



LAUREL PARK

HANDICAPPING GUIDE for FRIDAY, SEPT. 18

TODAY'S SELECTIONS FROM THE LAUREL PARK TEAM



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TIM TULLOCK

RACE 1:	7-1-4-6	7-1-6-4	4-2-7-3	6-4-1-5	3-4-6-1	1-6-4
RACE 2:	5-4-1-6	5-6-4-3	5-1-3-6	4-3-1-5	4-7-6-5	5-4-3
RACE 3:	8-7-5-4	5-7-4-2	5-8-4-2	6-7-4-8	2-4-7-6	6-7-4
RACE 4:	1-7-4-5	7-1-6-2	7-6-4-5	6-7-1-2	4-2-1-6	6-7-1
RACE 5:	2-7-8-10	8-3-2-9	8-2-3-7	7-8-10-3	5-4-9-8	8-9-10
RACE 6:	6-9-12-7	6-9-7-10	6-9-7-8	9-13-6-4	6-9-7-11	6-9-12
RACE 7:	1-5-7-3	1-2-7-3	7-5-6-1	5-1-7-8	1-4-5-7	6-7-3
RACE 8:	3-1-8-6	6-8-4-5	8-7-3-5	8-6-7-1	8-7-5-1	7-8-5
RACE 9:	1-3-4-6	3-4-1-6	4-1-6-2	3-1-6-2	1-4-3-2	6-1-4
RACE 10:	6-8-9-3	8-6-7-1	9-6-8-7	8-6-7-4	6-8-3-4	6-4-8

First post is Noon ET with 12% takeout on Value Pick 5 wagers (first five races; last five races)

FRIDAY'S LATE VALUE PICK 5 CARRYOVER: \$19,634 (Races 6-10)

- TMJC's "Today at the Races" morning simulcast show LIVE on X [@LaurelPark](#) at 11AM ET for late changes + today's top tickets and best plays.
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TODAY'S ANALYSIS - by Dan Illman

>> RACE 1

1. HOPEFORGREATNESS

2. SUGAR BEE

3. ANAITA

First post time is 12 pm ET, and there are two "Value Pick 5" wagers, each with a LOW 12% takeout. There is a \$19,634 CARRYOVER into the late "Value Pick 5" (races 6-10). **HOPEFORGREATNESS** prompted the odds-on third-finisher through a very reasonable opening quarter, attacked outside on the turn, then gamely got there despite changing back to her wrong lead while in between. She's been in career form since returning from a layoff, and shouldn't be right there when they turn for home. Good to see **SUGAR BEE** back in the entries after clipping heels and falling on Independence Day. She ran pretty well two back after the favorite wired her in a slow-paced race, but still made up late ground despite changing leads several times. Kicks late for a trainer-jock combo that sent out a 9-1 turf winner at Colonial on 9/5. **ANAITA** bobbled slightly at the start at Monmouth, saved ground in midpack along the inside behind a solid pace, angled five to six wide, then just missed to the favored pacesetter winner after being late to change leads. Tap It Up next repeated in a \$16,000 starter there with a 72 Beyer. This barn had a couple of winners at Penn National over the last three weeks. DIVA READY might have been compromised by a slow pace and by trying to rally through traffic at Colonial. She can threaten if the pace is quick.

>> RACE 2

1. OVERWHELMING

2. MINIMUM BID

3. OUR SURVIVOR

OVERWHELMING switches surfaces out of a dam that was stakes-placed sprinting on turf and dirt (68 Beyer on both surfaces). Lots of turf in the female family, but this sire does better with dirt performers. Gained fitness with a grassy debut at Delaware, and won't be surprised if she shows improved speed for a barn that went 5 for the last 20 (25%, \$2.38 ROI) with second-out maiden runners. **MINIMUM BID** (\$1,000 yearling) is from the family of champion Gold Beauty, and her third dam won the Miss Preakness. Not much black-type closer-up in the family, but the second dam was a multiple stakes-placed turf miler (85 turf Beyer). **OUR SURVIVOR** is out of a debut-winning half-sister to Grade 3-winning dirt router Northern Causeway from the family of Horse of the Year Ghostzapper and Grade 1 winner City Zip. CHASING BONITO, listed as a Charles Town vet scratch on 8/1, was wired by an odds-on favorite that day. The fourth-finisher then ran third in her next three starts with a Beyer top of 29. REGAL FLAIR was wired over a speed-friendly and sloppy track in her lone dirt start, a slow-paced race where they ran 1-2-3 around the track. The third-finisher has since compiled a 4-1-2-1 record with a 48 Beyer top. PIPER'S SONG might have faced a tad better in her Delaware debut eight days ago.

