

FULL RACE PREVIEWS & WAGERING STRATEGIES FOR ALL STAKES RACES ON THE CARD

# INSIDE TRACK

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SATURDAY CARD

**REBEL  
STAKES  
2021**

# Concert Tour

**Can Baffert continue dominance in Rebel?**



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# WELCOME



This **Inside Track to the Rebel Stakes** wagering guide gives you an inside look at the five stakes running at *Oaklawn Park* on March 13, 2021, including the \$1 million *Rebel Stakes* (G2). The 1 1/16-mile race is worth 50-20-10-5 points to the top 4 finishers on the Road to the *Kentucky Derby* (G1). Win here and you are IN the *Kentucky Derby*!

The Racing Dudes have been at it for over 9 years, offering daily handicapping picks and analysis for every track across the country. For this year's **Inside Track to the Rebel Stakes**, our lead handicappers have been scouring through the card at *Oaklawn Park* in search of winning tickets on this loaded day of racing.

The five stakes exceed \$2 million in purses and includes one of the premier *Kentucky Derby* preps of the season, the *Rebel Stakes*; the \$500,000 *Essex Handicap*; the \$350,000 *Azeri Stakes* (G2); the \$200,000 *Hot Springs Stakes*; and the \$150,000 *Temperence Hill Stakes*.

**But that's not all!** Along with the nine major stakes races, this **Inside Track to the Rebel Stakes** wagering guide also includes race-by-race analysis, betting suggestions, and multi-race plays for *Oaklawn Park's* entire Saturday card.

For each of the five stakes at *Oaklawn Park*, you will find the following:

**FULL RACE PREVIEW FOR THE RACE**, including:

- ▶ Race Overview
- ▶ Race Shape and Pace Analysis
- ▶ Top Selections
- ▶ Major Threats
- ▶ Longshots to Use

**You will also find specific wagering under the "Picks and Plays" section, which includes:**

- ▶ Win Bet
- ▶ Place or Show Bet
- ▶ Longshot to Play Across the Board
- ▶ Exacta
- ▶ Trifecta
- ▶ Superfecta
- ▶ Horses to use in Multi-Race Wagers
- ▶ What to Play on a Straight Wager
- ▶ What to Play on an Exotic Wager

Each Win, Place, Show, or Across the Board wager comes with a confidence rating so that you can see how strongly we feel about each pick.

Finally, always remember to wager responsibly and never wager more than you can afford.

## Good luck today!

# RACE 5:

## AZERI STAKES (G2)

1 1/16 MILES (DIRT)  
FILLIES & MARES  
4-YEAR-OLDS & UPWARD  
\$350,000



### OVERVIEW:

The Azeri might be a small field of 5, but it has plenty of star power. Last year's Kentucky Oaks (G1) champion Shedaresthedevil headlines the field, but fellow graded stakes winners Envoutante and Letruska have also signed on to run. There will be some fireworks in this one!

### RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A FAST PACE

**Pure Speed:** *Letruska, Shedaresthedevil*

**Pressing Speed:** *Motion Emotion*

**Stalkers:** *Envoutante*

**Closers:** *Getridofwhatailesu*

Up to 60% of this group will want to go early, between Letruska, Shedaresthedevil, and Motion Emotion. If that happens, closers Envoutante and Getridofwhatailesu could pull off an upset.

### TOP CHOICE: #5 SHEDARESTHEDEVIL

The Kentucky Oaks champion will not have an easy return versus several tough competitors, but the pace could set up in her favor and she drew outside of the other speed. She could sit just off the front-runners and pounce when the real running begins.

### MAJOR THREATS: #1 Envoutante, #3 Letruska

Envoutante ended 2020 in fine fashion and could improve at age 4. If she does, then she can pull the upset. Letruska has won 2 in a row, including an ultra-impressive victory in the Sam Houston Ladies Classic (G3) last time out.

### LONGSHOTS TO USE: #4 Getridofwhatailesu

Getridofwhatailesu could be a factor if the pace gets fast up front. She's won 2 in a row, including the Pippin over this race track last time out, and Javier Castellano picks up the mount.

