



LAUREL PARK

HANDICAPPING GUIDE for SATURDAY, OCT. 17

TODAY'S SELECTIONS FROM THE LAUREL PARK TEAM



DAN ILLMAN



MACKENZIE PFEIFFER



JOHN PIASSEK



DAVE RODMAN



TIM TULLOCK

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

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

- 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.
- Follow the action throughout the day on your preferred ADW, on X [@LaurelPark](#) and [@DanIllman_MJC](#), on Instagram [@marylandjockeyclub](#) and on TikTok [@marylandjockeyclub](#).
- Get FREE PPs for today's card from *Daily Racing Form*! To access, visit www.laurelpark.com/handicapping-wagering/ and scroll down.

TODAY'S ANALYSIS - by Dan Illman

>> RACE 1

1. DR. BROWER

2. REPURPOSE

3. MANTUA MAN

The first post is 12 pm ET, and there are two "Value Pick 5" wagers, each with a LOW 12% takeout. **DR. BROWER** is out of a juvenile-winning half-sister to juvenile stakes-placed dirt sprinter Gypsy Tales (82 dirt Beyer). Seems well-entered for a barn that went 3 for the last 11 (27%, \$2.73 ROI) with first-time starters. **REPURPOSE** was wired in a slow-paced race by favored Chimney Sweep, who then placed in a restricted allowance with a 71 Beyer. He has excellent tactical speed and can sit a good outside tracking trip. **MANTUA MAN** broke sharply on turf two back, found a good pocket position behind a quick pace, eased three wide, then finished evenly behind the two favorites. The winner of that heat next placed in a \$45,000 starter at Delaware with a 77 Beyer. That was his first run following a 460-day layoff, and that allays some fears as he returns from a 484-day break this afternoon. He should be fresh from the opening bell. **REBEL PRINCE** turns back in distance after being wired by the favorite at Delaware. The runner-up then hit the board in his next three starts with a 59 Beyer top. **TOTAL MISCHIEF** faced two next-out winners in his lone turf run, with Supercruiser returning to win a restricted allowance with a 79 Beyer.

>> RACE 2

1. SOMETIME

2. LIL SEBASTIAN

3. HELL OFA HILLBILLY

SOMETIME broke a beat slow, tracked a quick 22.57 quarter from the outside, made a three-wide bid on the turn, was bumped in the upper stretch, then stayed on well for the win. He beat three of today's rivals in that heat, and can work out a similar trip for a barn that already has a couple of winners this month. **LIL SEBASTIAN** removed blinkers for the two-turn Timonium assignment and rushed up to push the pace after being bumped at the break. A potential claim was voided by the vet that day, and he can show improved speed with the blinkers back on. **HELL OFA HILLBILLY** wouldn't mind a wet track, and he can get closer to the pace than in his most recent start, when he was beaten by the top pick. **STARSHIP MAGELLAN** was wired in a slow-paced race at Delaware. Both wins have come around two turns.

>> RACE 3

1. MESHACH

2. THE WRATH OF DAVID

3. BULLISTIC

MESHACH saved ground in midpack, advanced to track three wide and in between horses, and was bumped by an outer foe on the backstretch, made a strong four-wide bid into the teeth of the pace, grabbed a brief lead, and tired late. He's faltered in the stretch of his last two starts, but is quick enough to get closer to the pace here. **THE WRATH OF DAVID** pulled his way forward to the pocket, was urged along on the second turn, altered course outside, and finished evenly in between rivals to place ahead of the top pick. Think he can work out a similar trip from this outside post. **BULLISTIC** (\$90,000 yearling; \$120,000 RNA juvenile) is the first foal out of stakes-placed turf router Go Big Blue Nation (92 turf Beyer) from the family of Horse of the Year Point Given. Works look sharp, and he's bred to run a distance of ground. **VICTORIA MASTER** is out of Group 2-placed turf router Nothing Hill Lp (in Uruguay). **BIG LAR** (\$75,000 May juvenile) is out of multiple Grade 3-winning turf router Mom's On Strike.

