



Race Date	8/1/26
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Race-Day Overview

It feels like I say this every weekend this summer, but another "Dandy" of a race day awaits us today with a really good Late P5 at Saratoga highlighted by the Jim Dandy S., followed by Million Day at Colonial with a ton of stakes, including the All-Stakes Late P5.

Check out our shows from this past week on YouTube for more details. Weather supposed to be great at Saratoga Springs and Virginia today....races should be on the turf in NY after much needed heavy rain earlier this week. Rough day with my Spot Plays last week, let's correct that today. That DQ in the last race at Del Mar (would have been a Spot Play score) cost me a pretty penny, that sucked.

Spot / Price Plays (National Avg. ROI is \$1.60):

*Overall ROI (since Feb. 2021): **\$2.12** (\$2,437.34 / 1151)

2026: **\$2.60** (\$411.28 / 158)

2026 Plays of the Day: **\$2.99** (\$146.40 / 49)

Today's Picks

*** For those of you not familiar with the "ABC" method of betting, go to our website, hhhracingpodcast.com, and click on the "Power Picks" tab on the top of the page for more information on how to read an "ABC" Grid and place bets using the "ABC" Method.*

Power Picks

Racetrack: Saratoga

Howard Kravets' P5 ABC Grid; R8 Post Time 4:28pm EDT

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
8	2,5,6	3	1	2,3,5,6	\$0.50	\$96
9	6,8,9	4	5,7	4,6,8,9	-	-
10	1,5	3	4	1,5	-	-
11	1,9	2	-	1,2,9	-	-
12	5,6	3	1,2,4	5,6	-	-

Paul Halloran's Late P5 ABC Grid (red selections IF OFF TURF)

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
8	1,5,14 (15 AE)	2,3, 8	6,8	1,2,5	\$1 LP5	\$72
9	8,9,10	4,6, 11	2,5	6,8,9		
10	5	1	3,4	5		
11	1, 11	2,9, 3	6,7, 5	1,9		
12	3,5, 10	6,8, 7,9	2	3,5,6,8		

Pete Visco's Late P5 ABC Grid:

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
8	3,5	2,9	1,6	2,3,5,9	\$0.50 P5	\$96
9	8,9	4,6	2,7	8,9	-	-
10	3,5	1,4	-	3,5	-	-
11	1,6,9	2,7	3	1,6,9	-	-
12	2,3,7	5,6	4,8	2,3,6,7	-	-

Howard's P5 Analysis

A Grade 3 (Lake George S.) and Grade 2 (Jim Dandy) highlight the Late P5 today at Saratoga, one that is hittable without a massive bankroll. Speaking about being on a roll, I've been fortunate enough to hit the last 3 Late P5's on Saturdays/Sundays at the Spa, so let's hope the good times continue to occur. Bare in mind...I DO SPEND MORE THAN THE SUB-\$100 TICKET I GIVE OUT ON THIS TIP SHEET and use more horses (including C's) or press-up with certain horses. The sequence starts with a turf sprint where I'd use four horses at most. The next two races are the stakes...do NOT go deep in these, especially the Jim Dandy. Four of the five can win, but narrow down your selections because you're not getting the equity you'd want. The last two races, a turf sprint and maiden route, do NOT seem overly complicated...again, I'd only use a few. I did find it hard to single a horse.



Price/Spot Play(s)

(Reminder, "stars" are rated from 1 – 5, with 5 being the most confident of plays)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	6	Amberglen	5-2	3	\$20 WP #6

Notes:

The Lake George S. (G3) is a competitive event. I hope I'm not getting sucked into the big fig number received by #6 Amberglen in her last start. She did get away with a relatively slow middle half, but she was super-impressive in the lane, finally living up to her potential. Today, I hope she's aggressively used early again, as longshot Candy Moonshine and the outside horse Lion Lake is the only other one that could show early speed. Would like to see Amberglen sit just off one or both of those. This field doesn't blow me away, and Cox/Irad are a great combo. Just don't take too low a price (wish the ML was higher)...she has to prove her quality in a stakes race.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	5	Commandment	6-5	5	\$35 Win #5 Backup Exacta: 1/5

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT SARATOGA! I'm sure our host of Bettin N Boozin, Kyle Roscoe, will be eccastic with the selection, b/c he's the President of the **#5 Commandment** Fan Club. To be honest, and I know this sounds silly, I'm only worried that the connections don't really care to win this race and are using only as a prep for the Travers. Intent is huge. In theory, especially with blinks on and no confirmed front runner, Commandment is supposed to sit comfortably off of #1 Chip Honcho and go by in the lane. I'd like Flavian to be a bit aggressive from the start to sit 2nd...shouldn't have to use too much of the horse in order to do that. He might be a smidge better going 9 furlongs over 10, and I just think he's better than #1 Chip Honco, who could walk the dog on an easy lead and be tough to catch. Similar to Amberglen, this ML is a bit low for my liking. Would prefer something closer to 8-5 if I wanted to aggressively win bet him. I do think Chip Honcho's post-time price will be lower than the ML of 3-1. My overall opinion of this race today...I'm just against Renegade. Next month in the Travers....we'll see.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
11	1	Illmatic	9-2	3	\$20 Win #1 BIG Exactas: 1 / 2,9 Small Exactas: 2,9 / 1

Notes:

#1 Illmatic is owned by our partners at Adelphi, but that's NOT why I'm picking the horse to win. He was REALLY unlucky last time. The lead horse lugged out and bothered Illmatic. He regained momentum and almost won anyway. He'll use his early speed from the rail, jock will look right, and make some decisions. Even though he's taking on older, and his speed figs look a little light, he just needs to run his race (maybe slightly faster) and get a little racing luck. I know the connections are high on him. I hope Flavian lets the Finger Lakes horse clear, then sit and come around while holding off the closers. That could be the winning move.

