



The Players' Guide

RACING • GAMING • HOTEL

YOUR COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO TODAY'S RACES

Tuesday, March 31, 2026 • Race Day 4

Today's selections and commentary by: *Ray Cotolo*

Full-Card Selections

\$.20 EP5 Ticket

\$1 Pick 4 Ticket

\$.20 LP5 Ticket

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

Race 3: 5
 Race 4: 1,6
 Race 5: 1
 Race 6: 1,2,3,4
 Race 7: 8
 Total Stake: \$1.60

Race 6: 1,2,3,4
 Race 7: 8
 Race 8: 6
 Race 9: 1,6
 Total Stake: \$8.00

Race 9: 1,6
 Race 10: 2,4,6
 Race 11: 3,5,6
 Race 12: 1,3,4,5
 Race 13: 4
 Total Stake: \$14.40

Race 1

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

(6) PERFECT STRANGER fired strongly in his 4-year-old debut before reasonably tiring to fourth. Yet his speed may trump this group even if he wavers late. (1) CAN'T STAY TO LONG will have something to offer late while most in this field go for the finish fairly flat. (5) RIVER GIRL gets a better draw and should be well positioned to get a slice. (4) FOLLOWTHESTARS GB took advantage of a race that fell apart but didn't flex great speed in winning. He may have enough grit to get a check, though.

Race 2

1 Mile / Pace • NW 2 EXT PM LT CD

Good race. (7) COALFORD HITMAN GB may offer a price off a game pacesetting win last out. He'll be forward again and could hold. (2) DREAMINOFBNAWINR swooped over tired horses to win last out and clearly is a contender. He just needs to avoid any trip trouble. (5) GIGANTHOR showed promise on debut here last season parking a vicious mile in his debut. He eventually found the winner's circle and appears set for a competitive 4-year-old campaign. (6) FOX VALLEY VITAL is Bates's choice after he won so confidently with DREAMINOFBNAWINR. He adds Lasix off a romp qualifier against weaker, intriguing choice.

Race 3

1 Mile / Trot • NW \$4,000 L4 CD

(5) TOM'S MUSCLE is so much better than these horses. He was competitive against good 4-year-olds last year in KYSS and appears to have improved from his breaking issues. Morning line would be a gift. (6) VALOTTALOVE hustled home for a solid second against a no-doubt winner. He draws better now and should improve. (9) JOG ON COL has speed to overcome the wide draw that he should use. He needs to cut the mile, otherwise he's a money burner. (2) ROCK PARTY should race better on the move inside.

Race 4

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

(1) PONDA THIRTY could use more experience but his debut effort at Hoosier Park seems good enough to make him competitive against this group. (6) COALFORDONEOFUS GB made two moves and held well after being passed by a pair of sharp closers. He should be forward again and finish well. (4) RODEO STARRED raced well at Cooper Downs beating Caviart Hartley, who showed plenty of spunk in his pari-mutuel debut. His freshman campaign was alright; he can improve into his sophomore season. (3) HE'SGOTABIGMUFFLER has a wicked kick over the bigger track, but likely takes a lot of play with something to prove still in his sophomore debut.

Race 5

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

(1) ZILLIONAIRE KEMP rushed off a ground-saving trip to menace late but ran out of racetrack. He draws well again and should be a threat if he moves up from that effort. (7) YO BILLIE raced against solid freshman last year in KYSS but has to overcome a tough draw on debut. He certainly can, but will be a short-price risk. (3) COUNTRYDIAMONDGIRL raced well at Ohio fairs last year and should race a bit better moving to a larger track. She's a use underneath just for price. (5) CAUGHT INA SCANDAL has the ability to at least hit the ticket as a fairly even late pusher.

Race 6

1 Mile / Pace • NW \$2,500 L4 CD

(1) APERTIF may be a nostalgia play given he's a speed horse who picks up John MacDonald in the bike. Could be well paired plus he may bottom out this field. (3) PONDA BEACH should race better on post improvement after a wide draw likely tuckered him out. (2) BOZAK improved with Lasix and gets a better draw with a weaker field. (4) ITS GONNA FEELGOOD now has an opportunity to race after competing over his head against a bunch of in-form horses.

Race 7

1 Mile / Trot • Open Handicap

(8) PONDA JET may just be debuting but he is the best horse in this race on ability. He qualified handily and does have a tough draw to overcome, but I'm trusting the best horse can deliver here. (7) DRINK UP DRINK UP got everything he wanted to win the Open last out but has a tougher battle here. His trip is tough to map too at a likely short number. (6) MY MAN PETER showed he could pick up pieces last out and may be in that position again given the bulk of speed drawn outside. (5) CECIL HANOVER is another who can fire off the wings but likely gets stuck in a stalking spot to contend for a minor share.