### OTHERS: #2 Motion Emotion

She's had plenty of chances against this type of competition and hasn't been able to get the job done. Her talent level might not be quite high enough.

## PICKS AND PLAYS:

**BET TO WIN:** #5 Shedaresthedevil - Confidence Level: 3.5 out of 5

**BET TO PLACE:** #1 Envoutante - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY:** #3 Letruska - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**EXACTA:** 1,5/1,3,5

**TRIFECTA:** 1,5/1,3,5/1,3,4,5

**SUPERFECTA:** 1,5/1,3,5/1,3,5/1,3,4,5

**MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES:** 1,5

**STRAIGHT WAGER:** \$20 to Win on #5 Shedaresthedevil

**EXOTIC WAGER:** \$2 Exacta 1,5/1,3,5

# RACE 7: ESSEX HANDICAP

1 1/16 MILES (DIRT)  
4-YEAR-OLDS & UPWARD  
\$500,000



## OVERVIEW:

This year's Essex drew a field of 7 older males, all of whom can be competitive with their best effort. Several big-name jockeys and trainers have set their sights on this race, making it a compact yet competitive event.

## RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A MODERATE PACE

**Pure Speed:** *Tax, Green Light Go*

**Pressing Speed:** *Uphold*

**Stalkers:** *Harpers First Ride, Silver State*

**Closers:** *Rated R Superstar, Night Ops*

It's not like they'll burn up the track early, but Tax and Green Light Go could at least make things interesting from a pace standpoint. If they hook up early, then the closers should have a chance. If not, then the speed should hold pretty well here.

## TOP CHOICE: #5 SILVER STATE

He's looked very good after a long layoff following a try on last year's Kentucky Derby Trail. He's won 3 straight including the Fifth Season Stakes over this track last time out. If he continues to show this kind of progression, then he could become one of the country's top older horses heading into the summer.

## MAJOR THREATS: #2 Harpers Last Ride, #7 Night Ops

Harpers Last Ride changes to the dangerous Diodoro barn after already demonstrating a lot of ability. Night Ops consistently runs well at Oaklawn Park and is the defending champion of this race.

## LONGSHOTS TO USE: #6 Green Light Go

He makes his second start back after a long layoff. He was very highly regarded going into last season but never lived up to that promise. He should be well-suited for this event.

## OTHERS: #1 Uphold, #3 Rated R Superstar

Uphold is overmatched from a speed figure standpoint. Rated R Superstar is a logical long shot who must run much better than he did last time out.

## PICKS AND PLAYS:

**BET TO WIN:** #5 Silver State - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**BET TO PLACE:** #2 Harpers Last Ride - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY:** #6 Green Light Go - Confidence Level: 2.5 out of 5

**EXACTA:** 2,5,6 BOX

**TRIFECTA:** 2,5/2,5,6,7/2,5,6,7

**SUPERFACTA:** 2,5,6,7 BOX

**MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES:** 2,5,6,7

**STRAIGHT WAGER:** \$10 to win on #5 Silver State

**EXOTIC WAGER:** \$2 Exacta BOX 2,5,6

# RACE 9:

1 1/2 MILES (DIRT)  
4~YEAR~OLDS & UPWARD  
\$150,000



# TEMPERENCE HILL STAKES

## OVERVIEW:

The Temperence Hill is the most competitive stakes event on this card. A field of 10 older horses signed on to run and who deserves favoritism is up in the air. The 1 1/2-mile distance makes for a unique challenge in an event where multiple price plays could definitely come home on top.

## RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A MODERATE PACE

**Pure Speed:** *Plainsman, Carlos L.*

**Pressing Speed:** *Lone Rock*

**Stalkers:** *Coal Truth, Treasure Trove*

**Closers:** *Tenfold, You're to Blame, Muralist, Split the Wickets, Campaign*

These marathon races naturally have slow paces, but the presence of Plainsman and Carlos L. could speed things up a bit. It still won't be fast, but we shouldn't get the typical snooze fest up front like a normal marathon.

## TOP CHOICE: #6 TREASURE TROVE

He should like the added distance of this race and trainer Mike Maker has a great record with marathon runners. Florent Geroux rode Plainsman last time out but appears to have picked this horse over that one, an intriguing move. His pedigree should really help him and we want to play a price on top in this wide-open affair.

