

OAK GROVE

RACING • GAMING • HOTEL

The Players' Guide

YOUR COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO TODAY'S RACES

Monday, May 12, 2025 • Race Day 16
Today's selections and commentary by: **Ray Cotolo**

Full-Card Selections

1 3-8-5-2	6 6-4-5-7	11 7-8-2-1
2 3-6-4-2	7 6-4-5-1	12 1-2-4-3
3 1-7-3-2	8 5-10-6-2	13 2-4-8-6
4 2-7-1-3	9 5-1-3-7	14
5 4-3-10-5	10 2-6-3-4	15



Pick 5 Ticket

Race 4: 2,7
 Race 5: 3,4,10
 Race 6: 4,6
 Race 7: 6
 Race 8: 2,4,5,6,10
 Total Stake: \$12.00 for \$.20

Race 1

1 Mile / Trot • Ky. Pref. NW 1 EXT PM LT CD

(3) R MISS USA gets an improved draw off a solid effort where she was just caught in the final strides. She holds the advantage over (8) KNGTSTLKRS PISTOL, who can still close into the mix like she did to win last out. Tough to see what kind of flow she'll get to follow in this field, though. (5) GOTTAKEEPPON-DREAMIN rallied well for fourth last out and can get a good piece by taking another step forward. (2) WORLD BY STORM is bred to be good, but he appears to be quirky. When he stays together, he could beat a group like this.

Race 2

1 Mile / Pace • NW 2 EXT PM LT CD Claiming

(3) AT ANY COST went a big mile to cap his season last year through some sickness, which makes me think he should handle the layoff fine. He may be better than these. (6) OVER HILL N DELLE packs a solid move. He'll be underlaid from this spot, but if Shetler does time things right he can still win. (4) THE PHANTOM needs to cut the mile. He doesn't seem like he picks up speed too well, so carrying momentum is likely his best choice. (2) PAPA VERLIN was in a should-win spot last time, but now he lands in a position where he should just do well.

Race 3

1 Mile / Trot • NW \$2,500 L4 CD

(1) SHOW ME is the class of the field. As long as he stays together, he jogs. (7) BOOTS N BEER should have a big mile in the tank as long as he can stay flat. (3) YO SHELDON should land into a snug stalking perch to offer a good finish. (2) SUMMER YOUNG enters off a seemingly lackluster qualifier, but it was her first one without trotting hoppers. Curious whether she has more speed to offer than in her 4-year-old debut.

Race 4

1 Mile / Pace • NW 2 EXT PM LT CD

(2) BOOMERANG looks in sharp form for a debut. He is the best inside this race. (7) FACING THE GIANTS can close well into the action, but he could have too much ground to cover. He's ready, though. (1) PD'S DIAMOND HOPE proved successful from an aggressive backside move last time. Marcus seems to have him figured out and he draws well for a good performance. (3) DON'T WAKE ME UP may need to work a trip from this spot, but she's done little wrong this season.

Race 5

1 Mile / Trot • Ky. Pref. NW 1 EXT PM LT

(4) SOMETHING ELSE makes her second start off the bench following a decent effort out of post 8. Hopefully Putnam can muster some speed from here. (3) TAPIAN AS had a wicked rally on debut from a bad draw. If he can find room to kick, he very well could win here, too. (10) OUTBOUND TRAIN showed some promise as a freshman, including a finish behind eventual stakes winner Monserate. Tough draw, but maybe he ekes through. (5) YO MACK DADDY ground well for fifth on the return, but he's likely one for underneath.

Race 6

1 Mile / Pace • Ky. Pref. NW 1 EXT PM LT

She again will be a short price, but maybe this time (6) RAILEE SOMETHING doesn't get put in a bind. She got locked in a pocket last time and only found room late, so maybe she just sends this time around? (4) GOLDEN WALL AS returns to a track where he's performed well and enters off solid efforts. He'll need a trip, but he belongs. (5) OH LOOK MAGIC keeps going big miles that tucker him out at the end, so we'll see if maybe he can find a helmet this time around. Probably not. (7) KEG STAND got a perfect setup in winning last time and now has to overcome a tough draw. He's capable of still getting a good chunk.