Race 8

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

(6) DYNAMIC DESIRE should appreciate the class drop here. He has loads of speed off the gate and on ability alone is the horse to beat here. (5) STAR MAN was logically second best behind Whelk Blue Chip, a horse who would walk over most in this field. He's obvious though and is a type who may not put up a fight in the stretch, so short price makes me weary on the win side. (1) SOUL ON FIRE does well on ground-saving trips, which is exactly what he'll get from this draw. (7) THAT'S THE STAR managed the turns well in his seasonal bow but likely has to come from off the speed again unless Bobbitt surprises off the wings.

Race 9

1 Mile / Trot • NW 2 EXT PM LT

(1) HARBOR OF GRACE showed decent speed as a freshman and appeared outclassed in KYSS competition. She draws well off an alright qualifier and I hope Joey can make some speed early. (6) DON'T ASK AGAIN had zero chance to race last out when getting locked behind tiring horses, but she did kick into gear once getting room late. She probably comes from off the speed again here, but picking up Bender likely is a good match. (4) GHOSTBUSTER SA kept plugging from a tough spot in an admittedly slow race, but he's a grinding type that should keep trying to the end. Still an exotic use. (2) SHOE SHINE WILLIE got a picturesque setup on the lead last time, but a less chaotic race likely just makes him involved on the ticket.

Race 10

1 Mile / Trot • NW \$7,500 L4 CD

(2) GENERAL GRANT can take plenty of air and has good speed, but he just has to stay flat. His qualifier seems promising. (6) COUNTRY VICTORY should blast from this draw and maybe gets a chance to cut the race. (4) HERECOMESDAJUDGE should also fire off the wings and likely works a good trip to be involved. (1) INTERNATIONAL LAW usually comes charging late in the race as long as he stays flat. He qualified well and should get a shout if all goes well.

Race 11

1 Mile / Pace • Ky. Pref. Claiming \$10,000

(3) JUST A START showed wicked speed and got caught in a tough spot early before holding well for a fourth against this group. All the components are there, but since he gets a good draw now he could put them together for a win. (5) PICKSIXKING was a semblance of his old self in winning last time. He didn't show the same fury off the helmet but is a serviceable type that hits the board with a trip. (6) ALWAYS VIRGIL went a ridiculous mile last time and still finished third. I know the program doesn't show it but he barely saw a pylon in that race and kept coming. Cheeky price maybe. (2) JUST PLAIN LOCO should work a good trip and show something late if given clearance.

Race 12

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

(5) JUST CHASING TAILS never looked like a loser last time; the whole race Tharps had him revved and ready then he blasted once given the cue. Real eyecatching effort from one at this class - I'll trust he builds from that. (3) ODDS ON UFO had no reason on recent lines to go as game an effort as she did to finish second, so it seems like she's developed well over the winter. Price won't be as exciting though. (1) FLEET COMMANDER is probably the sneakiest one in this race. If Crisler has him ready to blast forward and cut the mile, he could be a solid contender. He was able to win over this track last year cutting pretty average miles and now adds Lasix. (4) IMAPRICELESSPRINCE raced well on debut after a freshman campaign where he put together some good efforts and flexed alright speed. He can definitely step up in start two on the year.

Race 13

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

(4) SHEROCKS SHEROLLS A went a great mile on the barn switch and addition of Lasix last out. She gets a much better draw and softer competition to show what she's got now. (3) MANAGAINSTCRIME will get a second chance from me after landing in an unideal spot off the wings on debut. He tried to close, but the race setup too fast and tired most chasing, so maybe he's tighter from that go around the track. (1) PARK OFFICIAL should appreciate the post switch after showing high speed out of post 8 and then tiring to fourth. Maybe the inside draw lets him cruise more evenly for a better finish? (7) THE LEGEND HANOVER was a winner last out if he got a sliver of room one second sooner. Denson has him ready to race but he'll likely take more money off that effort and again has to overcome a tough draw. He's still a factor against this group, though.

SHEET STATS

2026 STATS (2 DAYS)	WINS	TOP PICK	2ND PICK	3RD PICK	4TH PICK	ALL PICKS
# OF RACES	25	10	5	4	2	21
WIN %		40.00%	20.00%	16.00%	8.00%	84.00%
RETURN	(\$50)	\$47.42	\$28.88	\$50.06	\$14.10	\$140.46
ROI %		-5.16%	-42.24%	0.12%	-71.80%	-29.77%
AVG RETURN		\$3.95	\$4.13	\$12.52	\$4.70	\$6.32
MEDIAN RETURN		\$3.27	\$3.34	\$12.15	\$5.72	\$3.75
AVG ODDS		2.63	5.79	9.47	14.25	8.04
MEDIAN ODDS		1.75	1.88	6.82	7.15	4.08