

The Big Horse Handicapper



Your guide to betting on the races at Northville Downs

Saturday, Feb. 3, 2024 • Program No. 10

Race 3 NW \$2,000 Last 4 Starts, Opt. Clm. \$4,000 Pace

2 - PACIN GRAYSON gets a pass for his last effort given his sustained uncovered grind through the middle half. Class and post relief can help him establish a kinder journey in this more manageable field. **1 - DIESEL ACCELERATOR** won eight times last year and took on significantly tougher competition all the while. He's back in action off a winning qualifier; be mindful of underlay potential on the class drop from the pole. **3 - PB'S ON FIRE** chased for third in two of his last three tries, including from an easy pocket at this level a couple weeks ago. If he's handy — and he should be — he figures well for at least a piece.

Race 5 NW \$3,000 Last 4 Starts, Opt. Clm. \$7,500 Pace

5 - SPADES IT IS pressed hard in both of his starts this mini-meet, and stayed on enough to hit the super on both occasions. This is a slightly more manageable field on the whole, and he's done considerably more work in recent weeks than a lot of the others. **2 - CRUSOE HANOVER** rises after back-to-back wins by a combined 9-1/2 lengths. The 47-time winner also showed pressing and closing ability in late December Northfield lines, so he's not lacking for versatility. Should be handy with ease from here. **4 - STRIKING REALITY** can pose a threat from off the pace given recent stalking and closing bids to hit the board against similar, both here and at Dayton.

Race 8 Open Handicap Pace

5 - COMMANDER BOB lasted on the lead two back and was just nabbed by RB out of the pocket in the Jan. 19 Open. A winner in two of four, this 15-time winner has done most of the work in this mini-meet's limited offering of top-level races. If anyone earns victory in the course's final Open, it's him. **3 - DILLINGER** could well play the spoiler given his strong form in high-level conditioned claimers in Cleveland and The Meadows. Capable presser-stalker consistently moves forward and has proven he can take a lot of air. **6 - RB** did win the previous installment of the Open, but only just collared Commander Bob after drafting behind him the entire mile. How much will he have to work from this outside post?

Race 11 NW \$5,000 Last 4 Starts, Opt. Clm. \$15,000 Pace

Well, friends, it all comes down to this one. **5 - PANTHER TIME** invades from Northfield amid good stalking and closing form in comparable conditioned races. In a field that's largely moving up the ladder, this guy's got both class and form edges. **3 - GITTERDONEFORTYONE** parried sustained pressure to win going away two weeks ago. He moves up a couple levels into this race, but should be handy from the inside and proved he can contend with similar in a series of strong efforts last fall. **6 - MCFEHR** brushed and just held to win at 23-1 two weeks ago. Barring misadventure the start before, he's shown good staying power locally in mid- to upper-level races. Can share once again in the finale.

Full-Card Selections

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Race 1 | 5-9-7 |
| Race 2 | 6-4-2 |
| Race 3 | 2-1-3 |
| Race 4 | 2-6-3 |
| Race 5 | 3-2-4 |
| Race 6 | 5-2-4 |
| Race 7 | 3-6-1 |
| Race 8 | 5-3-6 |
| Race 9 | 1-6-2 |
| Race 10 | 2-5-1 |
| Race 11 | 5-3-6 |

Exotic Combinations

\$1 Exacta

| | |
|-------------|------|
| 3-horse box | \$6 |
| 4-horse box | \$12 |
| 5-horse box | \$20 |
| AB/ABC | \$4 |
| AB/ABCD | \$6 |
| AB/ABCDE | \$8 |
| ABC/ABCD | \$9 |
| ABC/ABCDE | \$12 |

50¢ Trifecta

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| 3-horse box | \$3 |
| 4-horse box | \$12 |
| 5-horse box | \$30 |
| A/BC/BCD | \$2 |
| A/BC/BCDE | \$3 |
| A/BCD/BCD | \$3 |
| A/BCD/BCDE | \$4.50 |
| AB/ABC/ABCD | \$4 |
| AB/ABC/ABCDE | \$6 |
| AB/ABC/ABCDEF | \$8 |
| ABC/ABC/ABCD | \$6 |
| ABC/ABC/ABCDE | \$9 |

10¢ Superfecta

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|-------------|--------|
| 4-horse box | \$2.40 |
| 5-horse box | \$12 |
| 6-horse box | \$36 |