

Pandy's Meadowlands Selections for Saturday, July 31

Note: My odds-line for my top four contenders is based on what I think each horse's chances are to win the race. For instance, if I make a horse 4-1, I think the horse's chances of winning are about 20%, so if the same exact race was run ten times, he'd win it twice. If I make all of the horses about the same odds, that's an indication that I think the race is wide open, or that I can't pinpoint a horse that appears to have a strong edge.

Meadowlands Race Picks by Bob Pandolfo

RACE 1

2 SHE'S NUN BETTOR N 7-5
1 I'M VERY SPECIAL 5-2
5 LOVELY DONNA 4-1
6 STONEBRIDGE SOUL 5-1

SHE'S NUN BETTOR N raced gamely from a tough spot in last at Yonkers.

RACE 2

3 FLY LIGHT** 2-1
7 AVENIR 5-2
2 BALENCIAGA 5-1
8 HELLO I LOVE YOU 6-1

FLY LIGHT has been facing better and we'll see what he can do against more modest foes tonight...AVENIR raced well against better in a Jersey sire stakes back in May but then broke in three straight starts and showed little in the Geers last start; one to beat if she stays flat...BALENCIAGA is still a maiden but has a couple of races that could make him competitive here if the top two under perform...HELLO I LOVE YOU had a nice two year old season but hasn't developed in five starts this year and is hard to gauge.

RACE 3

4 STARS ALIGN A 5-2
1 HIGHALATOR 5-2
5 LYONS STEEL 4-1
2 COVERED BRIDGE 5-1

STARS ALIGN A was in a tough spot in the Haughton and raced okay...HIGHALATOR bounced back with two wins against lesser in PA., and we know how tough he can be here...LYONS STEEL and COVERED BRIDGE are both in solid form.

RACE 4

4 CATCH THE FIRE 2-1
2 CAPTAIN BARBOSSA 5-2
5 TATTOO ARTIST 6-1
7 ALLYWAG HANOVER 7-2

CATCH THE FIRE did as well as he could closing from an impossible spot in the Haughton; should be tough here...CAPTAIN BARBOSSA tried to go first over and went backwards in the Graduate; it looks like he doesn't like off tracks but he's certainly capable of stepping up with a big mile against these...TATTOO ARTIST didn't have the smoothest trip in the Haughton but his speedy effort in the Graduate two back was very good...ALLYWAG HANOVER has turned in some giant miles and is hard to knock.

RACE 5

2 BELLA BELLINI 7-5

8 BELTASSIMA 5-2
4 LADY CHAOS 7-2
7 YOU ATO DREAM 4-1

BELLA BELLINI rates top call in this Oaks elimination. Keep in mind that the winner gets to draw from posts 1-5 next week, so Dunn will be trying to win this.

RACE 6

7 DANCINGINTHEDARK M 7-5
6 SONOFAMISTERY 2-1
3 DELAYED HANOVER 9-2
5 AMBASSADOR HANOVER 5-1

DANCINGINTHEDARK M is sharp and I'll give him the edge over SONOFAMISTERY, who can certainly win this...DELAYED HANOVER comes off the best effort of his career...AMBASSADOR HANOVER steps up sharp.

RACE 7

2 NEXT LEVEL STUFF 8-1
12 ATLANTA 1-1
6 WHEN DOVESCRY 7-2
5 FELICITYSHAGWELL S 13-1

NEXT LEVEL STUFF gets back on lasix, needs to do best to have an upset chance...ATLANTA is obviously the class of the field but will be a short price from the second tier...WHEN DOVESCRY always fires and is hard to knock...FELICITYSHAGWELL S comes off a handy win against weaker from post 7 at Yonkers.

RACE 8

11 TEST OF FAITH 3-5
9 FIRE START HANOVER 4-1
8 GRACE HILL 7-1
1 STAYCATION HANOVER 10-1

TEST OF FAITH has been almost perfect (13 wins in 14 starts) in her career...FIRE START HANOVER turned in a game grinding effort in last and is the main rival...GRACE HILL raced well against the top pick here last month.

RACE 9

1 DONNA SOPRANO 2-1
2 HOT AS HILL 4-1
3 SWIFT SWANDA 4-1
7 PIPER HANOVER 4-1

DONNA SOPRANO has improved with every start this year and rates top call. If she doesn't win, it's pretty wide open in this Oaks elimination.

RACE 10

3 JOHAN PALEMA 8-5
5 REALLY FAST 2-1
7 CAPTAIN COREY 4-1
6 VENERATE 4-1

JOHAN PALEMA has come to hand for Swanstedt. Gingras drove him aggressively last start and he responded with strong trot on both ends...REALLY FAST broke in two straight starts then won his last handily; key rival...CAPTAIN COREY raced much better in last...VENERATE was a strong two year old but hasn't really stepped forward so far this year and last was a disappointment as he had no excuse at 3/5.

RACE 11

- 8 PERFECT STING 2-5
- 5 HIGHLANDBEACHSBEST 6-1
- 7 WHICHWAYTOTHEBEACH 6-1
- 3 CAVIART LOTUS 6-1

PERFECT STING was used hard setting the pace in the Meadowlands Pace Final and held okay. He had a week off to try and recoup from that effort and should win this pretty easily if he doesn't bounce badly. I wouldn't bet him in this spot but I'm not sure I'd be tempted to bet against him, either.

RACE 12

- 6 SHAKE THAT HOUSE 6-1
- 7 NICHOLAS BEACH 4-5
- 5 WESTERN JOE 6-1
- 4 ANGERS BAYAMA 7-2

SHAKE THAT HOUSE is sharp for Alagna and can upset...NICHOLAS BEACH is the fastest horse in the race and now has 15 wins in 19 starts but reportedly has a quarter crack and will wear a special shoe they're calling a window bar, which I assume is a bar shoe. I personally don't like to bet horses that have a quarter crack or any sort of foot problem, so I can't recommend...WESTERN JOE lacked a rally from a tough spot in his last at Saratoga but he is certainly capable of a big effort...ANGERS BAYAM brushed and tired in the fast paced Haughton in last but has turned in some strong efforts.

RACE 13

- 1 STONE HANOVER 7-2
- 3 SERIOUSLY HANOVER 4-1
- 7 DE LOS CIELOS DEO 4-1
- 8 HEZA REAL DIAMOND 7-1

STONE HANOVER raced well against Highalator in his last at Pocono and may have found a field he can beat...SERIOUSLY HANOVER never got into the race at 6/5 in last; needs a better effort...DE LOS CIELOS DEO and HEZA REAL DIAMOND both drop in class here and are capable on one of their better efforts.

BEST BET: FLY LIGHT 2nd Race