

Play the Odds!

A Guide for WATT Handicappers

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One great benefit of the **Winning at the Track** online program is that it provides information that other racing fans will never see. Horseracing involves pari-mutuel betting. The wagers go into a pool and are then divided by those who are correct. In effect, you are betting against other handicappers, not any casino "house odds" that are stacked against you. The potential returns posted on the tote board reflect the opinions of others, not the probability of winning.

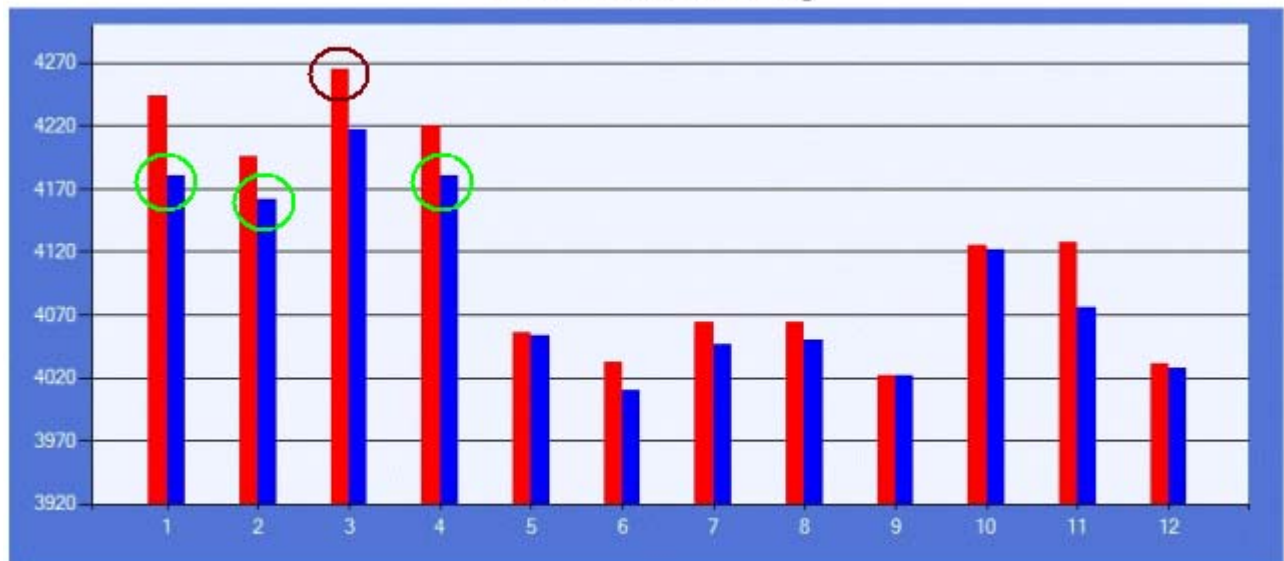
Here is Race 9, a 6-furlong sprint at Hawthorne Race Course in Illinois on March 13th. This contest had a 12-horse field and, of course, these WATT selections were not random in any way. Below were the Best-4 PM Ratings for the contest with very few changes needed in the handicap. The "plus signs" indicated that all four were "stick-outs" versus the rest of the field. This was also obvious on the main graphic screen as well.

Best-4 Summary

Hawthorne IL Mar 13, 2015

Pr	PP	Name	\$	Notes	Odds	PM Rating
9th	6f					
3	3	LAST TEARS	98/97	9:2	4264+	
1	1	BUSHIDO	90/93	10:1	4244+	
4	4	SWEEPING CHANGE	88/49	12:1	4221+	
2	2	KEEP ON SHINING	88/75	5:1	4196+	

Best/2nd-Best PM Rating



PACESETTERS: 3, 1

Risk Profile: Poor Fair Good

Clearly, #3 *Last Tears*, had a pace advantage, which was a good reason for bettors to make him one of the favorites at post time. Also, #4 *Sweeping Change* showed a pace line last time out (5½ furlongs) that had him 15 lengths behind at every point in the race. Many racing fans and other computer programs rely only on the last pace line rather than a horse's complete history. If this 6f distance happened to be more to his liking, he had the potential to win.

In essence, there were two possible outcomes: #3 *Last Tears* would be the winner and two of the remaining three would probably create a healthy trifecta. Otherwise, he would collapse and the other three would very likely produce an enormous payoff.