>> RACE 4

1. READY FOR MAGIC

2. MARGARET P

3. IAMDEPENDINGONYOU

READY FOR MAGIC dominated foes in a two-turn sprint at Charles Town during the summer, then faltered in a similar situation at Timonium after dueling with the odds-on runner-up. Would like to see her revert to the rallying tactics that have worked well for her in the past. **MARGARET P** tracked three wide at the back, angled very wide into the long stretch, then finished evenly despite swapping back to her left lead. I like horses that are cutting back to seven furlongs, and she can adapt to any race flow. Briceno lands here instead of Stroll Trippin. **IAMDEPENDINGONYOU**'s form is clouded by turf races, but her last two dirt tries are okay, including when she finished ahead of the top selection at Timonium. **VALERIE STREET** might have needed her last race off the layoff and should show good early speed. **SHARE SUCCESS** seems well-entered after tiring at Parx.

>> RACE 5

1. CONTRIBUTION

2. PATROL SQUAD SIX

3. MERITORIOUS

CONTRIBUTION broke a beat slow on turf two back, saved ground at the back behind a hot pace, swung widest into the stretch, and made up late ground to finish ahead of two next-out winners despite hopping back to his left lead. He sold for \$100,000 at auction after his most recent dirt outing, and legged up for this by finishing sixth of nine in a 12-furlong point-to-point turf race at Foxfield on Oct. 4. **PATROL SQUAD SIX** saved ground while just behind the leaders in a fast-paced race, then raced in tight along the fence in the stretch in a race that was dominated by deep closers. Think we'll see an aggressive ride from this outside post for a barn that went 12 for the last 47 (26%, \$2.28 ROI) in the first after 61-120 day layoffs. Toledo lands here instead of Vaya Jeffe. **MERITORIOUS** set the pace inside the favored runner-up, quickened up the action through a solid third quarter, then stayed on gamely despite hopping back to his left lead nearing the wire. Showed no rust returning from a long layoff as a gelding, and can get close to the pace for a barn that went 4 for the last 14 (29%, \$2.27 ROI) with last-out maiden winners.

>> RACE 6

1. GIMME TWO SHOTS

2. MISTER WOODFORD

3. BORLETTI

GIMME TWO SHOTS tracked the pace while three-wide, bid from that path, then kept on trucking on his way to a comfortable score. His good tactical speed allows him to adapt to any race shape. **MISTER WOODFORD** set the pace inside the 8-1 runner-up, then tired in a two-turn route at Delaware. Although both of his wins came at longer distances, he's shown the ability to rate and finish, and might adopt those tactics here. **BORLETTI** was part of a quick pace on dirt last time, and he might be racing himself back into shape for this, his fourth run following a 214-day break. He's run some competitive Beyers on turf, and was likely compromised in his last grass start, a race where they ran 1-2-3 around the track. That race produced three next-out winners (Kohoutek earned a 74 Beyer in a \$30,000 "non-three" claimer). **SKYRUSH** was cooked in a hot-paced (22.31; 22.87) Belmont sprint, but might not have to work as hard to obtain a forward position. **BLUE SUEDE HOOVES** cuts back to a sprint after facing two next-out winners (the runner-up took a \$16,000 starter with a 75 Beyer). Expect a late charge. Chuan lands here instead of Stone Cold Jones. **WHENEVERUREMEMBER** drops in class and distance after facing two next-out winners (Reckless repeated in a \$35,000 starter-optional claimer with a 77 Beyer).

>> RACE 7

1. TEJANITA

2. SPRESSO MAR

3. YEAR END BONUS

TEJANITA has had her share of chances, but she ran pretty well last time out when bested by Run Wild, who returned to grab a first-level allowance here with an 83 Beyer. Saved ground at the back over a speed-friendly track, found the pocket after a half-mile, was hard-riden to go after the two pacesetters with a three-wide bid on the second turn, then tried hard for second. The barn went 6 for the last 16 (36%, \$2.86 ROI) in the first after 61- 120-day layoffs. **SPRESSO MAR** hit the board in both prior dirt starts, might have a bit more upside than the top pick, and her tactical speed can get her close to the pace for a barn that went 6 for 24 (25%, \$3.95 ROI) between 9/16 and 10/10. **YEAR END BONUS** failed to take advantage of that speed-friendly track at Monmouth, but it was a tall task debuting around two turns against a sharp winner. She'll show good speed along with MO LAKE TIME, who tried to steal away on the lead while handled confidently in her lone dirt start, then held second behind a more experienced and odds-on winner.

