



The Players' Guide

your comprehensive guide to tonight's races

Thursday, October 22, 2026 • Race Day 12

Today's selections and commentary by: **James Witherite**

Full-Card Selections

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

50¢ Late Pick-4 Play

Race 10: 2, 3, 4, 6
Race 11: 8, 9
Race 12: 1, 5, 8
Race 13: 7, 8
Total Stake: \$24

Wagering Highlights

Two 50¢ Pick-4s
races 5-8 and 10-13 • **15% takeout**

50¢ Jackpot Hi-5
last race • **\$8,396 carryover**

Race 6

Pace • F&M Winners 1-3 Ext. PM Races Lifetime

7 - PELICAN BAY gave futile pursuit to Standerosa each of her last two starts, but owns some of the fastest miles on the page despite it. Give her a pass two back for her late first-over push and credit her effort in defeat to Voo Doo Vixen the two starts before. She's got upside, to be sure. 8 - VOO DOO VIXEN pressed and rallied to victory at this level in her last two, but she's been off the past two weeks. Definitely ramping up and able to take air, but be wary of underlay potential especially given the speed edge she cedes to others. 3 - PAMFIN passed tired foes to save fifth in the MDSS final a week and a half ago after staying on to hit the board in both prelims. Sustained progress late in the mile is a definite plus. 4 - FEAR OF GOLD tired after pushing a :27.4 third quarter last week but fared better off cover two and four back. Figures well for exotics if she can muster a favorable journey.

Race 9

Trot • Winners 2-5 Ext. PM Races Lifetime

2 - ESPECIAL bumps up after an open-length win over N3L types last week. The start before, he was one-paced in pursuit of Bourbon Road, who failed to fire at twos-on last week. They meet again; inside draw gives this one the edge. Foster opts to stay on, too. 8 - BOURBON ROAD made two moves in the first six furlongs last week but weakened turning for home. The start before, he parried pressure on the far turn for a going-away score but wasn't used quite as hard earlier in the mile. This is a mild step up; can rebound if things go enough his way. 9 - ZUZU ZOOM has hit the board in five straight starts, including all three since arriving in Crescenze's barn. Her ability to press and close can help her overcome the wide post draw, but mind value given form edge. 5 - HATS AND HORNS has been fourth or better in four of his last six, largely from stalking and closing trips. The switch to three turns can yield improved staying power, and he's reunited with Morgan.

Race 11

Trot • NW/WO \$7,500 Last 4 Starts Handicap

9 - FRUIT SNACKER comes back after five months away following a victorious qualifier last week. He was dynamite in the winter and spring, winning 8 of 14 and more than holding his own in Harrington Opens from tough trips. Lots of upside to this guy if he can bring his A-game off the shelf. 8 - VICTOR LASZLO comes back after four months away, and his spring lines show top-level wins here and Ocean and an upper-level conditioned score at Philly. This guy has no issue setting or pressing the pace, and he made good ground into Fruit Snacker in their qualifier last week, too. They both seem fit. 2 - COLLEGE TUITION is trying to regain form after a mid-summer cold snap, but he's been defeated in pacesetting efforts in both starts since returning from Philly. Inside draw should leave him close with ease from the outset, but he's still trying to warm back up. 7 - CROSSFIT MOUSE rallied to victory two back and was since just even after floating into midfield. A live tow gets him in for a bigger share.

Race 13

Pace • F&M Claiming Handicap \$5,000-\$6,000

8 - MORE THAN BETTER rolled through the MDSS series and posted a resounding 1:54.1 win in the championship. This is a massive step down from stakes company, and she keeps Foster. 7 - WESTERN FLAMES has enjoyed strong form of late too, winning four of her last five against comparable company with the lone miss at the hands of a quick pace. Expect him to be on or near the lead. 9 - LITTLE JUDITH could benefit from heavy pace pressure given that she's sustained extended presses or deep closing bids to hit the exacta in her last four tries. 2 - SANDERS HANOVER beat first-level types once each from on and off the pace in her last four attempts. This represents a lateral move. 3 - ROSARITO BEACH N made an uncharacteristic break from the pocket last week, but showed well in past local outings. Can share with a return to past form, but will pace pressure do her in?