Pace Analyst: Speed / Pace Handicapping

Return to Race Card				Hawthorne IL 6f March 13, 2015				Prev Race				Next Race			
Best Pole Speed				\$		PS	Best Late Speed				\$		LS		
3	LAST TEARS	98/82	9:2			98	4	SWEEPING CHANGE	GPW	6f	88/197	807			
1	BUSHIDO	90/93	10:1			90	3	LAST TEARS	HAW	6f	98/191	803			
11	B S WILDCAT	89/98	10:1			89	1	BUSHIDO	HAW	6f	90/196	800			
2	KEEP ON SHINING	88/75	5:1			88	2	KEEP ON SHINING	HAW	6f	88/196	795			
4	SWEEPING CHANGE	88/49	12:1			88	11	B S WILDCAT	HAW	5 1/2f	89/191	787			
2nd Best Pole Speed				\$		PS	2nd Best Late Speed				\$		LS		
1	BUSHIDO	90/93	10:1			89	4	SWEEPING CHANGE	GPW	6f	83/195	793			
3	LAST TEARS	98/82	9:2			86	10	THE GREEN COUGAR	AP	6f	80/195	785			
11	B S WILDCAT	89/98	10:1			86	2	KEEP ON SHINING	HAW	1m 70y	82/190	783			
4	SWEEPING CHANGE	88/49	12:1			83	8	SHERIFF BART	AP	6f	79/195	780			
12	SUMMER IN MONTANA	87/59	12:1			83	12	SUMMER IN MONTANA	HAW	1m 70y	83/188	779			
PM-Ranked Form				\$		Form	Best Sprint/Route				\$		LS		
3	LAST TEARS	98/82	9:2			88	4	SWEEPING CHANGE	GPW	6f	88/197	807			
1	BUSHIDO	90/93	10:1			86	3	LAST TEARS	HAW	6f	98/191	803			
4	SWEEPING CHANGE	88/49	12:1			75	1	BUSHIDO	HAW	6f	90/196	800			
2	KEEP ON SHINING	88/75	5:1			87	2	KEEP ON SHINING	HAW	6f	88/196	795			
11	B S WILDCAT	89/98	10:1			88	11	B S WILDCAT	HAW	5 1/2f	89/191	787			

Last Tears was declared the key horse. If jockey Timothy Thornton could avoid a speed duel, victory would be all but assured. The three remaining contenders were long shots: #1 *Bushido* was more than 6-to-1; #2 *Keep on Shining* was 6-to-1, and #4 *Sweeping Change* was nearly 30-to-1. The bottom line: ALWAYS pay close attention to the odds being offered.

Here are two suggestions when handicapping any race with three or four WATT stick-outs such as this:

- 1) Review each contender carefully to be absolutely sure it deserves its PM Rating. In this example, all four had a legitimate chance to win.
- 2) Any horse with post time odds of 8-to-1 or more should always be considered as part of an exotics wager (some WATT handicappers, including this author, prefer 6-to-1). If any horse is an exceptional long shot (20-to-1 or more) he should be played, if only as a small win/place wager.

The result was not totally unexpected. And the obvious \$2 trifecta box (\$12) was spectacular.

Pgm	Horse Name (Jockey)	Wgt	M/E	PP	Start	1/4	1/2	Str	Fin	Odds	Comments
4	Sweeping Change (Ernigh, Christopher)	121	L b	4	9	8 ²	6 ²	4 ³	1 ¹ 1/4	27.70	rail advance, prevailed
2	Keep On Shining (Perez, Eduardo)	121	L bf	2	8	4 ¹	3 ² 1/2	3 ^{Head}	2 ¹ 1/2	6.00	tracked btw, shifted 4wd
1	Bushido (Sanjur, Santo)	121	L b	1	6	2 ^{Head}	2 ³	2 ¹ 1/2	3 ^{3/4}	6.90	rail bid turn, weakened
7	Specks in the Sun (Meza, Nicholas)	121	L b	7	5	6 ¹ 1/2	5 ¹ 1/2	5 ³	4 ¹ 1/2	27.50	bumped brk, improv'd
3	Last Tears (Thomton, Timothy)	121	L	3	3	1 ¹	1 ^{Head}	1 ¹ 1/2	5 ¹ 1/4	3.40	pace, duiced, gave out
10	The Green Cougar (Colvin, Samantha)	121	L f	10	1	7 ^{Head}	8 ¹	6 ²	6 ³ 3/4	2.20*	fanned 6wd, evenly,
6	Last Gun in Texas (Lopez, Uriel)	121	b	6	12	11 ¹ 1/2	11 ¹ Head	9 ³ 1/2	7 ^{3/4}	70.00	bumped, std'd start
9	Cherokee Mate (Montalvo, Carlos)	121	L	9	7	9 ¹	7 ^{Head}	7 ¹ 1/2	8 ² 3/4	23.40	4wd btw, no threat,
11	B S Wildcat (Gudiel, Vicente)	114 ⁷	L bf	11	2	3 ¹ 1/2	4 ¹	8 ¹ 1/2	9 ^{Head}	3.80	4wd early, faded
8	Sheriff Bart (Roman, Constantino)	121	L b	8	10	12	12	10 ¹ 1/2	10 ¹ 3/4	60.90	dropped out early
5	Roman Flame (Thomson, Maria)	114 ⁷	L bf	5	11	10 ⁵	10 ^{Head}	11 ³ 1/2	11 ¹⁰ 3/4	36.90	shuffled brk, wide trip
12	Summer in Montana (Cosme, Emanuel)	121	L	12	4	5 ²	9 ¹ 1/2	12	12	35.50	brief factor 5wd

Fractional Times: 22.73 46.35 58.88			Final Time: 1:11.71				
Pgm	Horse	Win	Place	Show	Wager Type	Winning Numbers	Payoff
4	Sweeping Change	57.40	18.80	10.20	\$2.00 Exacta	4-2	450.40
2	Keep On Shining		8.80	5.80	\$2.00 Trifecta	4-2-1	2,148.40
1	Bushido			5.80	\$1.00 Superfecta	4-2-1-7	19,724.70

Conclusion

This short report was written primarily for existing and prospective online members to illustrate the numerous applications of the program. Other operational details can be found in another e-Report entitled *Handicapping Tips from the WATT Wizard* located on the "Tips 'n Touts" page of the HorseRacingUSA.com website.



The annual cost for accessing this interactive program 24/7 is \$149. To become a member, simply register on the website, call the Publisher to have your order processed, and your new Account File Bank will then be activated immediately. Membership renewal drops to \$129.

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