>> RACE 8

1. PEA RIDGE

2. OBJECTION

3. MUGATU

PEA RIDGE is taking a big jump in class, but this lightly-raced 3-year-old still seems unexposed. Laid up after being outrun at huge odds in a Churchill sprint, he utilized his seasonal debut in a half-mile dash at Timonium as an excellent prep run, then looked strong when graduating around two turns. Pressed the odds-on runner-up over a speed-friendly track, then drew clear while clearly appreciating the added ground. Must avoid a wide trip from this tough post for a barn that sent out a 7-1 turf winner on 10/8 at Delaware. **OBJECTION** was wired at Delaware by Our Notion, who next took a state-sired allowance at Laurel with a 79 Beyer. Broke well, tracked from the pocket, advanced three wide after a half, made an early lead change on the second turn when dropping inside, and stayed on for second. He can sit just off the early leaders. **MUGATU** hopped at the start, advanced to prompt three-wide and in between, took over with a three-wide bid at the three-eighths pole, then drew away despite swapping back to his left lead. He has back class and a strong late kick. **FORREST CITY** pressed reasonable fractions in a one-turn route, then held on for second. He's hit the board in his last six starts, and should show early speed.

>> RACE 9

1. ROADRUNNER THE CAT

2. HORSING AROUND

3. PRETTY LAVISH

ROADRUNNER THE CAT showed speed the last time she raced on turf before tiring during the final furlong. She reunites with Kevin Gomez, who piloted her to her victory over this course and distance last year, and figures right there when the field turns for home. The barn went 40 for 127 (31%, \$2.16 ROI) between 7/24 and 10/10. Her uncoupled stablemate, **HORSING AROUND**, broke a beat slow at Colonial, settled outside behind a fast pace, floated four wide into the stretch, and drew away to beat two next-out winners. Looks like the one to beat for Russell (4 for the last 14, 29%, \$2.26 ROI with last-out winners). **PRETTY LAVISH** makes her sprint debut in her 18th lifetime start. Pulled hard to settle in midpack behind a slow pace at Saratoga two back, swung five wide into the stretch, then finished evenly in between. The winner of that heat hit the board in her next two starts with Beyers of 79 and 76. The new barn went 5 for the last 20 (25%, \$3.47 ROI) when moving from route to sprint.

MACK'S FACTS – by Mackenzie Pfeiffer

R1: Repurpose exits a merry-go-round style race, where the winner was able to set terms on the front and avoid challengers until late. Now second time blinkers and sticking to the level, he has every chance to graduate.

R2: Sometime and Fayer Heart are the only runners who have won more than twice in this group, finding themselves eligible via the 3 y/o condition. Sometime was a bit tricky to load last out but landing outside should give him less time in the gate and more time to focus on the task at hand.

R3: Bullistic is the first foal of a stakes placed turf router, for a barn that can deliver a price. The Wrath of David handled a very nice inside trip last out behind a fashionable winner, his experience going long on the grass should benefit today. Overall, a race where I need to use a few options.

R4: It looks to be a questionable pace scenario in this group, which may benefit Share Success taking a drop in class. I draw a line through her last outing, she hasn't run her best races over the PRX surface. Returning to MD looks to be to her benefit here.

R5: While Contribution may only be a winner on the dirt, both of his turf tries have produced very good numbers. I wouldn't shy away from the barn with a bit of a price. Se Thar Barr looks to have a ground saving inside post and may show a bit more late turn of foot while cutting back to the mile here.

R6: Archimedes gets plenty of setup for his stalking trip on the outside, the recent class relief should continue to serve him well here. Don't discount Gimme Two Shots, who has always had speed, but has recently learned how to ration it.

