



HANDICAPPING GUIDE for SATURDAY, APRIL 11

TODAY'S SELECTIONS FROM THE LAUREL PARK TEAM



KEITH FEUSTLE



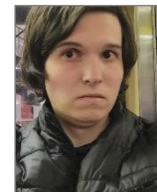
KALI FRANCOIS



DAN ILLMAN



MACK PFEIFFER



JOHN PIASSEK



DAVE RODMAN



TIM TULLOCK

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

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

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TODAY'S ANALYSIS - by Dan Illman

>> RACE 1

1. SHENADOAH SUNRISE

2. NO MO MUFFINS

3. YES PICNIC

First post time is NOON. There are two "Value Pick 5" wagers, each with a LOW 12% takeout rate. **SHENADOAH SUNRISE** tracked a quick pace while three wide and in between, dropped into the pocket on the turn, eased widest into the stretch, then rallied belatedly to just miss. Expect her to be squarely in the thick of things when the field turns for home. **NO MO MUFFINS** might have found the mile a bridge too far when facing Diamond N Dress, who returned to take a first-level allowance with a 58 Beyer. Should be much more comfortable at this sharper distance, and is expected to show good speed for a barn that went 44 for the last 137 (32%, \$2.58 ROI) moving from route to sprint. **YES PICNIC** broke well, prompted four wide, tracked from the outside entering the turn, then finished up in her wrong lead when finishing behind No Mo Muffins. She acts more like a late-running closer, and is another that might appreciate this shorter trip. **SHE'S A GOOD GIRL** seems well-entered after facing Prancin Inthe Dark, who then won a \$20,000 claimer at Tampa with a 55 Beyer.

>> RACE 2

1. ESTOCADA

2. BUCKIN' RIGHT

3. INSTAGRAN GIRL

One must wonder if **ESTOCADA** is merely using this sprint as a prep for longer, as she returns from a 197-day layoff, but she looked good dominating first-level allowance runners two back. Perhaps she came back too quickly off a 20-day break when beaten as the favorite in her final start of 2025. Set a solid pace (23.68; 23.57) while pressured by the 6/5 winner and steadily retreated. Big class drop also raises questions, but her versatile running style seems like a plus. **BUCKIN' RIGHT** found a good spot tracking a 92/1 shot's quick opening quarter, and held sway in the final hundred yards. The fourth-finisher then placed in a \$20,000 starter with a 49 Beyer. Capable of a similar tracking trip. **INSTAGRAN GIRL** looks like the main speed from the inside. Broke sharply in her first back from a 198-day break, cleared off to set an uncontested pace, then just held third behind the two favorites despite failing to change leads. This barn went 5 for the last 19 (26%, \$10.23 ROI) going second after 180 to 365 day layoffs. After a slow start, **PERUGIA** expended a good amount of energy to get into striking range before tiring at Parx. The winner of that heat then ran third in a quarter starter there with a 71 Beyer. Think she can find a nice spot just off the speeds.

>> RACE 3

1. QUAHOG REPUBLIC

2. RAILROAD INN

3. KITTY'S SON

QUAHOG REPUBLIC saved ground in midpack behind an honest pace, split rivals on the turn, then finished evenly in between horses. He's improved steadily in recent starts, and can stay closer to the pace. **RAILROAD INN** broke well going a mile, but was steadied along the inside and had to settle back behind a three-ply pace scrum after a slow opening quarter in 24.82 seconds. He was no match for a sharp runaway winner that returned to place in a \$12,500 "non-two" claimer with a 48 Beyer. He should display some late foot at this shorter distance. **KITTY'S SON** returns to a more appropriate class level after being overmatched against odds-on Lannister. This barn sent out a couple of winners on 4/4, including 9-1 Pudge Boy Palace.

>> RACE 4

1. WATCH YOUR TONE

2. COULD BE A COUGAR

3. R AVERIE LYNN

WATCH YOUR TONE tracked three wide at the back, found a great spot on the far turn tracking a pace battle while under a confident ride, then swept by the leader to score. He's won moving from route to sprint in the past, and might get a solid pace to attack here. Vargas lands here instead of Book of Wisdom and Sapphire Beauty. **COULD BE A COUGAR** wasn't away the best from the rail, but she recovered quickly to soon clear off an set an uncontested pace at Parx. Confidently handled throughout, she was ridden out under the wire. Expect good speed for a barn that went 16 for the last 55 (29%, \$2.06 ROI) with horses returning from 6-11 day layoffs. Don't sleep on rock-solid **R AVERIE LYNN**, who seeks her third consecutive score after easily handling five others last month. Expect her to be prompting the pacesetter from the outside when the real racing begins.