>> RACE 3

1. CHIMNEY SWEEP

2. REPURPOSE

3. NOTION IN MOTION

CHIMNEY SWEEP was bumped at the start, rated back to save ground in midpack, was hard-riden to keep up from in between through a quick second quarter in 22.60, eased outside in midstretch, and finished evenly with a good gallop-out. That race produced two next-out winners, and Kuhner (the winner) then placed in a \$50,000 "non-two" claimer at Colonial with a 73 Beyer. Boasts a versatile running style, but might get closer to the pace.

REPURPOSE was wired at Colonial on 7/19. Tracked from in between, made a three-wide bid on the turn, then just held second after being very late to change leads. The winner next ran third in a \$16,000 "non-two" starter at Delaware with a 61 Beyer. Respect this one's tactical speed for a new barn that went 3 for the last 10 (30%, \$2.02 ROI) with turf horses adding blinkers. **NOTION IN MOTION** (wears a hood) didn't have the best start, then was wired

over this course and distance by Matthew's Ticket, who hit the board in his next three with a 72 Beyer top. SOUPER POWER TAPIT broke slowly from the rail against better at Colonial. The fifth-finisher then ran third in a \$16,000 maiden claimer there with a 50 Beyer. SHORT BURN switches surfaces and is a half-brother to stakes-winning turf sprinter L J's Emma (93 turf Beyer).

>> RACE 4

1. BLAZING BRIDGETTE

2. PINKY SWEAR

3. THE GREAT MAYBE

BLAZING BRIDGETTE ran well in both prior main track route races, including her most recent start, a pace-pressing maiden score at Parx. Pushed the 12-1 fourth-finisher from the outside, took over for good three-eighths from home, and drew clear under a drive. The fifth-finisher graduated by 7 3/4 lengths on Monday in a \$12,500 maiden claimer there. Might attempt rating tactics in this one-turn mile with the long second stretch waiting. **PINKY SWEAR** looks like the one to catch and beat as she drops in class, adds blinkers, and stretches out a half-mile in distance. Couldn't get an early position in that sharp sprint at Timonium, but kept trying with a wide late run in a race where they went 1-2-3 around (winner was 1/5 on the tote). This barn went 3 for the last 15 (20%, \$2.29 ROI) with horses moving from sprint to dirt route. **THE GREAT MAYBE** finished behind two next-out winners when giving a six-wide rally in her first start of this form cycle, and might not have been at her best when off slowly over that quirky configuration at Timonium.

>> RACE 5

1. KUHNER

2. LEAVE ME

3. CITRINE

KUHNER cleared off to set an uncontested pace, might have kicked for home a bit too early through a quick 23.19 third quarter, and faltered in the final eighth. This barn already has a couple of winners this month, and their charge doesn't need the lead to succeed. Might opt for sitting just off the leader(s) this time around. **LEAVE ME** didn't break the best at Saratoga, then settled at the back of the pack. Made an inside bid on the second turn, eased off the rail and gradually altered course outside, then finished evenly in between. Seems well-entered for a barn that has four winners since 9/7. **CITRINE** worked out an excellent trip when graduating at Colonial. Saved ground throughout, snuck through up the rail turning for home, and was too good for that group. This is a tougher spot, but he has upside and might receive a similar setup from this good inside post. The barn went 24 for the last 108 (22%, \$2.19 ROI) when last-out maiden winners returned in route races. Vargas lands here instead of GREYLINE STATION, who chased a very fast pace (23.41; 22.27) at Colonial and might not have to work as hard to grab the early lead here. The winner of that last heat repeated in the Grade 3 Old Dominion Derby with an 84 Beyer.

>> RACE 6

1. CRAB MENTALITY

2. IT'S FINE

3. MEREDITHSLIGHTNING

CRAB MENTALITY prompted the pace from in between horses, was bumped from the outside entering the turn, went after the leader on the bend, and finished evenly in the stretch. That race hasn't come back strong just yet (five next-out runners; none hit the board; 53 turf Beyer), but she has good tactical speed and goes out for a barn that went 6 for 22 (27%, \$4.28 ROI) between 9/3 and 9/13. **IT'S FINE**, listed as a Colonial vet scratch on 8/23, tracked a moderate pace in her first start against winners, then only finished two lengths behind. She might be more effective when taking back and making one run, and might get a quicker pace to attack here. The barn went 3 for 14 (21%, \$3.37 ROI) between 8/29 and 9/13. **MEREDITHSLIGHTNING**

has some angles as she moves back to turf for her third start of the form cycle. Pushed the favored winner through solid fractions (23.74; 23.98) before tiring late. LIGHT DE NIGHT and MAD MISTY deserve consideration if they escape the Also Eligible list. Expect HAIL NO to show some early speed.