R7: With several forwardly-placed types in here, Tejanita has the chance to sit a very comfortable tracking trip. She is flattered by recent company lines, where the last out winner for Clement returned a winner in allowance company, and the 2-back winner was already stakes placed prior to graduating from maiden ranks.

R8: Mugatu and Forrest City both look to have found career best form in recent starts when pressing the pace, potentially setting up for the stalking types here. Pea Ridge has a bit of work to do while stepping up in company, however, his pedigree on the bottom suggests he has plenty of class to help bridge the gap.

R9: Horsing Around looks tough to deny after winning so stylishly in her first start for new connections. Watch the tote for Pretty Lavish, she added blinkers 2-back, has never tried sprinting, and both career wins were going the mile distance. Her numbers make her a contender if she can handle the cutback.

TODAY'S HOT TRAINER STATS

RACE 1

#7 - Dr. Brower

Trainer: Arnaud Delacour

First-Time Starters: 3 for 11 (27%, \$2.73 ROI)

RACE 5

#2 - Meritorious

Trainer: Niall Saville

Last-Out Maiden Winner: 4 for 14 (29%, \$2.27 ROI)

RACE 5

#10 - Patrol Squad Six

Trainer: Michael Stidham

First After 61-120 Days: 12 for 47 (26%, \$2.28 ROI)

RACE 7

#3 - Tejanita

Trainer: Shug McGaughey

First After 61-120 Days: 6 for 16 (36%, \$2.86 ROI)

RACE 7

#6 - Espresso Mar

Trainer: Madison Meyers

Between 9/16 and 10/10: 6 for 24 (25%, \$3.95 ROI)

RACE 9

#2 - Pretty Lavish

Trainer: Phil Schoenthal

Route to Sprint: 5 for 20 (25%, \$3.47 ROI)

RACE 9

#3 - Horsing Around

Trainer: Brittany Russell

Last-Out Winners: 4 for 14 (29%, \$2.26 ROI)

RACE 9

#4 - Roadrunner the Cat

Trainer: Brittany Russell

Between 7/24 and 10/10: 40 for 127 (31%, \$2.16 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: Maiden Claiming 35k, 3-6YO, 5 ½ Furlongs, Turf			
Horse	Race	Trip	Notes
#2 PATUXENT	Maiden Claiming 40k, TIM, 6 1/2F, Fast Dirt, 08/29/26 – 2 nd	Broke cleanly, then dropped back to chase the even pace from ~4L back on the rail racing to the 3/8; came under a ride and responded but then found himself in tight along the rail ~1/4 and was forced to steady; dropped back and lost momentum, then switched out 3W and gamely re-rallied into 2 nd but had no chance of catching winner and was not persevered with late on.	His trouble and subsequent loss of momentum and ground couldn't have come at a more inopportune moment, and he might have actually gone relatively close with a better trip and more vigorous ride in the stretch; switches to turf with more to offer.
Other notes: - Although the posted fractions in #3 MANTUA MAN's lone turf start in June 2025 were fast (21.74, 45.15), speed actually held well with the top three finishers (including MM) filling those spots throughout; returns off lengthy break today. #5 NOTION IN MOTION and #9 REPURPOSE were both somewhat aided by being forwardly placed in a slowly run race that saw speed hold well last time (23.35, 46.28); however, REPURPOSE can also be seen as a slightly unlucky loser as he was 3W on the turn and 2 1/2L back at first call, then just failed to get by the wire winner; whatever the case, he in particular ran well and should play a significant role again today. #6 TOTAL MISCHIEF sat a wider-than-ideal trip on debut (his lone turf start); contender getting back to grass.			

Race 2: Claiming 12.5k, 3YO+, 6 Furlongs, Dirt**Other notes:**

- There was a very strong speed bias present at Timonium when **#7 FAYES HEART** posted his career best Beyer courtesy of a forward trip three back.