Race 7

1 Mile / Trot • Maiden / NW 1 EXT PM LT CD

(6) SHADY MAPLE BOW debuted impressively against this group, winning under a hand drive. Clearly the one to beat. (4) LEXICON had some decent late trot on debut from a bad post. Now he gets a good post, where maybe he'll put in a better effort. Wouldn't that be something? (5) D'WOOD is bred to be good, out of the stakes-winning mare D'One. The qualifier is sneaky, but he may need a few starts before he really starts rolling. (1) COURT AND SPARK gets a good draw for a ground-saving trip.

Race 8

1 Mile / Pace • Maiden / NW 1 EXT PM LT CD Claiming

Anyone's race. (5) PERFECT STRANGER could take the initiative from this spot. Who knows if he can carry speed all the way, though; that's the gamble. (10) PRINCE PALONE is the best on paper, but he has several obstacles ahead from the second tier. He could overcome, but likely not at a fair price. (6) BEACH MASTER KEENE appears to have sufficient speed for use from this draw, but he also is making his first start of the season. Tharps has been aggressive with these kinds, though. (2) SONOFASINNER AS improved in two qualifiers, but gets a draw where he likely sits and makes do with whatever happens.

Race 9

1 Mile / Pace • NW 3 EXT PM LT CD Claiming

(5) CINAMONTOASTCRUNCH rallied well to finish best of the rest last time, but now with a center-gate draw she may find herself closer to the action. (1) KING OF METAL AS raced real well shipping in and likely puts forward a good performance again. (3) THATS CACHE rallied well into a slow final quarter, considering, too, that was her first start in three weeks. She should finish strongly, again. (7) CRUNCH THE NUMBERS raced evenly in a weird race, but has room to improve maybe for a good check.

Race 10

1 Mile / Pace • NW \$2,500 L4 CD

(2) PAPERBACK THRILLER usually thrives at this class level. She's been in much tougher pretty much since returning to Oak Grove and should find this an appreciated reprieve. (6) DAKOTA JACK has gone better miles in his last two, despite folding two back. He could carry his speed well against a weak bunch, but he does seem finicky. (3) PREACHERSAYNOMORE enters off an interesting qualifier, which is a welcome line from the 50-length loss the start prior. Sneaky in a questionable field? (4) SKYWAY GOLIATH gets a better draw off a decent showing at first asking. That race could have been weaker than this one though, but we'll see.

Race 11

1 Mile / Trot • NW \$7,500 L4 CD

(7) BRODEUR has so much more class than most of this field. But he enters off a whatever line at Miami Valley, so tough to tell how aggressive he will be from this spot. He has the speed to just take them around, though. (8) EMPIRE BUILDER has been rebounding nicely over this surface and should continue improving. (2) ROCK MY UNIVERSE drops into a spot where Simons may try to be more aggressive given the opportunity. (1) SINATRA DE VIE should appreciate the pylon draw with his stalking style.

Race 12

1 Mile / Pace • Ky. Pref. NW \$2,500 L4 CD

Potentially simple. (1) LIL JOE IV is faster than most of these and has more stamina than most of these. He should just try to roll. (2) STREET BOY has speed to offer, and that should also work well for him. (4) WESTERN ROSIE could give chase depending on her setup. (3) DOWAHS BOY had plenty of pace once shaking free, but he may only be a contender for minor honors.

Race 13

1 Mile / Pace • USHDC NW \$3,000 L4 CD

(2) OTHER PEOPLES BEER enters off a nice qualifier and lands a good draw. He just has to stay flat. (4) JOKER ROCKWELL likely sends from this spot, but Williams likely would be better off taking a pocket trip. But we'll see how it unfolds. (8) STUN GUN isn't the swiftest off the gate, but if Kleinhans can get him rolling at the right time, he's live for somewhere on the ticket. (6) QUICK SNAP could close late to grab a share.

SHEET STATS

2025 STATS (14 DAYS)	WINS	TOP PICK	2ND PICK	3RD PICK	4TH PICK	ALL PICKS
# OF RACES	173	54	31	31	21	137
WIN %		31.21%	17.92%	17.92%	12.14%	79.19%
RETURN	(\$346)	\$304.42	\$282.26	\$327.26	\$252.50	\$1,166
ROI %		-12.02%	-18.36%	-5.42%	-27.02%	-15.71%
AVG RETURN		\$5.44	\$8.56	\$10.56	\$11.48	\$9.01
MEDIAN RETURN		\$3.48	\$6.60	\$8.10	\$6.94	\$5.50
AVG ODDS		3.38	6.69	8.66	15.97	8.67
MEDIAN ODDS		1.90	4.14	6.10	9.23	4.67