>> RACE 7

1. BACKINTHEWOODS

2. TOP BLOOD

3. ROBERT'S MOON

The rail seemed good last Friday, and **BACKINTHEWOODS** battled outside the favored winner from the opening bell before settling for second money. He won off a similar seven-day layoff back in 2024, and should show speed from the inside draw. **TOP BLOOD**'s running style doesn't seem to play well at Timonium, so it may be best to draw a line through the most recent start. Got up for second behind a runaway at Charles Town two back, and earned a very competitive Beyer Speed Figure over a more conventional track at Delaware on the Fourth of July. **ROBERT'S MOON** ran well in both starts following the Salzman claim, and is quick enough to get up and on the pace from this outside post. The barn sent out two winners here on 9/12. PRADO ROAD takes a big drop in class and returns to his favorite racetrack.

>> RACE 8

1. BRIGHTSHININGLIGHT

2. SUPERCRAISER

3. VIRGINIA FITZ

BRIGHTSHININGLIGHT stalked from in between, altered course widest, then made up over two lengths in the final furlong. Finished ahead of two next-out winners (eighth-place runner returned to take a \$12,000 starter on Tapeta at Gulfstream with an 86 Beyer) that afternoon, just missed over this course and distance two back, and can get closer to the pace here. **SUPERCRAISER** was an impressive debut winner at Colonial. Broke slow, settled near the back behind a quick pace, cut the corner into the stretch, eased out at the eighth pole, and kicked down a more-experienced, even-money favorite. Gets tested today, but has a ton of upside. **VIRGINIA FITZ** (wears a hood) was wired by the favorite in a tough two-turn heat at Colonial. The fourth-finisher then took the restricted Lewes Handicap at Delaware with a 78 Beyer. It could be argued that he is at his best as a late-running sprinter and can kick hard if given enough pace to attack for a barn that went 6 for the last 20 (30%, \$6.70 ROI) when moving from route to turf sprint. MATTHEW'S TICKET was compromised by an awkward start when wired at Colonial. He has more speed than he showed that day. RYE DIGGITYDOG overcame a poor start to kick down open first-level allowance foes at Delaware over soft ground.

>> RACE 9

1. SUPERFRACTOR

2. MISTER MONDAY NITE

3. INTOGATE

SUPERFRACTOR was wired by an odds-on favorite at Monmouth. Pressed that moderate pace while racing four wide and in the five path, went on the attack three-to-four wide on the turn, then finished evenly with a solid gallop-out. Curious to see what sort of trip he pulls against this group. This barn sent out two winners from four starters between 9/4 and 9/11. **MISTER MONDAY NITE** won his last two starts with Lasix and will receive the medication again this afternoon after faltering in two stakes races out of town. Pushed a pretty quick pace last time at Parx before tiring. Might attempt more patient tactics this afternoon. **INTOGATE** pushed a very reasonable pace (23.19; 24.08) before surging clear at Delaware. Never off the board from three starts, he can get close to the lead from the inside draw. GREAT QUALITY, listed as a Delaware vet scratch on 7/11, pressed a solid pace before scoring at Delaware. This is a tougher group, but he drew well and should be right there when the real racing starts. FAYES HEART is the lone four-time winner in the field, and kicks hard in the stretch after being wired by an odds-on favorite at Timonium.

>> RACE 10

1. GRANITE HALL

2. CHARLIBU

3. TWENTY FOUR CARA

GRANITE HALL did not have an easy trip in her debut. Broke slowly, raced near the back behind a quick pace, was in behind horses on the turn, altered course to the fence, eased outside once again, and just finished behind the favored and more experienced winner. This barn sent out two turf winners since 9/7. **CHARLIBU** (\$150,000 yearling; \$400,000 April juvenile) breezed two furlongs in 20 4/5 prior to last year's auction, and is out of Grade 2-placed dirt sprinter Malibu Stacy (93 turf Beyer), herself a half-sister to stakes-winning turf router Coasted (86 turf Beyer) and multiple Grade 3-placed turf router Mahina. The second dam was a multiple Grade 2-winning turf router. The barn went 10 for the last 35 (29%, \$3.49 ROI) with debut runners in turf sprints. **TWENTY FOUR CARA** (wears a hood) set a quick pace while off the rail, drifted out significantly on the turn, then finished evenly behind the top pick. Perhaps blinkers will help her stay straighter. LAST TREASURE ran pretty well going a half-mile at Timonium. This sire has good stats with turf runners. BRIKELI hustled out of there to set a pressured pace from the outside, cleared to the lead and the rail, then tired badly inside after being very late to change leads. Don't be surprised if she's up front again.