Race 3: MSW, 2YO, 1 1/16 Miles, Turf

Horse	Race	Trip	Note
#1 THE WRATH OF DAVID	MSW, LRL, 1M, Good Turf, 09/26/26 – 3 rd	Slight bobble start; recovered quickly, then raced erratically into and around the first turn, hard to control; eventually settled into a nice rhythm entering back stretch and stalked the even pace from ~2L back into far turn; came under a ride and responded racing to the top of the lane, then lacked room from ~3/16 to 1/8; lost a little momentum and had to switch out, then ran on again but was nabbed for 2 nd .	He managed to earn the show honors in this race despite a slightly troubled trip and signs that he is still immature and green; seems capable of offering more today.

Other notes:

- With blinkers added, **#5 BISHOP MOON** did not settle that well last out and wasted energy pulling over the ‘yielding’ turf; he was then bumped twice in the stretch when on the retreat, slightly exacerbating the margin of defeat; there are ways in which he can step forward today.
- Racing with blinkers on and his crown jewels off, **#6 LOVE AFICIONADO** put forth a much-improved effort sprinting on the dirt (seemingly his lesser preferred surface) last time while also shaping like today’s stretch out could suit him well; respected.
- **#10 ADHIRAJ** lost all chance (he was lucky not to be brought down) entering the first turn on debut and we can toss his effort; it’s maybe best to treat him as a debutant.

Race 4: Claiming 7.5k, 3YO+ (F), 7 Furlongs, Dirt

	Race	Trip	Note
#8 VALERIE STREET	Claiming 12k, LRL, 6F, Fast Dirt, 10/09/26 – 6 th	Bumped start; vied between early, then dropped back chasing the even pace inside from ~2L back under pressure to the top of the lane; responded to pressure, cut the corner into the stretch, then looked to be coming with a menacing run but was put in very tight ~3/16 pole and forced to check, ending all chance.	Returning off a layoff and maybe not quite at peak fitness, she looked to be coming with a run that would have seen her hit the board here but endured a troubled stretch run; a clean trip second back could see her play a role at 7F today and she’s not discounted.

Other notes:

- **#1 MARGARET P** sat a notably wide trip on the turn last time and the ground loss arguably cost her a position or two; she ran well regardless and is respected dropping back to 7F and down in class.
- Cut back to 6 ½F at Timonium, **#7 IAMDEPENDINGONYOU** ran a nice race last time considering she didn’t have that much pace to run at; a well run 7F today could see her to good effect.
- Although **#6 SHARE SUCCESS** did steady at the 3/8 pole last time, she had already lost position and was very much on the back foot at the time, and we cannot put her poor effort down to the steady; she needs to bounce back.

Race 5: N1X Allowance, 3YO+, 1 Mile, Turf			
Horse	Race	Trip	Note
#1 SE THAR BARR	Allowance, LRL, 1 1/16M, Good Turf, 09/26/26 – 4 th	Lacked speed from inside post; chased honest pace on rail into first turn, then took a firm hold and pulled racing to the 5/8 pole; nudged on to get closer approaching far turn and did so; tracked in the pocket from ~2L back inside to 5/16, then was shuffled way back as a foe retreated in front of him racing to upper stretch; turned for home ~4-5L back, then switched out, came under a ride and finished willingly but had too much to do.	There was no rhythm to his trip here and the losing of momentum and position on the far turn definitely cost him; he did well to pick back up and run on again in the lane and could have gone close with a smoother, better trip; he seems capable of more and demands respect today.
#10 PATROL SQUAD SIX	Allowance, ELP, 1 1/16M, Firm Turf, 08/15/26 – 7 th	Chased fast pace from 2-3L back on the rail to far turn; dropped back a little racing to the top of the lane, then cut the corner into the stretch and finished evenly inside until short of room and forced to steady late on.	This wasn't a terrible trip; however, the combination of him sitting close to the taxing early pace (22.92, 46.27) and then lacking room and steadying late on, meant that his end result and margin of defeat were exacerbated; things did not play out to his favor and he's seemingly capable of more; makes debut for Stidham today.
Other notes: - #2 MERITORIOUS was ultra game to endure a good ¼ mile stretch battle and win off a 530-day layoff last time; he could play another major role today if stripping fitter for that run. - There's no denying that #4 CONTRIBUTION ran well in his last turf start at Fair Grounds in February, but he did also benefit from a favorable pace setup that day (as was also the case in his other turf start last December); makes debut for Neilson off layoff today. - #5 PENDAR and #6 LEX'S GAME both sat a wider-than-ideal trips last time, although that was not the reason either were beaten, and both runners will need more today. - While he was probably best anyway, it should be noted that #7 VAYA JEFE took full advantage of being allowed to set an uncontested, controlled pace last time before going onto score; he's still worthy of major respect this afternoon, though he may find things trickier if taken on for the lead. - Similarly to above, #8 D'ORO CAVALLO benefited from being allowed to set an uncontested, controlled pace last time; he'll find things more difficult today facing winners for the first time.			