>> RACE 5

1. BJORN

2. FREEDOM MAKER

3. MINISTER

BJORN pressed the 17-10 runner-up from the outside, attacked that one under a confident ride on the second turn, then stayed on determinedly after a long drive. Lightly-raced 4-year-old retains upside potential, but this is a tougher spot from a class perspective. This barn went 5 for 10 (50%, \$3.98 ROI) between 3/21 and 3/29. **FREEDOM MAKER** tracked three wide, made an outside bid on the second turn under urging, altered course inside a drifting pacesetter, and stayed on for second at Penn National. He's in good form and seems well-entered for his circuit debut. **MINISTER** was wired by the odds-on favorite in a slow-paced race at Penn National. He should show keen early speed as he stretches back out in distance. Chuan lands here instead of Home Invasion. **DATS MY PHAROAH** drops a notch in class, and might receive a quick pace to attack in the late stages.

>> RACE 6

1. PRADO ROAD

2. SUREMEANTTOBE

3. RADICAL RIGHT

PRADO ROAD pressed the pace while three wide, attacked the leader from the outside on the turn, then drew clear. He prevailed from the rail post five starts back by stalking, and might revert to that style in this spot. **SUREMEANTTOBE** returned with a vengeance after undergoing throat surgery last year, then was overmatched in the Not For Love (Quint's Brew repeated in the Frank Y. Whiteley Stakes with a 103 Beyer). Figures part of the pace picture with Lasix back on. **RADICAL RIGHT** pressed the favored fourth-place finisher through very fast fractions, then tried hard to miss by only a length. Steps back up in class for a barn that scored with newly-claimed Centsamilla on 2/15. Keep an eye on **SACRED THUNDER**, who showed some ability as a 3-year-old, and might get a quick pace to attack in his first start of the year. The third-finisher from his last race then placed in the Richard W. Small Stakes with an 89 Beyer.

>> RACE 7

1. DON'T WAIT UP

2. ALL THE HARDWAYS

3. SUPER ACCELERATE

DON'T WAIT UP sat a loose pocket behind a quick pace (22.00, 22.93), was urged along on the turn, eased outside into the stretch, then wore down an exhausted leader to prevail. He took advantage of those hot fractions, but the feeling is that he can adapt to any race flow and get closer to the pace if necessary. This barn went 4 for the last 14 (29%, \$2.49 ROI) with last-out winners returning on dirt. **ALL THE HARDWAYS** broke a beat slow in a two-turn sprint at Charles Town, settled inside at the back, was urged along on the final bend, then finished belatedly on the far outside to place behind the two favorites. Returns to his favorite track, but is a one-run closer that could use some pace and race luck. **SUPER ACCELERATE** got a bit fractious behind the gate, then prompted the pace before tiring in a race where the top-two finishers were last and next-to-last at the pace call. Wonder if he's more effective when taken back and allowed to make one run. **PACO THE TACO MAN** drops in class with the speed to get up and on the pace.

>> RACE 8

1. ADERO

2. LURE HIM IN

3. INDY CHARGES ON

ADERO tracked a slow pace at the back while in between horses, split rivals in the upper stretch, and finished evenly along the fence. The winner of that heat repeated in the Native Dancer Stakes by 6 1/2 lengths with a 97 Beyer. Kicks late for a barn that went 11 for the last 45 (24%, \$2.19 ROI) at Laurel. **LURE HIM IN** lost ground every step of the way at Colonial. Broke well, tracked the pace while four wide, attacked four wide and in between on the turn, and tried hard for second behind the favored winner. Respect his tactical speed for a barn that went 8 for the last 21 (38%, \$2.27 ROI) off the claim. **INDY CHARGES ON** battled for the lead with the 5-2 third-finisher through a quick second quarter in 22.93 seconds, then stayed on well for second over course and distance. Figures to get forwardly placed once again. **J D FACTOR** chased fast fractions (22.37; 23.79) in a race dominated by late runners. The fourth-finisher then ran third in a \$40,000 claimer at Parx with a 65 Beyer. Another one that can push the pace. **CROSSLAND** took advantage of a hot pace to take down his second-level condition. There's a chance he receives a similar race flow here.