MACK'S FACTS – by Mackenzie Pfeiffer

R1: Diva Ready looks to benefit from class relief, plenty of pace, and Rodriguez in the irons. Here's hoping we stick to 4-1 ML odds.

R2: A race worth spreading out your interests, or at least have a look in the paddock. Overwhelming looks too short a price in this group but she should benefit with a race under her. Regal Flair also tries a new surface today, worth noting she is 2nd time blinkers.

R3: Chimney Sweep has shown willingness and ability in all 12 career starts, even if he hasn't managed to notch the maiden win. With Boyce aboard, he may put the pieces together as she will look to give him the best possible position throughout. Short Burn is likely to take plenty of action based on the trainer and jockey combination.

R4: Blazing Bridgette returned to the dirt to win handily last out, with a bit more pace in this group I find her a vulnerable favorite. Both Global Consort and Spring Training will face winners for the first time here, in addition, both won in their first try on a fast main track without blinkers.

R5: Kuhner handled a stretch out last out against tougher company only to fold in the late stages. Second try routing could continue the upward trend. Citrine steps back up in company after adding blinkers and finding success. I wouldn't pass up this barn for 6-1 ML when going long on the turf.

R6: Crab Mentality is a must use as we saw a career best last out when adding Lasix and blinkers. Another to consider is It's Fine, who looks to cutback in distance for the first time since adding Lasix. With pace to target, she may have the chance to return to the closer sprinter style we saw from her on debut. Crab

R7: The big question of this race is how much can we trust Prado Road? There is reason to think we should excuse some of his more recent efforts. In the event he doesn't, Robert's Moon looks to be holding his form well.

R8: Supercruiser has a lot to answer in just his second start, now facing winners. Out of a competitive turf sprinter, this MD bred drew \$180k in a digital sale last year. If you prefer experience, Enduring Gold and Rye Diggitydog look to be the biggest challenges.

R9: Mister Monday Nite gets Lasix back on and returns to a sprinting distance on a fast track, the setup which helped him score both career wins. With speed to his inside, he could sit a perfect trip here. Worth noting, Great Quality is likely to take money in here, yet 2/3 wins came in off the turf affairs.

R10: In a race that has plenty of speed, I find myself looking to a stalking type to benefit. Louvar books Ruiz in the irons and the outer post may help her tendency to break a step slowly as she spends less time in the gate.

TODAY'S HOT TRAINER STATS

RACE 2

#5 - Overwhelming

Trainer Stat: Justin Nixon

Second-Out Maiden Runners: 5 for 20 (25%, \$2.38 ROI)

RACE 3

#7 - Repurpose

Trainer: Keri Brion

Blinkers On, Turf: 3 for 10 (30%, \$2.02 ROI)

RACE 4

#1 - Pinky Swear

Trainer: Hamilton Smith

Sprint to Dirt Route: 3 for 15 (20%, \$2.29 ROI)

RACE 5

#2 - Citrine

Trainer: Graham Motion

Last-Out Maiden Winners, Routes: 24 for 108 (22%, \$2.19 ROI)

RACE 6

#6 - Crab Mentality

Trainer: Keri Brion

Between 9/3 and 9/13: 6 for 22 (27%, \$4.28 ROI)

RACE 6

#9 - It's Fine

Trainer: Hugh McMahon

Between 8/29 and 9/13: 3 for 14 (21%, \$3.37 ROI)

RACE 8

#4 - Virginia Fitz

Trainer: Susan Cooney

Route to Turf Sprint: 6 for 20 (30%, \$6.70 ROI)

RACE 10

#6 - Charlibu

Trainer: Brittany Russell

First-Time Starters, Turf Sprints: 10 for 35 (29%, \$3.49 ROI)

TRIPS AND TIPS – by Will Humphrey, *In The Money Media*

Trip Notes - Recent performances that deserve an asterisk. All others: trust the past-performances.