Race 6: Claiming 16k, 3YO+, 5 ½ Furlongs, Turf			
Horse	Race	Trip	Note
#3 BALTIC	Allowance, MTH, 5 1/2F, 09/12/26 – 4 th	Bumped hard start, away slowly in last; worked forward to chase leading trio from 6L back racing into the turn; held position under pressure approaching the top of the lane, then finished with late interest but had way too much to do.	His two-back effort prior to a gutsy win at Delaware last week: Speed was good on the turf all meet at Monmouth and this race was no different (top three finishers filled those positions throughout; 4-of-5 races this day were won in gate-to-wire fashion); he, therefore – while facing winners for the first time – did well to finish as close as he did after taking a very hard bump at the start and racing against the 'flow.
#5 GIMME TWO SHOTS	Claiming 16k, LRL, 5 1/2F, Firm Turf, 09/11/26 – 5 th	Dueled through solid fractions between horses in the 3P racing to the top of the	His two-back effort prior to a smooth-trip win two weeks ago:

		lane, then battled on gamely to the wire but faded late on.	The hot pace that he contested in this race collapsed, which, considering that he was also losing ground three wide on the turn, makes his 2 ½ length defeat very admirable; upgrade this effort.
--	--	---	--

Other notes:

- A horse who has been struggling to carry his good route speed to the wire at two-turns recently, **#2 MISTER WOODFORD** leaves the impression that he could be effective cut back in trip as a closing sprinter.
- **#7 WHENEVERUREMEMBER** was very headstrong and essentially pulled his chance away when stretched out to a mile last time; he should benefit from returning to 5 1/2F; player getting class relief.
- **#8 SKYRUSH** formed part of a fast pace that collapsed going 6F at Belmont last time; he can offer more if rationing out his speed more efficiently back at 5 1/2F.
- **#9 BLUE SUEDE HOOVES** pulled while close enough to a hot pace (22.49, 46.98) around two-turns over a soft turf course last time; unsurprisingly (when you consider his previous route attempts), he failed to get home that day and more can be expected of him now cutting back to 5 1/2F.
- **#11 STONE COLD JONES** benefited from a perfect trip and setup when posting a career best effort here two-back (his last start on turf), possibly reducing the likelihood of him reproducing that exact level of form today.
- **#12 ARCHIMEDES** showed a very likable attitude to win last out: he vied 3W early; dropped back off duel while 3W turn; brushed with foe upper stretch, then rallied very gamely between foes to get up. Makes debut for Farrior today.

Race 7: MSW, 3-6YO, 1 1/16 Miles, Dirt

Other Notes:

- After taking a bump at the start, **#1 MO LAKE TIME** was far too headstrong (and wide) to stay 1 1/16M on the turf last time; she'll likely need to settle better to last the distance today.
- Regarding the DRF chart for **#5 DUTCHMAN'S MAP's** last start, it incorrectly lists her as being 17 1/2L back at first call when in actual fact she was never worse than 4-5L back.
- Not sure it actually made a difference to the result, but **#6 SPRESSO MAR** was shuffled back a little on the far turn and then briefly lacked room in upper stretch last out, neither of which aided her chances; returns to dirt with blinkers added today.