>> RACE 9

1. LATIN REBEL

2. SUMMER VIBES

3. DAIRAGO

LATIN REBEL must overcome a 146-day layoff, but he looked strong in his final start last year. Cleared off to press the 9-1 last-finisher, pulled hard set a pressured pace from the rail, kicked away through a strong third quarter in 23.72, and drew off under a drive. Beat two next-out winners and should race close to the lead for a barn that went 5 for the last 12 (42%, \$4.78 ROI) with horses returning from 120-180 day layoffs. **SUMMER VIBES** hit the board in his last three turf outings, and he has the recency edge over the top selection after competing on dirt over the winter. Pushed a quick pace on grass on 11/23 when second to Bookitwithhaddad, who returned to win a \$16,000 claimer over Turfway's synthetic track with a 79 Beyer. Tactical enough to pull a nice tracking trip for a barn that went 16 for 49 (33%, \$2.07 ROI) between 3/18 and 4/4. **DAIRAGO** performed admirably in two synthetic starts after returning from a lengthy layoff, including a victory last time out over B B Prince, who then won a \$30,000 "non-two" claimer there with a 73 Beyer. He's another with good positional speed. **HYTECK PRINCE** was wired in a synthetic race that produced next-out winner Bay of Bengal (75 Beyer in \$12,500 "beaten" claimer over Gulfstream's Tapeta). Kicks late if the pace is quicker than expected.

KALI'S KEYS – by Kali Francois

Race 1: #3 Stylish Gem - 12/1

The afternoon this horse ran, I mentioned it was all about getting to the front end and making some confidence happen - and happen it did, scoring that win! Connections are rolling off the momentum with this one. This one can handle some rating, but will be aggressive mid-race like last time. Can handle company early on which is a huge plus in this field!

Race 9: #6 Owhatanite - 6/1

This one isn't coming directly first off the layoff - oh, no. All you need to do is go to centralentryoffice.com and you can look up any horse in the Maryland area that has run in a point-to-point (click the 'Reports' tab and then just type in the horse's name) - Owhatanite ran in a point-to-point at the Voss races last weekend, and this is something that Stettinius takes fun advantage of. The Point-to-point flat race was going long and he finished mid-pack, but I think the goal was to just get a good run at that distance over the turf, rather than gun for the win. It was a decent field for a point-to-point flat race, actually, including both a stablemate and a runner in there who was a Chad Brown Saratoga winner earlier in that horse's career. Due to that being the main goal for it, the fact that he did it a week ago worries me less.

MACK'S FACTS – by Mackenzie Pfeiffer

R1: Yes Picnic stands out as the only 2x winner in this group, I draw a line through her last out as it doesn't transfer much to this setup. The 2-back effort against much tougher was likeable enough even with a tough trip. Class relief and 3rd off the bench work well here. Shenadoah Sunrise looks to benefit from the added ground after just missing over the 5.5f distance. She looks to be on the improve and offers value at 5-1 ML.

R2: Buckin' Right looked to fit the 5.5f distance perfectly last out, perhaps the wet track moved her forward a bit, but she has faced the right company since switching back to the dirt. Estocada arrives first off the bench and takes significant class relief. Worth noting, this is her first try sprinting since adding lasix, the outer post could suit well if she is to return to form.

R3: I draw a line through the last out for Twelve Nelson, blinkers come off, and he has a bit of recency since coming off the layoff. Railroad Inn has had a career full of troubled trips but continues to try, sticking around the 6f distance should work well with his outer post.

R4: It's hard to argue against Could Be a Cougar after the form she has shown since being claimed in October. Class relief while staying protected is a good sign, she may take command here. R Averie Lynn certainly won't hand things over easily, she has faced improved types over the winter, I just find some concern with added ground here.

R5: Bjorn has shown ability against much tougher but taking a bit of class relief since returning off the bench has worked well. Last out we saw him get the better of a horse who has been improving, the third off the bench should move him forward again here. As for a value, I look to Lucked In, who looks to want every bit of distance that comes with the second wire finish of the one turn mile. Both career wins have come going this distance.

R6: Suremeanttobe has every reason to improve while returning to a fast track and stepping out of stakes company. He has the early speed if needed, but his first off the bench showed just how tactical he can be. Prado Road looks to have found his best form again in his third start off the bench, from the inside he looks to be the early speed in this group. Some question of how much he has improved with recency since last facing Suremeanttobe in January.

R7: I have to forgive the last out for Paco the Taco Man, back to a fast track and in different company today, he looks to have the opportunity to work his trip here. Don't Wait Up looked to be getting back to his best distance when he won last out, sticking to this level and distance should serve him well.

R8: First off the claim and second off the bench looks to support the short price on Lure Him In at 8-5 ML. His back class should prevail in this group. A sneaky price might be found in Adero, who gets back to a fast track and generally improves with racing recency. Don't count Servis out when he ships to MD, this one has been facing the right types in recent starts.

R9: Owhatanite stepped up in company throughout the '25 turf season, running competitively against much more seasoned types. While he may need a bit more ground, the outer post might make up for it. I have to demand a better price on Dairago, who benefits from racing recency with a win last out, but I question the recent class drops.