**MAJOR THREATS:** #2 You're to Blame, #4 Plainsman, #10 Campaign

You're to Blame has been competitive in similar races his entire career and can win this at his best. Plainsman could take the field gate to wire and his trainer Brad Cox is very dangerous anywhere he runs. Campaign nearly won this last year, missing by just a 1/2-length.

**LONGSHOTS TO USE:** #5 Carlos L., #8 Split the Wickets, #9 Lone Rock

Carlos L. is the other speed, and with the right trip, he could pull off the upset. Split the Wickets should love the added distance and being back on dirt. Lone Rock has solid connections and has won 3 straight, including over this track last time out.

**OTHERS:** #1 Tenfold, #3 Coal Truth, #7 Muralist

It's been forever since we've seen Tenfold win, so it's hard to back him at a short price in a wide-open race. The other two on this list just seem to be a bit overmatched.

## PICKS AND PLAYS:

**BET TO WIN:** #6 Treasure Trove - Confidence Level: 2.5 out of 5

**BET TO PLACE:** #10 Campaign - Confidence Level: 2.5 out of 5

**ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY:** #4 Plainsman - Confidence Level: 2 out of 5

**EXACTA:** 4,6,10 BOX

**TRIFECTA:** 2,4,6,10 BOX

**SUPERFACTA:** 2,4,6,10 BOX

**MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES:** 2,4,6,10

**STRAIGHT WAGER:** \$10 to Win on #6 Treasure Trove

**EXOTIC WAGER:** \$.50 Trifecta BOX 2,4,6,10

# RACE 10: HOT SPRINGS STAKES

6 FURLONGS ( DIRT )  
4~YEAR~OLDS & UPWARD  
\$200,000



## OVERVIEW:

The most popular horse Hot Springs (if not America) is back for his 8-year-old debut as the local legend Whitmore, last year's Breeders' Cup Sprint (G1) winner, headlines a field of 7 as he tries to win this race for a record fifth straight time.

## RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A FAST PACE

**Pure Speed:** *Mr. Jagermeister, Firecrow*

**Pressing Speed:** *Flagstaff, C Z Rocket*

**Stalkers:** *Boldor, Engage*

**Closers:** *Whitmore*

On paper, the pace should be swift, as 4 of the 7 entries possess good early speed. The others, like Whitmore, will be closing late.

## TOP CHOICE: #6 WHITMORE

It's really hard to go against this horse at Oaklawn Park. He's a world-class runner and a fan favorite who's trying to win this for the FIFTH STRAIGHT TIME. Win or lose this year, they should name the race after Whitmore once he retires.

## MAJOR THREATS: #2 Flagstaff, #7 C Z Rocket

Flagstaff has had his chances in big races but keeps coming up short. He should run well in his second start after the layoff. C Z Rocket has been a beast since Peter Miller claimed him and is the most likely upset candidate.

## LONGSHOTS TO USE: #1 Boldor, #3 Mr. Jagermeister

Boldor took home the local King Cotton Stakes last time out over a sloppy track; he could very possibly get a wet track again here. Mr. Jagermeister is a hard-knocking type who usually shows up with a big effort and will likely set the pace.

## OTHERS: #4 Engage, #5 Firecrow

Engage seems to have seen better days; his last few starts have not been up to par. Firecrow will play a part in the pace but will be hard-pressed to stay around when the real running begins.

## PICKS AND PLAYS:

**BET TO WIN:** #6 Whitmore - Confidence Level: 4 out of 5

**BET TO PLACE:** #7 C Z Rocket - Confidence Level: 4 out of 5

**ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY:** #2 Flagstaff - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**EXACTA:** 2,6,7 BOX

**TRIFECTA:** 1,2,6,7 BOX

**SUPERFACTA:** 1,2,6,7 BOX

**MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES:** 1,2,6,7

**STRAIGHT WAGER:** \$20 to Win on #6 Whitmore

**EXOTIC WAGER:** \$2 Exacta BOX 2,6,7

# RACE 11: REBEL STAKES (G2)

1 1/16 MILES (DIRT)  
4~YEAR~OLDS & UPWARD  
\$200,000



## OVERVIEW:

The main event is here! Many questions will be answered as we begin sorting the Kentucky Derby contenders from the pretenders. This is a can't-miss race along the Derby trail each and every year. Will Tough Luck Bob win yet again, or will Brad Cox knock him off?

## RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A FAST PACE

**Pure Speed:** *Caddo River, Get Her Number, Concert Tour*  
**Pressing Speed:** *Big Lake, Twilight Blue, Super Stock*  
**Stalkers:** *Hozier*  
**Closers:** *Keepmeinmind*

Looking at the pace setup, closers like Keepmeinmind have a big chance, as do speed horses drawn to the outside who might stalk the pace. Caddo River's inside draw could be a tough challenge for him to overcome.

## TOP CHOICE: #7 CONCERT TOUR

Baffert has had plenty of success in this race over the years, including winning with Nadal last season. Concert Tour is on the same schedule as Nadal, winning a maiden on debut before taking home the San Vicente Stakes (G2) last time out. He's drawn perfectly outside of all the other speed, so he has a shot at getting a perfect trip.

## MAJOR THREATS: #1 Caddo River, #6 Keepmeinmind

Caddo River really burst onto the scene winning the Smarty Jones Stakes last time out. This challenge will be much stiffer, though, as will the rail draw. Keepmeinmind finally gets going after poor weather delayed his 2021 debut. The pace should set up perfectly for him.

## LONGSHOTS TO USE: #2 Big Lake, #4 Get Her Number

Big Lake was impressive at Fair Grounds in his last 2 starts, including recently defeating a solid allowance field. Get Her Number won the American Pharoah Stakes (G1) in his last start, but we haven't seen him since that September event. How has he progressed since then?

## OTHERS: #3 Hozier, #5 Twilight Blue, #8 Super Stock

These entries were all a surprise, and if any of them made an impact here, then it would be an even bigger surprise. Super Stock has had his chances against tougher competition without much success, while Hozier and Twilight Blue jump way up in class.

## PICKS AND PLAYS:

**BET TO WIN:** #7 Concert Tour - Confidence Level: 4 out of 5

**BET TO PLACE:** #6 Keepmeinmind - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY:** #1 Caddo River - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**EXACTA:** 6,7/1,6,7

**TRIFECTA:** 6,7/1,6,7/1,2,6,7

**SUPERFACTA:** 1,2,6,7 BOX

**MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES:** 1,6,7

**STRAIGHT WAGER:** \$20 to Win on #7 Concert Tour

**EXOTIC WAGER:** \$2 Exacta 6,7/1,6,7

# OAKLAWN

## NON-STAKES ANALYSIS & PLAYS



### Race 1: 2-3-7-9

#2 **Fouette** was bet hard at Saratoga last summer, signaling that she has some ability. #3 **Montgomery Park** ran well on debut. A repeat of that effort will win here. #7 **Shoshoni Moon** and #9 **Coppelia** are first-time starters with good recent works.

**Exacta:** 2,3,7 BOX

**Trifecta:** 2,3,7,9 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 2,3,7

**Suggested Bet:** \$1 Exacta BOX 2,3,7

### Race 2: 10-4-1-3

#10 **Big On Broadway** is a first-time starter who gets Joel Rosario to ride. #4 **Kaboom Baby** nearly won on debut last time out. #1 **My Grace** ran well in her dirt debut last time out. #3 **Olivian** should set the pace and could get brave. #2 **Life of Saturdays** should improve in her second career start.

**Exacta:** 1,4,10 BOX

**Trifecta:** 1,3,4,10 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 1,2,3,4,10

**Suggested Bet:** \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 1,3,4,10

### Race 3: 7-1-5-8

#7 **Breaking News** is a solid close who's getting plenty of pace to close into here. #1 **American Mandate** is ultra-consistent in these types of races. #5 **Aloha West** was ultra-impressive on debut last time out. #8 **Backshot** should improve second time out for the high-percentage Karl Broberg barn.

