Keeneland *Power* Picks Tip Sheet

Race Day Date	October 28, 2023
Picks By	Pete Visco

Racetrack: Keeneland
Post Time 1:00pm EST

Race-Day Overview

Although it will be overshadowed in the headlines by next week's Breeders' Cup, Saturday is a big day in horse racing as it is closing day for the Keeneland Fall Meet. So many people looked forward to this meet all year and now it is coming to an end. The final day may not have any stars since most of the big horses will be either in or on their way to Santa Anita, there are some quality horses still ready to knock heads especially in the two graded stakes we have today. The hope will be to close this meet out with a bang in terms of quality of racing and, more importantly in terms of these picks, with some big tickets to cash!!

Today's Picks

* For information on how to read an "ABC Grid" and ticket construction, please refer to our podcast website, hhhracingpodcast.com, and go to the "Power Picks" section…you have to scroll down a bit under the SPP promotion…a video explanation is also available on the page.

** On the ABC Grids, if one or more of the 'A' or 'B' horses scratch and there is a single 'B' or 'C' horse, respectively, that 'B' or 'C' horse would move up to the 'A' or 'B' line, respectively, for purposes of individual or multi-race bets and the tracking of winning scores/plays.

Full Card ABC Grid

Early P5: 5A ($12) - 4A1B ($54) - 3A2B ($60) - 4A1C ($32) - TOTAL ($158)
Late P5: 5A ($12) - 4A1B ($36) - 3A2B ($39) - 4A1C ($64) - TOTAL ($151)

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
1	7,8	-	3,5	7,8	$0.50	$72
2	8	2,3,7	-	7,8	-	-
3	2,5,6	-	3,4	2,5,6	-	-
4	1,12	4,10	-	1,4,10,12	-	-
5	5,9	11	3,8	5,9,11	-	-
6	1,4	2	3,5	1,2,3,4	$0.50	$96
7	2,9	4	1,6	2,4,9	-	-
8	1	4	2,10	1,4	-	-

9	5,7,10	8,11,12	9	5,7,10,12	-	-
10	8,11	-	4,5	8,11	-	-

P5 Strategy/Analysis

As always, one of the keys to playing either Pick-5 sequence is to try and find a single to build the ticket(s) around. In both of today's sequences, I initially struggled to come up with a single. However, in the early Pick-5, I landed on **8-Publius** in the 2nd. That was a tough decision since 2-year-olds can be so unpredictable, but, as you will see below, this is a horse that I like and figured let's take a shot. In the late Pick-5, the decision was a little easier. The **1-Talk of the Nation** in the 8th is just in such great form right now and has already handled who I consider to be his main rival. This really was a key single for me because I wanted to include as many horses as possible in the 9th race since that is just a pick-a-name-out-of-the-hat kind of race for me where I have no strong leans at all. So, if we can get these two singles home, I feel good about the depth of the picks in the surrounding races.

$3 Turf Pick 3 ABC Grid
P3: 3A ($24) - 2A1B ($24) - 1A2B ($6) - 2A1C ($60) - TOTAL ($114)

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
5	5,9	11	3,8	5,9,11	$3	$54
8	1,4	10	2	1,4,10	-	-
10	8,11	-	4,5	8,11	-	-

$3 Turf P3 Strategy/Analysis

When I looked at this Turf Pick-3, I felt good about my top couple of choices in each of the three legs, which is a rare feeling. Generally, there is at least one race where your opinion just doesn't feel strong, and you wind up adding a bunch of horses just to feel covered. However, just by luck of the draw, these three races were ones where I felt confident and didn't feel the need to go too deep. Unfortunately, the prices on my top choices aren't all that great, so I still wanted to include some back-ups that could spice up the payout if we can get at least one decent longshot out of the three races.

Price/Spot Play(s)

* Price / Spot Plays are not usually the favorites, but horses we like that will provide some value (hopefully 5-2 or higher in general). These horses will be included into our "ROI" Stats at the beginning of the SPP's. The "Stars" rating is 1 – 5.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
2	8	Publius	4-1	4	$25 Win/Place - 8

					$0.50 Trifecta – 8 / 2,3,5,6,7 / 2,3,5,6,7 $0.50 Trifecta – 2,3,5,6,7 / 8 / 2,3,5,6,7

Notes: #8-Publius, based on the price tag alone of $450k, seems to be a horse that at least had some promise going into his debut. Right out of the gate, however, things weren't great. He broke further back than I assume was expected, dropped back a bit more, and then swung wide to try and make a run. He looked like he might really contend but flattened out just a bit (coincidentally losing to a horse, Copper Missile, that me, Howard, Paul, and Kyle own a piece of so this was a race we were all paying close attention to). My hope here is that we can get a little bit of pace for this horse to close into and Gaffalione, who is riding this time, will be able to get him a little more in the mix earlier so he doesn't have quite as much to do. The little bit of added distance should be to this horse's liking as well, so I'm looking for the combination of a little more distance, closer positioning, and the experience gained in the debut will push this one into the winner's circle.