Race 1: OC12k/SAL8k, 3YO+ (F), 5 ½ Furlongs, Turf			
Horse	Race	Trip	Notes
#4 DIVA READY	Starter Allowance, CNL, 5 1/2F, Firm Turf, 09/06/26 – 5 th	Settled towards rear early, ~3-4L off slow pace while 2W; ran up on heels slightly behind the tightly bunched field ~3/8; stayed inside behind horses racing into the lane, then tried to advance towards the inside but was shut out and forced to steady ~1/8 pole; from there, she finished evenly under a mild hand ride, seemingly with more to offer.	She met significant stretch trouble in this race and was also attempting to close into a slow pace (23.17, 46.04); she appeared to finish with plenty in reserve and we should not mistake this result as a drop off in her form; big player right back.
#6 ANAITA	Claiming 12k, MTH, 5F, Firm Turf, 08/14/26 – 2 nd	Lacked speed early; chased honest pace inside from ~5L back to the turn; angled off rail mid-turn, then lost ground when floated very wide (6W) racing into the lane; straightened for the drive ~8L off the lead, then finished very well down the center but missed.	Although the pace was honest (21.27, 45.10), speed still held well (as it did for most of the meet on the turf at Monmouth); ANAITA was the only runner to do any running from the back, and she did this despite losing plenty of ground on the home turn (she lost more ground than she was beaten by); expect she can improve on this effort today, especially with an extra 1/16 to work with.
Other notes: - #1 SUGAR BEE finished well despite not much of a pace setup two back going a shorter than ideal flat 5F; she has the potential to improve on that try back at 5 1/2F following an unfortunate mishap last time.			

Race 2: Maiden Claiming 12.5k, 3-6YO (F), 6 Furlongs, Dirt			
Other notes: - Not sure why, but #7 PIPERS SONG was not asked for any effort from her rider on debut; seems she can only improve.			

Race 3: Maiden Claiming 35k, 3-6YO, 5 ½ Furlongs, Turf			
Other notes: - #4 NOTION IN MOTION endured a rough beginning last out; while it didn't cost him a position, it didn't aid his chances either and his two-back effort may be a slightly better reflection of his ability; respected back down in class. - #6 SOUPER POWER TAPIT was first to load into the gate on debut and then became restless, which was not ideal; a wider draw may help him in that department second out.			

Race 4: Claiming 12.5k, 3YO+ (F), 1 Mile, Dirt			
Horse	Race	Trip	Note
#5 HOLY FIT	Starter Allowance, DEL, 1M 70Y, Yielding Turf, 08/20/26 – 8 th	Patently chased slow pace from ~4L back on rail into far turn; waited under a hold as field bunched rounding into upper stretch, then tipped off the rail and tried to come with a run but was denied a clear path and forced to tap on the brakes; from there, she continued to be denied a clean path through the lane and remained under a mild ride.	A troubled trip while trying to close into a slow pace; she's in better form than this bare result would suggest and is deserving of respect now returning to the dirt and dropping in class.
Other notes:			

- In a race that saw the running order hardly change throughout, **#1 PINKY SWEAR** raced awkwardly early when facing kickback and further behind than usual; she then swung wide before finishing evenly; based off that effort, the addition of blinkers and stretch out in distance today could see her to good effect.
- There was a speed bias present at Delaware when **#2 GLOBAL CONSORT** broke her maiden last time, possibly warranting a downgrade; that being said, she won easily and with her ears pricked, as if she had more to offer.
- After setting a slow, uncontested pace (24.54, 49.10; possible downgrade), **#4 SPRING TRAINING** opened up at the top of the lane and was set to record an easy victory but instead, after switching leads in upper stretch, she instantly switched back and lost her balance, hitting the rail notably and losing momentum; odd as it was, she did well to then stay on again late; the main thing to note is that, without her stretch antics, she would have won by a little further and so therefore, a little more *could* be seen from her today.

Race 5: OC35k/SAL28k, 3YO+, 1 Mile, Turf

Horse	Race	Trip	Note
#10 SNOOKIE BEAR	Claiming 30k, CNL, 1 1/16M, Firm Turf, 08/27/26 – 3 rd	Allowed to settle; chased slow pace from ~3-6L off the lead in last racing to the far turn; caught a little flat footed as the pace lifted far turn; responded to pressure and gradually built momentum, then closed steadily through the stretch but couldn't reach the front two.	The slow pace that favored front runners (24.35, 49.43) worked against him in this race, and he did well to finish as close as he did; provided the pace is stronger today, more can be expected of him.

Other notes:

- **#7 INNO HURRY EARLY** was just that on return going 6F at Colonial two weeks ago and failed to ever get involved; he did, however, retain good looking energy through the lane (despite his jockey not riding him through the majority of the final 1/8) and there were things to like visually with today's test in mind; the tape left the impression that race was just a prep, and improvement seems very possible today now getting to go long on turf first time.

Race 6: Maiden Claiming 16k, 3-6YO (F), 5 ½ Furlongs, Turf

Other notes:

- **#2 FINAL MOMENT** clipped a rival's heel entering the turn at Colonial last time; however, her momentum and position wasn't really impacted too much, and it's tough to say that *that* was the reason for her below par effort though; while we can potentially draw a faint line through the effort, she does still have things to prove today.
- Having produced several speed and fade effort going long, **#7 MEREDITHSLIGHTING** has looked more at home sprinting in her last two starts, albeit on her lesser preferred surface; sprinting on the grass for the first time today figures to possibly unlock extra ability.