**Exacta:** 1,5,7 BOX

**Trifecta:** 1,5,7,8 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 1,5,7

**Suggested Bet:** \$1 Exacta BOX 1,5,7

### Race 4: 2-3-9-12

#2 **Cryo** is a well-bred Brad Cox first-timer. #3 **Golden Flash** is a firster for Steve Asmussen with solid recent workouts. #9 **Name Rejected** is the best of the horses with experience but has had trouble finishing the job. #12 **Air Show** runs first off the claim for high-percentage trainer Robertino Diodoro.

**Exacta:** 2,3,9 BOX

**Trifecta:** 2,3,9,12 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 2,3,9,12

### Race 6: 1-10-2-4

#1 **Ashaar** ships in for Todd Pletcher, attracts Joel Rosario to ride, and should enjoy the distance. #10 **Claynthelionheart** has been close at this level several times. #2 **Trident Hit** was second against similar last time out. #4 **Asar** should bounce back after a lackluster performance last time out.

**Exacta:** 1,2,10 BOX

**Trifecta:** 1,2,4,10 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 1,2,4,10

**Suggested Bet:** \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 1,2,4,10

### Race 8: 3-7-10-8

#3 **Royal Daaher** runs consistently well at this level and on off tracks, which could be important Saturday. #7 **Secret Courier** has won 2 in a row and did it over a muddy local track last time out. #10 **Ancient Warrior** finished third last time out against tougher than what he'll face here. #8 **Marvin** ran some very solid races at this track last year. With some improvement, he could compete with this group.

**Exacta:** 3,7,10 BOX

**Trifecta:** 3,7,8,10 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 3,7,8,10

**Suggested Bet:** \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 3,7,8,10

### Race 12: 7-9-5-4

#7 **Solomnic** gets Joel Rosario to ride and has plenty of pace to close into; that's usually a deadly combination. #9 **Handy** will be tough to beat if he runs back to his last race. #5 **Truculent** nearly won at this level in the mud last time out, finishing a close second after setting the pace. #4 **Optimus Kat** could make it 2 in a row after an impressive win over this track last time out. He also should like the track if it rains.

**Exacta:** 5,7,9 BOX

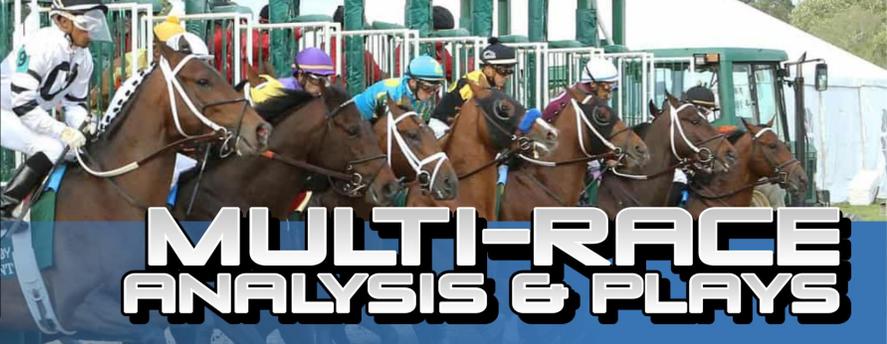
**Trifecta:** 4,5,7,9 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 4,5,7,9

**Suggested Bet:** \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 4,5,7,9



# OAKLAWN



## MULTI-RACE ANALYSIS & PLAYS

### RACE 1: \$0.50 PICK 5

2,3,7 with 1,2,3,4,10 with 1,5,7 with 2,3,9,12 with 5 = \$90

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### RACE 2: \$0.50 PICK 4

1,2,3,4,10 with 1,5,7 with 2,3,9,12 with 1,5 = \$60

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### RACE 5: \$0.50 PICK 4

1,5 with 1,2,4,10 with 2,5,6,7 with 3,7,8,10 = \$64

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### RACE 8: \$0.50 PICK 5

3,7,8,10 with 2,4,6,10 with 6,7 with 1,7 with 4,5,7,9 = \$144

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### RACE 9: \$0.50 PICK 4

2,4,6,10 with 6,7 with 1,6,7 with 4,5,7,9 = \$48