TODAY'S HOT TRAINER STATS

RACE 1

#2 - No Mo Muffins

Trainer: Brittany Russell

Route to Sprint: 44 for 137 (32%, \$2.58 ROI)

RACE 2

#1 - Instagrاند Girl

Trainer: Carlos Mancilla

Second After 180 to 365 Days: 5 for 19 (26%, \$10.23 ROI)

RACE 4

#3 - Could Be a Cougar

Trainer: Michael Moore

First After 6-11 Days: 16 for 55 (29%, \$2.06 ROI)

RACE 5

#6 - Bjorn

Trainer: Hugh McMahon

Between 3/21 and 3/29: 5 for 10 (50%, \$3.98 ROI)

RACE 7

#4 - Don't Wait Up

Trainer: Ferris Allen

Last-Out Winners, Dirt: 4 for 14 (29%, \$2.49 ROI)

RACE 8

#2 - Lure Him In

Trainer: Jamie Ness

First After Claim: 8 for 21 (38%, \$2.27 ROI)

RACE 8

#4 - Adero

Trainer: John Servis

Laurel Park: 11 for 45 (24%, \$2.19 ROI)

RACE 9

#2 - Summer Vibes

Trainer: Anthony Farrior

Between 3/18 and 4/4: 16 for 49 (33%, \$2.07 ROI)

#3 - Latin Rebel

Trainer: Mark Shuman

First After 120-180 Days: 5 for 12 (42%, \$4.78 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: MSW, 3-6YO (F), 1 1/16 Miles, Turf

Other notes:

- **#2 WATCH ME SPARKLE (MTO)** lugged in through the lane at Colonial last time.
- Despite being a fraction wide, **#4 SEGER SONGS** ran a nice race when last seen in October. She did have a great pace setup, though, which seemingly helped her finish as close as she did (potential downgrade).
- **#5 LIVE LIFE** was not persevered with in the final furlong of her last race at Turfway, slightly exacerbating the margin of defeat; however, she was well beaten at the time and booked for sixth, regardless. Switches to turf third off the layoff today.
- **#8 HAVE ONE MORE** stumbled at the break sprinting 6F on the dirt last time, then took a hefty bump and was away very slowly in rear, which didn't exactly help her cause. However, she then received a very favorable pace setup which undeniably helped her finish 3rd and eliminates our ability to upgrade the effort. Still, in was a decent try and her gallop out was nice enough. Has upside.
- It wouldn't be a surprise to see **#10 HAY GRACE BRENNAN** improve on her debut sprinting on the dirt at Colonial, simply for some better weather – her debut was run in a torrential snowstorm over a sloppy track that very few horses, never mind debutants, would have thrived in. How much she improves is anyone's guess, though.

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

Horse	Race	Trip	Notes
#6 CITY PANDA	Claiming 12k, 6F, LRL, Fast Dirt, 03/22/26 – 4 th	Chased even pace from mid-pack; held position while lugging out a little in the 5P on the turn; then stayed on willingly on his left lead.	He sat a wide enough trip in this race to earn a small upgrade. A runner who wears a run-out blinker (is known to lug-out), he could benefit from being drawn a little more towards the center today and having a few rivals on his outside on the turn (which he didn't have last time, causing him to lug out more than usual). Didn't like how he remained on his left lead, but a more ground saving trip could see him improve a little today.
#8 D HOPPER	Claiming 5k, 6 1/2F, CT, Fast Dirt, 03/19/26 – 1 st	Broke like a shot from the rail; set fast fractions on a clear lead to the far turn; came under a strong ride and held safe to the wire.	He did well to maintain his clear lead to the wire here because the early fractions that he set really were demanding for the class level and trip – PACE UPGRADE. Note: despite having a clear lead, he was ridden hard all the way to the wire. Up in class today.
#10 LOU'S BIRTHDAY	Claiming 12k, 6F, LRL, Fast Dirt, 03/22/26 – 6 th	Bumped both side start and away slower than ideal; took strong hold tracking even pace 3W behind the even pace into the turn, then steadied off heels ~3/8 and dropped back losing momentum; from there he came 5W into the lane and failed to recover.	A troubled trip... he had his momentum checked at a terrible time as a horse who has consistently shown that the key to his success is sustained momentum and rhythm. Feel this effort can be excused somewhat. Blinkers come back off today.

Other notes:

- **#1 SEARCY** raced a fraction wider than ideal over 7F at Tampa last out before fading through the final furlong. Cutting back to 6F with a slightly more ground saving trip could see him improve just a little as he makes his debut for Nixon.
- There was a closer bias present when **#2 NOTMYFIRSTRODEO** was last seen over a mile in October, which possibly contributed to his underwhelming finish and slightly sub-par effort. The run was also followed by a layoff, so maybe something was slightly amiss too? Cuts back off the layoff making debut for Cox today. Exiting the same race, there was no visible reason as to why his stablemate, **#3 ANDRAS** ran quite so far below par. He thinks questions to answer, also cutting back off the bench.