Race 7: Claiming 7.5k, 3YO+, 6 Furlongs, Dirt

Horse	Race	Trip	Note
#7 ROBERT'S MOON	Claiming 5k, TIM, 6 1/2F, Fast Dirt, 09/06/26 – 3 rd	Broke well but could not establish lead early; tight between while 2W entering first turn, dropped back; chased honest pace from 1-2L back racing to far turn while using energy trying to keep his outer foe in the 3P, enabling him to hold his kickback free spot in the 2P; lost that battle entering turn and had to steady before racing awkwardly in behind horses (looked to dislike the kickback); dropped 4-5L down in upper stretch, then ran on again but had too much to do.	A less-than-ideal trip for this runner who continues to run in a manner to suggest he dislikes kickback; the return to a conventional track today with only 112 pounds on his back and a wide post could easily see him produce an improved effort; respected.

Other Notes:

- **#1 BACKNTHEWOODS'** last two runner-up efforts have come over speed friendly track – possible downgrade for both efforts.
- **#3 BEACH COWBOY** didn't have a bad trip on return last time; however, he did run well considering he was running over an inadequate distance for him, and he was tasked with closing against a strong SPEED BIAS; expecting him to step forward notably this afternoon with conditions more in his favor second back.
- **#5 HELDISH** sat a wider than ideal trip at Timonium last time, losing more ground on the turns than the 1/2L he was beaten; respected right back.

Race 8: Allowance, 3YO+ [®] , 5 ½ Furlongs, Turf			
Horse	Race	Trip	Note
#8 SUPERCRUISER	MSW, CNL, 5 1/2F, Firm Turf, 08/21/26 – 1 st	Awkward break, away very slowly in rear; chased honest pace from ~10L back early; gradually moved closer under a hold inside far turn; waited in behind rivals for a run in upper stretch while leader kicked 2L clear; continued to wait on heels until finding room ~1/8 pole and exploding through the lane to make up over 4L late; galloped out strongly.	Although the pace was hot, speed didn't collapse in this race, making SUPERCRUISER's debut effort – in which he did not have a perfect trip, only finding room late - even more likable than it already was; he seems talented and will demand major respect second out today.
Other notes: - None.			

Race 9: Allowance, 3YO+ [®] , 6 Furlongs, Dirt			
Other notes: - The career best 72 Beyer that #2 FAYES HEART ran two back came over a heavily SPEED BIASED track – take that form and fig with a pinch of salt. - Based off his last two effort, there's a strong chance #4 MISTER MONDAY NIGHT will rediscover his better form with Lasix back on today.			

Race 10: MSW, 3-6YO (F), 5 ½ Furlongs, Turf			
Other notes: - While the chart comment is correct in highlighting that #1 LAST TREASURE was bumped ~1/4 pole before going on to finish 2nd of four at Timonium on debut, the bump was insignificant and we should not upgrade her effort as a result. - #7 TWENTY FOUR CARA bolted off the turn two back and was eased, then bore out badly again rounding into the stretch last time before ultimately doing well to hold 4th; based off that effort, she's tough to trust but also seems capable of more if straightening up. - #8 GRANITE HALL had an excellent pace setup on debut at Colonial last month which makes it hard to upgrade her effort; however, she did also have to navigate a small amount of traffic in upper stretch which meant that she only had the chance to level off late and ultimately too late; she could have potentially won on another day and is deserving of respect today.			

Horses to Follow

R7: ROBERT'S MOON (5/2 ML)

Without too much speed signed on for today's seventh, a chance can be taken on ROBERT'S MOON to go well with just 112 pounds on his back and a wide post that'll enable him to keep out of kickback early - something that is seemingly key with him. Salzman has started the meet strong and, following a troubled trip last time, we can hope the 5/2 morning line price will hold up.

R8: BRIGHTSHININGLIGHT (6/1 ML)

BRIGHTSHININGLIGHT is a progressive, game four-year-old who has put forth three very solid efforts on the turf to date. Save for the favorite - who could be anything - today's assignment looks a little easier than his last, and with blinkers now going on, he could well get the jump on some of the other main protagonists. Exacta bets with SUPERCRUISER could be the way to play this race.

FUTURE HORSES TO WATCH

LOVELIEST

Trainer: Eddie Kenneally
Last Race: April 17, Race 7
Finish: 8th by 6 3/4

Class drop might be in order after filly tired badly in a first-level allowance sprinting on the grass. She was bumped during the opening furlong while pressing the winner from the rail before giving way. She is quick from the gate, and that speed would play well at a lower class level.

