-time starters. The dam, Point of Honor, romped in her debut by 6 lengths and went on to become a Grade 2 winner. This colt was a \$1.5 million yearling purchase at Keeneland for international connections (Magnier, Tabor, Smith, Brant, Smith). Brown has given her 10 works, including a very sharp 4-furlong move in 47 ½ on 8/1. Out of a Curlin mare, she might end up a 2-turn horse, but if she's close to her ML of 4-1, I'll take my chances in this 6½-furlong MSW. Let's hope for a French masterpiece.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
6	5	Forever Carina	4-1	3.5	\$20 WP 5

Notes

Three Chimneys homebred is a half to Kentucky Oaks champion Always a Runner, who won her first three starts, including this year's Run for the Lillies. The dam won her first two and was second in the Grade 2 Mother Goose in start #3. The great Gun Runner is 19% with his 2-year-old first time starters. You get the meet's leading jockey and trainer – Jose Ortiz and Chad Brown – who have won at 26% over the last year. This is one of those really tough Saturday maidens at the Spa, with the ML favorite at 7-2. Nine works say this filly is ready to go.



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Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
7	8	Sacrosanct	5-2	4	\$10 EX 8 / 4,5,6,7

Notes

This race is for all of us who complain that horses are retired too early. The six colts and two geldings in this salty sprint are an average age 6 with 25 starts. I'm going with one of the "lightly" raced horses, who has 11 starts with 6 wins and has only been off the board twice. And I think we will get at least the ML of 5-2 if not a tick higher because I expect Nakatomi, with all of his back class, to take considerable action. Sacrosanct comes out of a good third in a key race, which was won by Forego-bound Senior Officer. Tip Top Thomas finished second and came back to run second by a nose in a race with the same conditions as this one. White-hot Manny Franco can sit just off the pace from the far outside post and make his move when he sees fit. Colt is ultra consistent on the Beyer side: 98-96-99-95 in his last four. Manny and Linda Rice are a 24-percent winning combo the last 3 months – and the last 3 years (27-111)!

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	5	Stimulate	5-2	4.5	\$30 WIN #5 \$20 Pick 3 5 / 6 / 6

Notes

PLAY OF THE DAY: If I were doing the Power Picks on July 18, Stimulate might have been my play of the year. Jockey Junior Alvarado seemed very confident in the Claiborne Farm homebred, who was coming off an 11-month layoff after being very rank in her debut. The key for Alvarado was getting him to settle early, which he did, tracking the leader down the backstretch and making a winning 6-wide move on the turn. He might have been a little green late in the stretch, but the win was never in doubt and he looked like more distance will suit him just fine. This is a realistic non1X spot, and with Alvarado at Del Mar to ride Knightsbridge, Bill Mott turns to Jose Ortiz. Not a bad replacement, huh? Mott has only ridden Jose 4 times in the last year, with 1 win. The 3-year winning percentage for the combo is 19. I think stakes races await this royally bred son of Tapit out of a Medaglia d'Oro mare. I'll take 5-2 all day.

	Race #	Program # - Horse	Short Rationale
Most Likely Winner	11	#6 Counting Stars	Best 3-year-old filly.
Best Longshot (over 10-1 ML)	10	#4 Play With Fire	The other other Chad. Right, Uncle?



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

Race	Selections	Cost
4	\$8 DD 1,6 / 3,8,10	\$48
11	\$6 TRI 6 / 1 / all \$6 TRI 6 / all / 1	\$48

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