Race 8: N1X Allowance, 3YO+, 1 1/16 Miles, Dirt

Horse	Race	Trip	Note
#6 BRUNO	Allowance, CNL, 6F, Fast Dirt, 09/04/26 – 1 st	Stalked even pace while 4-5W racing to the ¼ pole, then came under a strong ride and gradually wore shown his rivals in the lane, scoring by a comfortable 1/2L.	He sat a notably wide trip in this race and was also racing very slightly against the track bias (speed was good; the next four finishers behind him were closer to the even pace and saving more ground throughout); we shouldn't upgrade this effort in a big way, but we should note that he was a little better than the 1/2L margin suggests; stretches right out to two-turns today.

Other notes:

- Having opened up at the top of the lane and then received one tap with the crop ~3/16 pole, **#2 MUGATU** simply cruised to the wire under a hand ride when winning last time; he seemed to win with something in reserve and may be capable of more again.
- **#4 FORREST CITY** formed part of a slow pace (25.44, 50.04) that held well last time – possible small downgrade?
- There was a speed bias present when **#7 PEA RIDGE** broke his maiden courtesy of a forward trip last time; view that formline cautiously.

Race 9: OC35k/SAL28k, 3YO+ (F), 5 ½ Furlongs, Turf			
Horse	Race	Trip	Note
#2 PRETTY LAVISH	Starter Allowance, SAR, 1 1/8M, Firm Turf, 08/02/26 – 5 th	Raced awkwardly, pulled, rank while settled ~5L off the SLOW pace racing to the far turn; tipped outside far turn and made a 4-6W bid around horses, then stayed on willingly down the center but lacked the required late pace to threaten.	Her two-back effort preceding an excusable non-effort on the dirt last time (didn't handle surface): She was compromised by the slow pace (25.82, 51.73) in this race in more ways than one (failed to settle, then lacked pace late) and she also lost plenty of ground racing wide on the far turn; all things considered, she did well to finish as close as she did; cuts back in trip today.
Other notes: - #7 BALLYCURRIN ran a respectable race last time, faring second best of the speed in a fast-paced affair; she's respected off that effort.			

Horses to Follow

R1: REPURPOSE

Trainer Keri Brion fitted REPURPOSE (GB) with blinkers when the son of TOO DARN HOT (GB) made his debut for the barn last out and he responded kindly to them, finishing just a neck behind the gate-to-wire winner despite having been caught three-wide on the turn. Although he's drawn out on the wing again today, a repeat of that last effort should make him tough in the opener.

R7: PATROL SQUAD SIX

PATROL SQUAD SIX has been freshened since he was last seen finishing a better-than-looks seventh at Ellis — a race in which he sat close to a sizzling early pace before steadying in the stretch — and has reportedly been training right along at Delaware in preparation for his debut for new trainer Michael Stidham. A smooth forward trip from gate ten should make him very competitive facing fractionally softer competition in today's fifth.

FUTURE HORSES TO WATCH

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.

BLO YOUR MIND

Trainer: Tim Keefe

Last Race: September 12, 3rd

Finish: 1st by 3 1/2 lengths

PLENTY ON TAP

Trainer: Tim Woolley

Last Race: Oct. 3, 3rd

Finish: 2nd by 2

Didn't break the best two back on turf, then raced three wide and in between rivals on the backstretch before being shuffled back. Cut the corner, then was over in behind horses for most of the stretch before rallying belatedly to just miss second. Ran well when washed off the green on 10/3, and deserves another shot on turf.

FIERCE AND STRONG

Trainer: Michael Salvaggio Jr.

Last Race: September 13, Race 6

Finish: 4th by 1

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.

SCARLETT'S HALO

Trainer: Chad Brown

Last Race: September 19, 7th

Finish: 2nd by 3 1/2

Hung out to dry from the start of this one-turn mile, she raced extremely wide for most of the way and tried her best to finish second to the co-favorite. She's a big, strong filly capable on turf and dirt, and might appreciate stretching out around two turns for her next start.

RIVER TAY

Trainer: Bruce Brown

Last Race: September 19, 10th

Finish: 3rd by 1 1/4

Brushed the side of the gate at the start of this turf sprint; she then stayed inside for most of the way and was stuck in traffic throughout the long stretch. Showed some life once clear late in the game and can win going short or long.

