



# "NICK'S PICKS"

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## COMMONWEALTH DAY AT LAUREL

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### COLONIAL ALUMNI CLASS SHRINKING BUT STILL GOING

The universe of thoroughbreds that raced at Colonial Downs is shrinking but horses like Two Notch Road are making sure of that class represents. Many of those frequent starters have retired since the shutting of Colonial's doors to thoroughbred racing in July of 2013.

Saturday, breeder James Hackman and Glenn Thompson send out 9-year old Two Notch Road to defend his Punch Line accolade for the third time in the first stakes of the day. Two Notch Road ran 4th in Virginia Derby of 2010...that was Paddy O'Prado's Derby who now has many of his offspring running. Two Notch now found his late career nitch in these Virginia-bred/sired races also collecting the White Oak Farm at Pimlico this summer.

Ten-year old Silver Tie Affair won the 2011 Van Clief at Colonial and ran in the 2012 Colonial Turf Cup (won by Turbo Compressor), the 2012 Van Clief and 2013 Bert Allen. Down along the starting gate in the same race will be 8-year old Dannhauser, who won three Colonial races including the 2012 Van Clief and the 2013 Bert Allen.

Still alive in racing while waiting for live racing to return to Virginia.

#### RACE 1

7	LUCKBOX SAM	Sam's popular among claimers at nearly every track he visits, up again.
4	PUGET SOUND	
3	JUMPIN FRAC FLASH	

#### RACE 2

2	MARTYWITHTHEPARTY	Eppler pupil may have just needed a race while Allen's gets a teammate.
8	ROYAL CRUSADER	
1A	COLONEL CRAWFORD	

#### RACE 3 - PUNCH LINE

7	TWO NOTCH ROAD	Veteran has found his niche in these VA-bred races. Always shows up.
1	MADE BAIL	
5	EARLY GREY	

#### RACE 4 - BROOKMEADE

5	COMPLETE ST.	Boucher won this race before w/Class Yankee at CNL, now seeks repeat.
1	SECRET OR NOT	
4	HOOLIGAN	

#### RACE 5 - COMMONWEALTH OAKS (G3)

5	NOBLE BEAUTY	Brown's filly gets a better path so as not be put up as in the Pucker Up.
9	STELLAR ROSE	
6	IT'S THE TRUTH	

#### RACE 6 - COMMONWEALTH TURF CUP (G3)

12	FORCE THE PASS	A "Force" in the Derby last year has remained consistent, a good sign.
1	FARHAAN	
10	PHLASH PHELPS	

#### RACE 7 - COMMONWEALTH DERBY (G2)

2	AMERICAN PATRIOT	With the best resume in the race, winning and competing, AP is tough.
7	DEEPLY UNDERVALUE	
4	SCHOLAR ATHLETE	

#### RACE 8 - JAMESTOWN

5	BRAINCHILD	Think "Brain" needs a shorter race while "CB" needs a longer one.
1	C B BODEMESTER	
7	IN BELLA'S HONOR	

#### RACE 9 - OAKLEY

8	RING KNOCKER	Look for Hooligan cross entry to stay here. Boyce "Knocker" ready to upset.
1	RAPID RHYTHM	
5	HOOLIGAN	

#### RACE 10 - BERT ALLEN

7	ROSE BRIER	"Rose" had one of his worst starts in similar June race... a win.
6	THUNDERINWILLIE	
3	JUMP SHIP	

#### RACE 11

8	HEY KID	If the "Kid" finds some racing space, just might return to winning ways.
6	PAX ORBIS	
9	FLAVOR	