

CAN I BE FRANK?

FRANK'S MODIFIED MATRIX

Sunday, July 5, 2026: SARATOGA

Ciaran and I will be going live at 12:00 p.m./PDT today to tackle the Sunday Late Pick 5 at Saratoga on "Double Trouble Live." Our opening day show was fun, but I had some really bad luck that I need to get off my back—so let's see if we can make some noise to end the weekend!

Race 5: \$55K Maiden-Claimer at 8.5F on the Mellon Turf Course

Chad Brown has seen enough of **#8 CAPRICIOUS OUTCOME (8/5)**, a delicate 4-year-old with three fourth-place finishes in his three-race career against MSWs, hence the \$55K tag today. He's going to be very tough on the drop and with Prat hopping aboard. If it's not him, it could be one of many. I'll single on most tickets but have a back-up going just in case.

A: 8

B: 5,6,7,4

Race 6: \$225K Kelso (G3) at 8F on Inner Turf

I really think that **#1 ZULU KINGDOM (IRE) (5/2)** bounced last time when getting tired late after trying to wire them from the rail at \$0.32 on the dollar. Two of today's foes outfinished him, so this Chad Brown runner will have to do much better today. I know this horse wired a Grade 1 field two back, but I'm thinking Prat won't go to the lead today (even with a rail draw) because of what happened last time. This horse can rate and pass horses, so I expect Prat to suck back and get first run on the closers.

#9 COSMIC YEAR (GB) (6/1), the second Brown runner, lost by a neck to **#4 NEAT (15/1)** last time at \$0.50 on the dollar, so that's not a good thing either! That said, I'm guessing this guy was a bit short that day, making his first U.S. start off an October layoff. He should be much tighter today, and this Juddmonte homebred has Group 1 Euro form that should make him very tough in here.

I feel good about those two, but others have run just as well at times, so I'll have

some back-up horses with my single in the first leg.

A: 1,9

B: 6,10,11,5,4

Race 7: NY-Bred MSW for Fillies going 6F on the main track

This is a tough race with several firsters taking on some blah looking experienced runners. **#2 LUCKBEOURLADY (4/1)** debuts for a very good first-out trainer, and the dam—while not much of a runner herself—did produce one debut winner. Plus, a sharp ownership group bought this gal for \$85K, and that's a decent amount for a NY-bred.

As for the experienced runners, **#8 LIBERTY'S ADVANCE (5/2)** is very logical, making her second start since joining the Mott barn. She gets Lasix after showing speed and tiring last time at 7-furlongs. She should move forward big time today. The only concern is that her two best races came on sloppy tracks. Still, if you have to go skinny, she's a logical single.

#7 RUN ON STATES (8/1) looks a little sneaky. She cost \$200K last year, and even though her juvenile form isn't pretty outside of one good race at Ellis, where she finished second in her debut, she has excuses: she didn't like turf three back, and then she faced open MSWs at Churchill and Oaklawn to close out the year. There must be more here than meets the eye.

A: 8,2,7

B: 3,5

R8: \$200K Harvey Pack at 5.5F on Turf

I don't have much confidence in this race: a full field of turf sprinters where so much can go wrong and so little can go right if you make one tiny mistake. I'm going to try and use as many as I can, budget permitting.

#1 BRING THEBAND HOME (7/2) absolutely romped in this race last year, and he franked that form in his next Saratoga start (for his third win at the Spa) before going off form in the fall. He's been away a while, and he only has three works for this, but Casse told *DRF* that he was very pleased with the works, and he expects this guy to run well. I guess we'll see.

#4 TWENTY SIX BLACK (3/1) is a pretty tough NY-bred who should get a good tracking trip as he makes the third start of his form cycle after running a really good fourth in a Grade 1 against some quality turf sprinters.

#2 BOSS SULLY (5/1) is pretty quick, and he showed that he was no worse for wear last time when coming off a long layoff and beating a decent group of turf sprinters on the engine in the Siren Lure at Santa Anita. She'll be in the mix right from the jump, but there will be others pushing the pace as well.

#10 WE'RE IN TROUBLE (12/1) doesn't have flashy form like the main competitors, but he did show he could be right there with Boss Sully last March, despite a rough start. I like the way he won last time at Churchill while coming off a September layoff, and Michael McCarthy is even better second off the bench. He's the wiseguy play!

A: 1,4,2,10

R9: \$55K optional-claiming/N1X at 12F on Inner Turf Course

Wow, what a tough race to close out the card with. I'm not complaining: it's an awesome race, and there is bound to be good value in a few different places.

#8 OFFLEE NAUGHTY (10/1) is a horse I know very well from SoCal, and I know that he can run all day, and that he's battle-tested against some quality turf runners. His recent form after leaving SoCal is not pretty, but he looks to be sitting on a big race, making his second start after a claim for solid trainer Joe Sharp.

#3 BETTRLUCKYTHANGOOD (6/1) was making up ground late in an 11-furlong race at this level here last year, so seemingly, if he can run back to that race while getting added ground today, he'll be a threat. I don't love NY-breds against open foes, but this horse has run consistently well, and Prat hops on board.

#12 NOBLE FACTOR (15/1) is the wiseguy horse. That last race for this trainer was not as bad as the paper form looks. He was a million miles back off a slow pace and on a speed friendly turf course last time yet still managed to make up a decent amount of ground late in that 8-furlong affair. I'm not sure if that Tampa form is any good, but I do think this horse deserves a shot going long.

A: 8,3,12
 B: 13*,4,5,1,10
 *AE

SAR LP5 MATRIX (Sunday, July 5, 2026)

SAR LP5: Sunday, 7/5/26	A	B	C
R5: Leg 1	8	5,8,7,4	
R6: Leg 2	1,9	6,10,11,5,4	
R7: Leg 3	8,2,7	3,5	
R8: Leg 4	1,4,2,10		
R9: Leg 5	8,3,12	13*,4,5,1,10	
		*AE	

POTENTIAL WAGERS

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\$0.50 LP5: 8/1,9/8,2,7/1,4,2,10/8,3,12 (\$36)			
\$0.50 LP5: 5,6,7,4/1/8/1,4,2,10/8,3,12 (\$24)			
\$0.50 LP5: 8/6,10,11,5,4/8/1,4,2,10/8,3,12 (\$30)			
\$0.50 LP5: 8/1/3,5/1,4,2,10/8,3,2 (\$12)			
\$0.50 LP5: 8/1/8/1,4,2,10/13*,4,5,1,10 (\$8-\$10)			
TOTAL: \$110-\$112*			
*AE			

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