



Today's playbook provided by Fair Grounds racing analyst Joe Kristufek, who has an extensive background in the horse racing industry as a handicapper, on-air talent, producer and fan development specialist. He is well recognized for his creative analysis and wagering tactics and he loves interacting with racing fans. **Follow on Twitter @JoeyDaKRacing**

***Selections are ranked on an ABC scale from A – top selections (limited to double the number of races on the card), B – tough to toss, and C – use in multi-race wager spreads & minors in intra-race wagers. Subject to change due to track conditions and scratches. Tune into the paddock show for the most up-to-date information. Check program numbers for accuracy.***

**Joe's 24-25 Top Pick Season Stats thru December 16**

Races	Wins	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Win%	WIN ROI	WPS%	WPS ROI	A	A%
53	19	9	4	35.8%	\$1.71	60.1%	\$4.88	27	50.9%

**Thursday, December 19, 2024**

	Race Feel	A	B	C
<b>Race 1 – 50-cent PK 5 (15%)</b>	#1 Dominated at this level 3 weeks ago. #6 darkened form – drops in, outside draw & capable.	1, 6	5	2, 7
<b>Race 2 – 50-cent PK 4</b>	Defection of #1 leaves Lone A #3 as a standout off the KY form.	3	6	2, 4
<b>Race 3 – 50-cent PK 3</b>	Lone A #3 looks tough off a recent 3 <sup>rd</sup> against better at this level. Lone B with a major right to improve.	3	2	1, 6, 4, 5
<b>Race 4 – 50-cent PK 6 (15%)</b>	Will be interesting to see how the turf course plays with the rails down (0 feet). A > B, but not by much.	6, 4, 1	5, 3, 2	
<b>Race 5 – 50-cent PK 5 (15%)</b>	Lone A #4 takes a huge drop into LA-bred company & cuts back; Lone B #2 is also solid.	4	2	1, 3, 5
<b>Race 6 – 50-cent PK 4</b>	Top A #9 has experience edge & the post shift	9, 3, 5, 7, 1	2, 8, 6	

	should help, but there are lots of intriguing first timers. Watch the will pays for clues.			
<b>Race 7 – 50-cent PK 3</b>	Lone A #2 looks like an absolute standout, but distance is a minor concern.	2	3, 6, 7, 5	
<b>Race 8</b>	Lone A #6 has the speed to run this field off their feet. Wouldn't argue with a spread to capable B's.	6	2, 10, 5	3
<b>Race 9</b>	Top A #1 drops in turf to dirt & he does own two wins on FG main track. #6 seems to fit well with the local horse population & #2 has five wins at FG.	1, 6, 2	7, 5	

**Monday's Results: AAACBAAB**

**Most Likely Winner: Race 5 -- #4 Dapper Moon (3-5 ML)**

**Best Bet: Race 6 -- #9 Restore (7-2 ML)**

**Longshot: Race 4 -- #6 Sivako (8-1 ML)**

**Favorite Against: Race 9 -- #2 Keys Included (9-5 ML)**