- **#7 ELLINGER** was very late with his lead change when underperforming at Charles Town last time (he was a 25/1 shot mind). Note: his two-back effort (formed part of slow pace on speed biased track) needs downgrading slightly.
- There was no visible reason as to why **#9 WORLD ON FIRE** underperformed last out – he never lifted a hoof and will need to bounce back today.

Race 3: OC40K/N2X Allowance, 3YO+, 5 ½ Furlongs, Turf

Horse	Race	Trip	Note
#5 POINT LIAM	Claiming 16k, 6F, TP, Fast Synth, 02/26/26 – 5 th	Bumped start; chased slow pace between horses in rear; came under pressure 2-3W turn, then stayed on evenly through the lane.	He actually did well to finish as close as he did because he had no pace to close into (slow pace held well) and the track was presenting a speed bias – UPGRADE. Returns to turf making debut for Perri today.

Other notes:

- Running on yielding ground around two-turns at the Fair Grounds, **#2 WARHEART** stopped quickly on the far turn (was not asked by rider) and then eased in the lane. Something was seemingly amiss with him here and we can likely toss the race as he returns to sprinting following a slight freshening.
- Prior to winning nicely off the layoff last time when making his first start as a gelding, **#6 CAIRO SURPRISE** had run an upgradable race in the South Mountain Stakes at Penn National (held 2nd after setting fast pace on closer friendly track). Makes turf debut second off today.
- Regarding the chart comment on **#7 DEAN DELIVER**'s last race, the “bump upper stretch” mentioned was completely inconsequential – he ran his race. Makes turf but today.
- As highlighted in the chart comment, **#8 WHERE'S RAY** switched leads 3x in the lane when last seen in November. It clearly didn't stop him though! Returns off layoff today.

Race 4: N1X Allowance, 3YO+, 6 Furlongs, Dirt

Other notes:

- **#2 OUTDOOR CAT** raced slightly wider than ideal (not always a negative at Parx though) last time. Returns off layoff with blinkers on (which his last replay suggests could help) today.
- After sitting a dream trip on the rail, **#3 WINNING TRIP** again failed to switch leads in the lane last out.
- **#4 HOLIDAY EXPRESS** had his left front shoe repaired prior to making his route debut in a tough spot when last seen in November. Cuts back off the bench today with blinkers on (which could be a good combo).
- **#5 AGREED** ran a really nice race off the layoff at Colonial last time. He was bottled up on the rail and unable to build momentum on the far turn, then found room at the top of the lane (1/4 pole) and fought willingly to the wire, but he couldn't get the better of the 3/5 fav. While he had plenty of time to gather momentum when clear in the lane, he left the impression that if he was able to get rolling a little earlier on the turn cutting back to 6F today, he'd be able to step forward second off the bench. Big player.
- There was a speed bias present when **#8 WICKEDDIVINE** won courtesy of a forward trip (opening ¼ was slow) last out, possibly warranting a slight downgrade. It's hard to argue that he wasn't best on the day, though.
- There was no visible reason as to why **#9 SHADOW SURGE** underperformed as the 1/1 fav at Colonial last out... he again failed to put two solid runs together, and he was beaten too early to suggest the 7F trip is just behind him. Tough to rule him out with his in-and-out form pattern, but it's a little tough to fully trust him too.

Race 5: N1X Allowance, 3YO+, 5 ½ Furlongs, Turf

Horse	Race	Trip	Note
#10 PARKES	Allowance, 5 1/2F, LRL, Firm Turf, 11/21/25 – 2 nd	Chased honest pace in rear early; light steady entering turn; angled out ~6W racing into lane, then rallied nicely down the center.	This effort is deserving of a small UPGRADE because although the pace was honest, with the rails out, it didn't exactly fall apart... he closed from a way back to get 2nd under those circumstances, even though he had to tap on the brakes entering the turn and he lost ground with a wide run into the lane (both of which are factors that arguably cost him the win). Blinkers come off and Lasix go on for his return today note: he was better than his 1 1/4L winning margin on debut suggests and ran an upgradable race three-back (closed into slow pace).