Key Stat(s):
- Cox – 2nd Career Starters in Maiden Special Weight Turf Routes - 24/79 W (30%), 52/79 ITM (66%)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
4	1	Musical Prayer	6-1	3	$20 Win/Place - 1 $10 Exacta – 1,12 / 1,4,10,12

Notes: This was a tough decision for me to put this horse as one of my top price plays only because there is another horse in the race, **#12-Howl**, that I considered strongly on the win end. However, I just kept coming back to the fact that I have a good feeling about the **#1-Musical Prayer**. When you watch her debut race, you could tell right from the start and basically all the way through that she was extremely green. She broke awkwardly out of the gate and then made what looked like a winning move but was all over the track down the lane and just could not run straight. Eventually, she wound up fading and looked like she even got pinched a bit before finishing 3rd. There was also something about the ride, also, that just didn't sit right with me. It was like Saez was just having a hard time handling her and was able to keep her in hand. Now, she picks up Jose Ortiz, who I am hoping will be able to guide her better. Also, since that debut loss, she has worked twice and both, on paper, look excellent, so she seems to be holding that same form. Now, we just need her to run straight.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
6	4	Glengarry	6-1	4	$25 Win/Place - 4

Notes: When I first looked at **#4-Glengarry**, I had two thoughts: (1) ABC, Always Be Closing, from one of my all-time favorite movies, Glengarry Glen Ross (there were other quotes that I like more, but since this is a family-friendly tip sheet, I went with the more PG quote); and (2) this horse reminds me of another Iowa-bred, Tyler's Tribe. Many horse racing fans will remember Tyler's Tribe and the physical issues that he faced in the Breeders' Cup and subsequently, but, prior to that, he was just a super-fast horse who dusted his competition. The question with him back then, and what is facing this horse now, is whether they were just beating up on inferior competition at Prairie Meadows and a step up in quality will be too much to handle. I am going to take a shot here that it's not too much and this horse is ready for prime time. A couple of things I like. One is the pickup of Luis Saez to ride. There is a ton of

speed in this race and this horse has never faced this kind of speed, but I am trusting in Saez to read the race and make the right decision and to not get this horse burned up in a speed duel. Second, this horse's sire, Maximus Mischief, was no slouch. Although his career ended after just a short run, he came out of the gates firing with two wins at Parx against questionable fields and then stepped up in class in the Remsen at Aqueduct and dusted the field to prove he belonged. That's exactly what I am looking for **#4-Glengarry** to do here.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	11	Vivaldi	4-1	4	$25 Win – 11 $10 Exacta Box – 8,11

Notes: Picking a Chad Brown 2-year-old to win a turf route isn't the most original concept in the world, but we are going to do it anyway. One factor was the stat that I noted below. Although a trainer like Chad Brown has many fantastic stats to choose from, especially with turf horses, this one struck me as one that I wanted to lean on. Another factor for me liking this horse was his debut race. He broke poorly, was stuck in last, and made up some ground to finish a non-threatening 5th. However, I always like a horse on debut where things went wrong, and they still kept running. This one, especially, wound up with the best closing fraction in the race. Also, from that race, we have seen 4 horses run back with 3 of the 4 winning with similar or improved Beyers and the 4th horse, who was the winner of the race, came back in the Grade 2 Bourbon and actually was on a contested lead into the lane until fading. So, I think that race definitely has to be considered flattering. Lastly, we are getting a little extra distance, which based on this horse's breeding, should be exactly what he wants. Of course, the one concern is that he won't break well again and there isn't enough speed signed on to heat the pace up for him to close into, but we hope we can at least avoid a dawdling pace and get something happening up front.

Key Stat(s):

- Brown – 2nd Career Starters in Maiden Special Weight Turf Routes in Past 6 Months - 9/18 W (50%), 13/18 ITM (72%)

Favorite Vertical/Horizontal Plays Not Included in Price/Spot Play Bets

Race	Bet Type	Selections	Cost
2	Daily Double	$10 Daily Double - 8 / 2,6	$20
4	Daily Double	$10 Daily Double – 1,12 / 5,9	$40
6	Pick-3	$3 Pick-3 – 1,4 / 2,4,9 / 1,4	$60

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Good luck with all your wagers…. CRUSH THOSE BETS!!!