Power Picks

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
12	6	Fancy N Flight	4-1	4+	\$15 WP #6 Trifectas: 6 / 3,5 / 1,2,3,4,5 3,5 / 6 / 1,2,3,4,5

Notes:

I almost made **#6 Fancy N Flight** my Play of the Day, it was close. My day might partially revolve around this horse, who looks too slow on paper and a bit unimpressive based on her one start on turf. But, there's signal in the noise. First time off a long layoff, the Irad-ridden horse (will affect price) for a low profile trainer had serious trouble in her lone turf effort last fall. She was ready to explode up the inside only to be cut off and had no chance. Irad is 4-out-of-7 in the money for this trainer. I'm concerned a bit about the 1 month gap in works, but both turf works recently, especially the last one, were visually impressive. Do we really think Irad is going to jump on a "short" horse for a low-profile trainer? Don't think so. Has to beat the #3 and #5....the latter has had her chances.

Racetrack: Colonial

Howard Kravets' ALL-STAKES Late P5 ABC GRID - Starts at 3pm EDT

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	8,10	7	5	7,8,10	\$0.50 LP5	\$60
8	12,14	7,13	10	7,10,12,13,14	-	-
9	3,9	-	2,6	3,9	-	-
10	8,9	3,5	6,7,11,12	3,5,8,9	-	-
11	5	-	1,4,6,8	5	-	-

Howard's Late P5 Analysis

Colonial's biggest day of racing offers an ALL-STAKES Late P5 ending in the Million (just can't use the word "Arlington", sorry). It starts with a nice dirt sprint...use only 2-3 horses there. The rest are on grass...R8 is a wide-open turf sprint, use as many as possible. R9 and R11, the Secretariat and Million, are NOT spread races...I'm only 2 x 1 mainly there. R10, the Beverly D, is definitely a spread race for me, although I do like the S. African-bred Gimme A Nother, but she certainly does NOT lay over the field by any means.

Price/Spot Play(s)

(Reminder, "stars" are rated from 1 – 5, with 5 being the most confident of plays)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
7	10	Verifire	7-2	3	\$15 WP #10

Notes:

7 furlongs is the perfect distance for a horse with tactical speed, drawn on the outside, who is NOT a need-the-lead type. **#10 Verifire** fits that role perfectly...he's been stuck on the inside going shorter in his last two, and stretching back out to a bit longer distance, where he's been successful before, should work great for him. He has to avoid being hung wide, but as long as he doesn't lose too much ground on the far turn, he'll get the jump on closers like Crazy Mason and just might hold them off.

Power Picks

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	3	Supercharger	7-2	5	\$20 WP #3 BIG Exactas: 3/9 Smaller Exacta: 9/3

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT COLONIAL!! #9 Alpyland will probably be the post-time fave, and deservedly so. I do wish the distance of the Secretariat was at its original distance of 1 3/16th instead of a furlong shorter, but **#3 Supercharger** should live up to his name in the lane. He's beaten older horses in his last two and now takes on his own generation. On paper, if the field holds together, there is some early gas, which should set up his potent kick. I trust Cherie will have him tight enough to win at 1 1/6th...Franco just has to time it right. Alpyland is very good and sharp, but hasn't faced much in his last two (plus small fields) and has been able to save ground with cozy inside trips...now, he's in the 9-hole. That could be the difference. Supercharger is the "now" horse....Alpyland is one of the leaders of the division. It's between those two it appears.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
11	8	Grande Oriente	10-1	2	Small Trifecta: 5 / 8 / all Larger Trifecta: 5 / all / 8 Superfecta: 5 / all / all / 8

Notes:

Ok, this is an unusual play, so here me out, take it or leave it. I've watched the races of **#8 Grande Oriente** very carefully and have bet him in his last two wins. Whatever Saffie has done with him has worked wonders. This is a Group 1 winner in Chile, which qualified him for the BC Mile last year, where he only lost to Notable Speech by 5 lengths, not an embarrassing effort. He has been VERY professional in his last two starts, albeit against much easier, but it's not like he hasn't faced good ones before, and he's gone further in his native homeland before coming to the U.S. There could be a bit more in the tank if he's fully ready, and should love these gradual, sweeping turns. Here's my overall thought: other than Burhnam Square, who will be odds on, no one blows me away. I guess the #1 and #4 are the best after Square, but not by much compared to the rest of the field. It will depend on trip. I suggest using Grande Oriente, who could be the longest shot on the board, in all positions underneath, including the superfecta. I think he'll be above his ML odds, more like 15-1 + come post time. If I can get him in the frame somewhere, it'll boost the vertical payout greatly. For our tip sheet ROI, I'll go \$1 place and \$3 show. Any Top 4 finish and I'll be satisfied....let's take a flyer to end the day!

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