Other notes:

- After stumbling badly at the start and then rushing up inside over the closer friendly track, **#2 ELVIS HIMSELF** stopped quickly on the turn and was not persevered with in the lane – we can likely toss that effort as something was seemingly amiss. In his two-back effort (his last on turf), he was engaged in a closer friendly speed duel early, then the rider stood up at the first wire in the lane, losing him two positions. That run is deserving of a small UPGRADE. Returns to the grass off the bench today.
- Prior to breaking his maiden by daylight last time, **#4 LANNISTER** had run two upgradable races in a row (sat a wide trip three back, then attempted to run down loose leader who set slow fractions in front over a speed biased track two-back). Makes turf debut for Maldonado today.
- Prior to running a too-bad-to-be-true race on the dirt when last seen, **#5 WATCH OUT WORLD** had suffered a slightly troubled trip two-back (his last turf start) as he over-raced on heels and steadied behind a slow pace (that didn't set up well for him at all) entering the turn, then lacked the late pace to challenge. Returns off the layoff and moves back to the grass today.
- There was no visible reason as to why **#6 BUILT BY KHOZAN** underperformed at a short price on the dirt last time. He'll need to bounce back switching surfaces today.
- Speed held very well in the competitive two-turns race that **#7 CONTEMPLATION** exits at the Fair Grounds which was not ideal for him being a closer (possible excuse). Cuts right back in trip today.
- **#12 GREAT HEAVENS** failed to switch leads in the lane at Colonial last time.

Race 6: Maiden Claiming 30K, 3YO, 6 Furlongs, Dirt

Other notes:

- Although ultimately DQ'd for drifting in and causing interference through the lane when making his debut in September, **#4 COUNTRY BUMPKIN** still made a very likable impression, overcoming a 4-5W trip and rallying very strongly through the lane (11.35 final 1/8) to finish a fast closing 2nd behind the wire winner before galloping out in front. Returns off layoff with Lasix added today.
- **#7 PAID VACATION** was floated notably wide off the turn before staying on gamely for 2nd when last seen over a mile in March (he deserves a little extra credit). Note: he was forwardly placed throughout over the speed biased track that day too, but the pace was hot enough that the race played fairly. Cuts back in trip today (which isn't guaranteed to suit).

Race 7: OC40K/N2X Allowance, 3YO+, 5 ½ Furlongs, Turf

Horse	Race	Trip	Note
#7 SALLY'S GOLD	Claiming 25k, 6F, TP, Fast Synth, 12/17/25 – 2 nd	Broke sharp; set fast, pressured pace to ¼; opened up entering lane and kicked clear upper, then stayed on gamely to the wire but was nailed in the last jump.	This effort is deserving of a notable PACE UPGRADE. She very nearly won despite having set very fast fractions (21.96, 45.03) that favored closers (1,3 finishers were 11th and 9th at 2nd call; other pace setters tired to finish 9th and 12th). Cuts back in trip and returns to turf off freshening for Frock today.

Other Notes:

- **#4 ITALIAN SOIREE** can be given a little extra credit for her most recent effort in the G3 Glen Cove Stakes because she was positioned fairly close to a red-hot pace that favored closers yet was beaten just 2 3/4L. The four horses who beat her came late from off the pace (behind her). Cuts back to 5 1/2F today and adds Lasix making her debut for Motion off the bench.
- With first time Lasix, **#6 THIRST FOR HOPE** showed a nice attitude and good finishing kick to win off the bench at Colonial last time. It may be worth noting that that race was run in a torrential snowstorm (conditions that horses would be forgiven for underperforming in) and on a very wet track. Makes turf debut second off today.
- **#9 EPIC STYLE** flopped leads when tiring between foes ~1/8th pole when last seen trying a mile in a strongly run race on the synthetic at Turfway. She looks to be suited by today's cut back in trip and return to the grass. Note: her two-back effort when she closed into a slow/modest pace is deserving of a slight UPGRADE.

Race 8: OC40K/N2X Allowance, 3YO+ (F), 6 Furlongs, Dirt

Horse	Race	Trip	Note
#2 KILO ROAD	Allowance, 7F, LRL, Fast Dirt, 03/15/26 – 3 rd	Void early speed; chased slow pace from last while 3W; lost ground when briefly out-kicked turn and came under pressure; straightened for the drive ~5L down, then stayed on gamely on left lead for 3 rd .	She did well to finish as close as she did considering she had no pace to close into and was a little wide too – small UPGRADE.

Other notes:

- **#4 SPENCERIAN** was positioned close to a slow pace last time, but that didn't necessarily help her because she then lacked the late pace to challenge for the win (remained even to the wire). Over sprint trips, she looks to be better suited by a fast pace.
- **#5 SHKHARA FIRE** was slightly wider than ideal when last seen running well on debut for Russell at Colonial – tiny upgrade.
- **#7 SHEILAHS WARCLOUD** looked to clip a heel leaving the gate when last seen running over a mile in December. Wonder whether that had something to do with her sub-par effort and layoff thereafter? (Should we toss the race?). Cuts back off the bench today.