AJAX THE GREAT

Trainer: Ollie Figgins III

Last Race: August 29, 3rd (Charles Town)

Finish: 6th by 21 3/4 lengths

Probably too early to give up on this 2-year-old half-brother to Kenny Had a Notion (stakes-winner sprinting on both turf and dirt), and the feeling is that this gelding will enjoy switching to turf for his next start. The workout on September 10 matches up with the barn's 4-year-old filly Hale Bop, who earned a 66 Beyer when fourth in a \$12,000 starter on Delaware turf six days later. Perhaps they breezed in company.

SIP OF MANHATTAN

Trainer: Eduardo Leiva

Last Race: Sept. 25; 6th

Finish: 2nd by 5

A bit wound up with pony during post parade, then a tad reluctant to load, but gave a top first-out effort as second-best to gate-wire winner Winslow.

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.

D J ABS

Trainer: Lindsay Schultz

Last Race: September 19, 8th

Finish: 2nd by 4 1/4

Juvenile filly has some turf pedigree, and she gave a strong try in her grass debut. Showed decent speed from the start, but had the misfortune to face a sharp, gate-to-wire winner. Stayed on strongly to the wire, and it looks like she's found a home on the green stuff.

GOLD SOVEREIGN

Trainer: Thomas Garner

Last Race: September 20, 3rd

Finish: 8th by 6 1/2

Likely purchased by his current connections for future races over hurdles, but this gelding showed decent turf form in longer-distance races in New York and had no chance in his local debut. Fell to his face at the start, then was wired in a paceless heat where they ran 1-2 around the track.

SUJO (*Breezed 4F - :49.40 at ELP on 10/12*)

Trainer: Greg Sacco

Last Race: Jan. 16, 7th race

Finish: 4th by 4 3/4 lengths

First-time starter was pinballed from in between horses at the start, and dropped all the way back to last. Started to kick in at the eighth pole, angled to the fence, and just missed getting third on the wire with a nice gallop-out.

SEA ISLE CITY

Trainer: Keri Brion

Last Race: Sept. 26, 8th

Finish: 3rd by 1 1/4

Held her inside position over the "good" going, dropped back a bit near upper stretch, then made some ground late to finish third in the Selima Stakes. May prefer firm turf, short or long.

NIAL AND PRAY

Trainer: Joseph Murphy

Last Race: Oct. 10; 6th

Finish: 2nd by head

Broke from the inside for the second consecutive race, then wound up a very wide rally through the turn and into stretch. Seemed a bit more professional than in his previous start, and was just outkicked by a 3-1 debuter.

INTREPID'S LEGACY

Trainer: Gary Capuano

Last Race: Oct. 10; 10th

Finish: 2nd by 1/2

This is a huge horse that likely needed a race in his first start off a July layoff. Rushed up with a wide bid on the turn before being rebuffed by the even-money favorite.

EMERGENCE

Trainer: Jamie Ness

Last Race: Oct. 10; 5th

Finish: 3rd by 1/2

Likely found the mile distance a tad too sharp when returning to turf. Saved ground for most of the way and came with a strong late bid. Think he'll be at his best going 1 1/16 miles or longer.

JOCKEY CALLS

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

Race 4: Leandro Briceno - #1 - Margaret P; #5 - Stroll Trippin >>> **Briceno rides MARGARET P**

Race 5: Jevian Toledo - #7 - Vaya Jeffe; #10 - Patrol Squad Six >>> **Toledo rides PATROL SQUAD SIX**

Race 6: Martin Chuan - #9 - Blue Suede Hooves; #11 - Stone Cold Jones >>> **Chuan rides BLUE SUEDE HOOVES**

PAST TRACK TRENDS

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

Sep. 18 – Fair

Sep. 19 – Fair

Sep. 20 – Fair

Sep. 25 – Fair

Sep. 26 – Fair

Sep. 27 – Fair

Oct. 2 – CLOSERS BIAS

Oct. 3 – Fair (Slight Inside Lean)

Oct. 4 – CLOSERS BIAS

Oct. 9 – SPEED BIAS

Oct. 10 - Fair

