

Northville Downs presents  
**The Big Horse Handicapper**

Friday, May 13, 2022



**Full-Card Selections**

**\$5 Show Parlay**

<b>1</b>	9-1-8	<b>5</b>	2-3-6	<b>9</b>	5-6-2
<b>2</b>	4-2-8	<b>6</b>	1-2-4	<b>10</b>	2-1-4
<b>3</b>	5-7-2	<b>7</b>	2-7-4	<b>11</b>	1-2-5
<b>4</b>	4-9-8	<b>8</b>	6-8-5	<b>12</b>	3-4-2

**Race 3:** #5 Lady Anastasia  
**Race 4:** #9 Nox  
**Race 7:** #2 Shell Yeah  
**Race 8:** #6 Travlin Swan  
**Race 9:** #5 Princess Rockette

**A Closer Look**

*This section features more in-depth analysis on selected events from each card of racing at Northville Downs, with something for the novice player and seasoned handicapper alike.*

**Race 3**

5 - LADY ANASTASIA lifted into second at double-digit odds in her last two tries, both against similar company. She consistently moves forward at the end of her miles, and the price figures to be attractive yet again. 7 - DEFY THE ODDS pushed the pace directly two back, only to be just outdone by the veteran Bold Decision. Wide draw makes this task tougher, but she's back to facing just distaff company, too. 2 - SQUIRT rode an easy pocket for a one-paced second on the drop back to bottom-level company. Similar await tonight; inside draw keeps her close with ease. Beware underlay potential owing to flashy-by-comparison raw times.

**Race 8**

6 - TRAVLIN SWAN seeks back-to-back Open wins after pushing to an 11-1 upset last week. He's hit the board in six straight, and he's done so from a variety of trips. Versatility and form suit him well. 8 - ENCHANTED MISSION wired Open company here on April 22, but since found himself outmatched in optional \$30k company in Ohio. He's back at a winning course and class, yes, but the outside draw is a definite obstacle given his preferred racing style. 5 - OMYHEART nearly lasted after a strong middle move last week, only to just be edged by Travlin Swan's late push home. The start before, he sustained a three-wide push from astern into a no-match second to Enchanted Mission. Consistent player at this level, no matter the trip or circumstances.

**Race 4**

4 - LIBBY'S IDEA tired late last Thursday, but held fifth at long odds in her Open assignment. She drops back to a more suitable classification; late fall lines indicate she can compete with these. 9 - NOX hit the board in five of her last six starts, and she's more than held her own since rising to this level two weeks ago. Pacesetting, stalking and rallying ability make her one of the most versatile contenders in this field, if not the most. Terrific choice to boost value all round. 8 - RAVISHING VIRGIN sustained uncovered pushes forward to just miss in her last two outings, both at this level. Admittedly, the outside post is going to make for a tougher task tonight, but she's trending upward and can take a lot of air.

**Race 9**

5 - PRINCESS ROCKETTE won her last two local races, most recently shrugging off sustained pressure and edging away to a 1:54 win against mixed company. Plenty to like from that gritty effort; she's been mighty strong all season long — both here and in Ohio. The mare to beat. 6 - SKATEBOARD CHIC threw down the gauntlet last week, sprinting to a clear lead and maintaining it with ease. Also a winner in two of her last three, the 30-time winner will now have to contend with the outside gate. How much will it sting her from the start? Mind value. 2 - SKYWAY ROCKATOP improved belatedly from astern last week, and hasn't been worse than fourth in her last five tries. Consistent staying power is a big plus; inside draw can help her stay within striking range.

**Race 6**

1 - SWAN LEADER only missed by a length in a slightly tougher race three back, and he didn't lack for late trot against tougher in his two more recent outings — and that was despite some pretty challenging trips, to boot. Class relief and the pole combine to put him in a prime striking spot. 2 - INDIGO K never got involved last week, but was in touch throughout from astern. The start before, she reached from the pocket to beat bottom-level company. Draw keeps her close and clear throughout. 4 - STORM'S COMING rated comfortably when we last saw him, only to be just nabbed by the much tougher Hail Caesar in the final yards. He's clearly capable at this level, but he has been off for a few weeks. Will that help to freshen him up?

**Driver Selections**

**Race 3**

Lindsay Moen: #5 over #4

**Race 6**

Marc St. Louis Jr.: #5 over #7

**Race 4**

Jason Merriman: #3 over #1, #2

**Race 7**

Justin Irvine: #2 over #7

**Race 5**

Kim Pluta: #1 over #4

**Race 11**

Jason Merriman: #3 over #6

Marc St. Louis Jr.: #2 over #7

**Race 12**

David Lake: #2 over #1, #6