Race 9: MSW, 3-6YO, 1 1/16 Miles, Turf

Horse	Race	Trip	Note
#3 MUNNY PROBLEM	MSW, 1M, GP, Firm Turf, 02/27/26 – 7 th	Slow start; chased even pace from mid-pack 4-5W into lane, then finished evenly.	After a slow start (forgivable considering it was her first start), she sat a wide enough trip in this turf race to earn a small UPGRADE. She was also racing off the pace which, when the rails were out at GP over the winter, proved disadvantageous (winner of this race wired the field at 9/1). We could see a notable improvement from her today.
Other notes:			
- None.			

Horses to Follow**R5: LUCKED IN (10/1 ML)**

LUCKED IN has been a frustrating horse to follow of late, but he may be worth one more chance at a price in today's fifth. He comes in off back-to-back upgradable efforts—checking early before closing for second into a pace that held well on February 28, then overcoming a wide trip and no real setup to finish third last time. He's been running better than the PPs suggest, and today's pace scenario looks far more favorable. Back at a one-turn mile—where he's 2-3-0 from six starts—he also gets a valuable five-pound weight break with Vargas' allowance. At a 10/1 morning line, he's easy to overlook, but not without a chance.

R8: ADERO (6/1 ML)

Following a productive 2025 that included a win over last week's Native Dancer Stakes winner WILD VINE and a couple of near misses behind recent G2 Carter and General George Stakes winner POINT DUME, ADERO kicked off his 2026 campaign with a solid effort at Parx last month. Likely short of peak fitness and unsuited by a slow early pace, he still gave a good account in chasing home WILD VINE and Native Dancer runner-up WARP NINE. Now making his second start of the year—and his Laurel debut for John Servis (22%, \$2.01 ROI at Laurel)—ADERO looks primed to step forward with plenty of pace signed on and a fast track expected. His form and figures with Lasix stack up well against this group, and at six years old, he could be poised to notch his tenth career win.

FUTURE HORSES TO WATCH**BETTER WATCH IT****Trainer:** Madison Meyers**Last Race:** Nov. 16, 1st race**Finish:** 5th by 9**LYUDMILA** (*Breezed 3F - :37.40 at TAM on 3/29*)**Trainer:** Justin Nixon**Last Race:** Nov. 21, 6th race**Finish:** 1st by 6

Sent off the favorite in a "non-two" starter allowance, he was bumped at the start and steadied in behind horses heading into the first turn. That left him saving ground in midpack behind a glacial opening quarter in 25.15. By the time he got a seam in the upper stretch, the runaway winner was long gone.

POWER GRID

Trainer: Jerry Robb

Last Race: Dec. 27, 8th race

Finish: 5th by 9 1/2

Appeared on the upswing, but threw in a puzzler in the Heft Stakes, where the pace situation was not to his liking. Forced to chase the gate to wire winner while 3 wide early, raced 4-5 wide leaving the 3/8 pole, then flat when asked.

LADY ZETA (*Breezed 3F - :37.00 at LRL on 4/7*)

Trainer: Lacey Gaudet

Last Race: Feb. 4, 1st race

Finish: 5th by 5 1/2

Expected to be one of the speeds, she instead broke poorly and was last on the rail entering the turn. Swung widest into the stretch, and was no match for the pacesetter winner, but did show some interest on the gallop-out. Thirteen-time winner deserves another shot in a \$7,500 conditioned seller.

BRUNO

Trainer: Daniel Eubanks

Last Race: March 20, Race 3

Finish: 2nd by 1 1/4

Independence Hall colt showed promising workouts prior to his debut, then hooked up in an early speed duel before succumbing to a late runner that benefited from the quick pace. Earned a respectable 69 Beyer Speed Figure, and will be tough right back against maiden special weight company.

HOLLYWOOD IMPORT (*Breezed 4F - :48.80 at LRL on 4/7*)

Trainer: Gary Capuano

Last Race: March 21, Race 8

Finish: 4th by 4

Talented 3-year-old might have found two turns a trip too far when fourth in the Private Terms. Broke outward a bit, but was quick enough to recover and make the lead. Cleared off briefly on the second turn, but tired in between foes in the stretch. Think he's at his best between seven furlongs and a one-turn mile.

Gun Runner filly sold for a million dollars as a yearling, and was a professional debut winner. Pinched a bit at the start, recovered to track the pace outside, then ran by the odds-on favorite in the stretch. Expect her to winter at Tampa.

SUJO (*Breezed 4F - :48.20 at TAM on 2/22*)

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.

IN AWE OF JUJU (*Entered at PARX – Wed 4/15, Race 6*)

Trainer: Jamie Ness

Last Race: February 21, 6th race

Finish: 5th by 6 1/2 lengths

Pressed an impressive winner from the inside, couldn't go with that foe on the turn, then just blew third in the final hundred yards. She's been ridden very aggressively in her last couple of starts, and might benefit from rating tactics against "non-three" claimers.