PINKY SWEAR **(ENTERED TODAY at LAUREL – Race 4)**

Trainer: Hamilton Smith
Last Race: Sept. 5, 4th
Finish: 4th by 7 lengths

Lost all chance at Timonium when pinched back at the start of a sharp half-mile sprint. Swung widest into the stretch and failed to threaten. She seems stronger when able to get close to the pace at slightly longer distances, and might even make some noise on the turf down the road.

BLO YOUR MIND

Trainer: Tim Keefe
Last Race: September 12, 3rd
Finish: 1st by 3 1/2 lengths

In a field full of first-time starters, this Blofeld filly proved best despite looking a bit green. She pushed the pace while three wide, took over into the stretch, and drew out despite failing to change leads.

NOAH CHANCE

Trainer: John Robb
Last Race: September 13, 6th
Finish: 5th by 1 1/2

Tracked the pace from in between horses, was bottled up turning into the stretch, and was stymied in behind horses; finally altered course to the outside and made up some late ground.

YOUR LORDSHIP

Trainer: Graham Motion
Last Race: May 30, 7th race
Finish: 1st by 2 3/4

It could be a fun 4-year-old summer on the turf for the Graham Motion-trained runner. Racing as a first-time gelding, Your Lordship rated long with plenty of confidence throughout, waited to pounce in the upper stretch, and angled and swept clear for the win.

PLENTY ON TAP

Trainer: Tim Woolley
Last Race: Sept. 11, 5th
Finish: 3rd by 2 3/4 lengths

Didn't break the best, then raced three wide and in between rivals on the backstretch before being shuffled back, cut the corner into the stretch, then was over in behind horses for most of the stretch before rallying belatedly to just miss second.

LINETTE

Trainer: Tim Woolley
Last Race: September 13, 1st
Finish: 2nd by head

First-time starter stumbled from in between horses when racing in tight on the backstretch, and that forced her rider right out of the irons for several strides. The filly stayed to task, however, as she angled widest into the stretch, and rallied gamely to drop a photo to a logical and favored winner.

FIERCE AND STRONG

Trainer: Michael Salvaggio Jr.
Last Race: September 13, Race 6
Finish: 4th by 1

Last on the rail for most of the way, he was stuck in behind rivals for most of the stretch, had to alter course several times, and still kicked on with interest.

JOCKEY CALLS

At Laurel Park, jockeys can be named on more than one horse on the original overnight.

Race 1 - Angel Cruz: #2 - Susan's Mule; #9 - Never So Lucky >>> **Cruz rides SUSAN'S MULE**

Race 5 - Jose Vargas: #1 - Greyline Station; #2 - Citrine >>> **Vargas rides CITRINE**

Race 5 - Jaime Rodriguez: #5 - Dreams of Rome; #10 - Snookie Bear >>> **Rodriguez rides SNOOKIE BEAR**

Race 6 - Leandro Briceno: #3 - Dash Dash Dot; #11 - Sunday Lyrics >>> **Briceno rides SUNDAY LYRICS**

THE ROUND-UP - by John Piassek, *The Racing Biz*

A recap of last week's action at Laurel Park. Visit theracingbiz.com for John Piassek's FREE full analysis of today's Laurel card.

Friday, Sept. 11

Race 1: The first race of the fall meet looked wide-open on paper and played out that way on the track. 18-1 **Stone Cold Jesse** saved ground off the pace for most of the way, angled off the inside in the stretch, and outfinished Go to Bingo for the upset win. Derz Smart may be the one to watch out of this race. In his first start since May 14, he closed from far out of it in the center of the track and finished third, beaten 1 ¼ lengths.

Race 3: Favored **Tiz No Clown** dueled down the stretch with 35-1 **World On Fire**, who raced off the rail throughout. The two hit the wire together in a dead heat. Upsidedown Man looked menacing in the stretch, but flattened out and ended up third.

Race 4: Another race where the favorite and the longshot battled for a while, but this time, 5-2 **Do It For Michael** pulled away from 34-1 Backnthewoods, who raced off the rail throughout. This was the second consecutive dirt race in which no one made up ground.

Race 5: **Starmetal** swooped the field in the five-path on the turn and won going away. Plenty On Tap was completely blocked at the top of the stretch and closed once he found room. He wouldn't have won even with a clean trip, but he might've gotten second.

Race 7: **Adero** rallied up the inside and kicked on in the last eighth to win going away. He was six lengths off the pace at the opening quarter-mile point, making him the only one to make up much ground on dirt all day (albeit in a small sample size of three races). Shaft's Bullet finished third despite racing 2 ½ lengths off the early lead in the center of the track for most of the way; keep him in mind for next time if he's in against similar.