KISS THE RING

Trainer: Jesus Cruz

Last Race: March 20, Race 3

Finish: 4th by 6 1/2

Caught a pretty strong field for his second lifetime start, and was bumped shortly after the start after breaking slowly. Tracked outside, tried to advance in between rivals, but flattened out in the stretch. Might need a class dip into state-sired company, and has enough pedigree to appreciate more distance.

MAXPOWER (*Breezed 3F - 38.25 at Belmont on 4/9*)

Trainer: Panagiotis A. Synnefias

Last Race: Nov. 29, Race 6

Finish: 7th by 14 1/2

Outrun in the early stages of a \$16,000 maiden claimer, this 2-year-old was three wide and in between horses on the turn, then finished deceptively well while being over in behind horses in the stretch. This is a sprint family, but he might move up with more distance.

JOCKEY CALLS

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

Race 2: Carlos Lopez - #3 - Dream Leader; #5 - Bond's Belle >>> **Lopez rides BOND'S BELLE**

Race 3: Raul Mena - #1 - Furious George; #5 - Twelve Nelson >>> **Mena rides TWELVE NELSON**

Race 4: Jose Vargas - #2 - Book of Wisdom; #5 - Sapphire Beauty; #7 - Watch Your Tone >>> **Vargas rides WATCH YOUR TONE**

Race 5: Martin Chuan - #4 - Home Invasion; #9 - Minister >>> **Chuan rides MINISTER**

Race 5: Jose Vargas - #7 - Sincerito; #11 - Lucked In >>> **Vargas rides LUCKED IN**

Race 5: Emanuel Rosario - #1 - Rapidity; #3 - Strategist >>> **Rosario rides STRATEGIST**

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

A recap of **FRIDAY, APR. 10** action at Laurel Park. Visit theracingbiz.com for John Piasek's FREE full analysis of today's Laurel card.

Race 1: Bossy Jeans and Hockey set the early pace and flattened out in the stretch. That set it up perfectly for **I'm a Sure Thing**, who got a great trip stalking the pace and delivered on her even-money promise. Bella Estrella had horse in the stretch but lacked racing room and could do no better than fourth.

Race 2: Sticktothesystem zoomed to the early lead and set ambitious fractions, but had nothing left for the later stages and faded. Second choice Our Notion looked poised to take advantage, but he too was swallowed up by **No More Calls**, who rallied from last for a 16-1 surprise.

Race 3: On paper, **Kerness K** looked like he couldn't lose. In real life, he didn't. He took control at the top of the stretch and opened up to win his third race in a row in a romp. Woodline was the best of the rest, pressing the pace and holding second at 21-1.

Race 4: Frosty the Giant tried to pull a Sticktothesystem and zoom to a clear early lead, with similar results. This set it up for closers **Noted**, Tops the Chart, and Striking Sparks, who dueled each other down the stretch. Noted saved ground all the way, and that made the difference.

Race 5: **Gripen** continued to improve at third asking, outkicking Emma Mermaid in the stretch to give Yedsit Hazlewood a natural hat trick.

Race 6: Of Brittany Russell's two first-time starters, **Erice** took by far the most money, going off as the 6-5 favorite. That money proved to be smart money, as she sat off the pace and drew off in the stretch. Sin Boldly closed well in the last eighth and got up for second over early leader Clearly Sophia.

Race 7: Ms Notion lived up to the 1-20 hype, clearing another allowance condition with an easy victory. The sky's still the limit. Looks First came from off the pace to finish a clear-cut second at 13-1.

Race 8: White Series made the front early and never gave it up. He opened up a clear lead on the far turn and held sway, with Collection Day showing the most late interest to grab second.

PAST TRACK TRENDS

Jan. 9 – Fair

Jan. 10 – Fair

Jan. 16 – Fair

Jan. 17 – Fair

Jan. 23 – Fair

Jan. 30 - (only 1 race)

Feb. 4 – Fair

Feb. 5 – Fair (speed lean)

Feb. 6 – Fair

Feb. 12 – CLOSERS BIAS

Feb. 13 – Fair (slight speed lean)

Feb. 14 – Fair

Feb. 15 – Fair

Feb. 20 – Fair

Feb. 21 – Fair

Feb. 22 – Fair

Feb. 27 – Fair

Feb. 28 – Fair

Mar. 1 – Fair

Mar. 6 – Fair (slight outside lean)

Mar. 7 – SPEED BIAS

Mar. 8 – Fair

Mar. 13 – SPEED BIAS (strong
crosswind)

Mar. 15 – Fair

Mar. 20 – Fair

Mar. 21 – Fair (perhaps outside lean)

Mar. 22 – Fair (perhaps outside lean)

Mar. 27 – Fair

Mar. 28 – Fair

Mar. 29 – SPEED BIAS

Apr. 3 – Fair

Apr. 4 – Fair