Race 8: Golden Descent was pressed on the pace and pulled clear late, but was ultimately overhauled by closers **Marvelous Mo** and Daring Venture. He's run well in all four of his starts on this grass course and will be tough next time in a similar spot.

Saturday, Sept. 12

Race 1: The pace was very hot and the leaders completely fell apart, setting it up for **Brewmaster** to go last-to-first. Our Ham Sandwich probably ran the biggest race, as he was close to that contested pace and held third, beaten 1 ½ lengths. The horses who were 1-2-3 after a quarter-mile were all beaten by at least 20 lengths.

Race 4: Saltwater Crew, the only first-time starter in the race, battled for the lead and hung in there tenaciously in the stretch. **Rare Eclipse** converted a perfect trip to get up in the final few strides and win by a head.

Race 5: Master Schemer made a strong three-wide move on the final turn, and at the top of the stretch, he looked ready to run away from the rest. On most tracks, he might have, but **Majestic Blue**, who set the pace on the rail, fought back and won by a half-length. New York shipper Fiddling Felix also closed with interest and got third.

Race 6: The Sensible Lady Turf Dash went to **Gift of Gab**, who raced on the trail for most of the way and closed in the center of the track to win, giving trainer Suzanne Stettinius her first career stakes win. Somnium wore down the early leaders, but couldn't fend off Gift of Gab and settled for second.

Race 8: The importance of saving ground was on display in the Laurel Dash. Forest Boyce kept **Alogon** on the rail all the way, then moved him through an opening on the inside in the last eighth for the win. Favored Victory Achieved lasted through pace pressure and held on for second.

Sunday, Sept. 13

Race 1: Quality Swag went last-to-first to win as the slight favorite in a wide-open field. Linette, the only first-time starter in the field, was probably best. She raced wide throughout, checked and stumbled up the backstretch, but still closed with interest and missed by a head.

Race 2: Addy's Laddy T N T set the pace and fought hard in the stretch, but **Fan Club** made a three-wide move on the final turn and kicked away for a 4 ¾-length win, giving trainer Bobby Leaf III his first career win. Rapidity just missed second after a wide trip from off the pace.

Race 5: Pippin the Warrior, second last out at Colonial Downs, pressed the longshot early leader and held clear for his maiden-breaking score. The favorites, Love Yourself and Scrutinator, both got into traffic trouble on the turn, but neither had a ton of punch in clear sailing.

Race 6: Megan Salzman earned her first lifetime training win with Where's Ray, who sat off the pace and closed in the center of the track for the victory. Cactus ran the best race of the three early duelers. The other two wound up well up the track, but Cactus hung in well and lost by a half-length.

Race 7: There were four first-time starters in this ten-horse field, and two of them were in contention late. Aruba Ariba dueled for the lead with the experienced Engaged is Better, then fought back against fellow firster **Monster Mitch**. That one rallied three-wide and got up despite drifting in late. Engaged is Better held second by a neck over Aruba Ariba.

Race 9: It's rare to get 48-1 on a Jaime Rodriguez-ridden runner, but that's what happened with **Kool Kay**. She exploded from last and won by 4 ½ lengths, looking like a bargain at any price. Seger Songs lost as the favorite once again, getting up for a second by a nose over longtime leader Common Sense.

PAST TRACK TRENDS

Apr. 3 – Fair
Apr. 4 – Fair
Apr. 10 – Fair
Apr. 11 – Fair
Apr. 12 – Fair
Apr. 17 – Fair
Apr. 18 – SPEED BIAS
Apr. 19 – Fair
Apr. 24 – Fair
Apr. 25 – SPEED BIAS
Apr. 26 – Fair

May 1 – SPEED BIAS
May 2 – Fair
May 3 – Fair
May 8 – CLOSERS BIAS
May 9 – Fair
May 10 – CLOSERS BIAS
May 14 – Fair
🏆 May 15 – Fair
🏆 May 16 – Fair
May 22 – SPEED BIAS

May 23 – Fair
May 29 – SPEED BIAS
May 30 – Fair
May 31 – Fair
June 5 – SPEED BIAS
June 6 – CLOSERS BIAS
June 7 – Fair
June 12 – Fair
June 13 – Fair
June 14 – SPEED BIAS
June 19 – Fair

June 20 – Fair
June 21 – Fair
June 26 – Fair
June 27 – Fair
June 28 – INSIDE SPEED BIAS

Sep. 11 – INSIDE BIAS
Sep. 12 – SPEED BIAS
Sep. 13 – Fair