KEENELAND Power Picks Tip Sheet

Race Day Date	Sunday, October 4, 2026
Picks By	Noah Meagher

Race-Day Overview

Welcome to Day #3 of the Keeneland Spring Meet….the final day of Fall Stars weekend here at Keeneland!

Today's feature is the G1 Spinster, which has produced smaller fields the last couple years, but the 2yo turf stakes on either side, both the Indian Summer and the Bourbon, compliment the feature nicely and make for a difficult late sequence.

After some intermittent rain on Opening Day, yesterday was absolutely gorgeous when it came to the weather, and today should be much of the same. Let's hope that makes for a good ending to opening weekend in Lexington!

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…a video explanation is also available on the page

ABC Grid - Post Time 1:00pm EST

The "Stars" rating (last column) is #1 – 5 and represents the level of confidence we have in our "A" column for each race, with 5 being our highest confidence.

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Cost	Stars/Rating
1	2,6	7	3,4	2,6,7	$0.50 P5	$24	3
2	1	7	8	1	-	-	4
3	3,4	5,6	8	3,4,5,6	-	-	2
4	7	1,4	5,6,11	7	-	-	5
5	1,3,4	9	5,11,12	1,3,4,9	-	-	2

6	6	2,3,7	4,8	6	$0.50 P5	$18	3
7	5,11	7,12	2,3	5,7,11,12	-	-	3
8	8	4,6	2,7	4,6,8	-	-	4
9	2	4	-	2	-	-	4
10	2,5	8	3,6,11	2,5,8	-	-	3

Top 3 Selections

Race	1st	2nd	3rd
1	6	2	7
2	1	7	8
3	3	4	5
4	7	4	1
5	4	3	1
6	6	7	2
7	11	5	12
8	8	4	6
9	2	4	3
10	2	5	8

Late P5 Strategy/Analysis (R6 - 10)

Today's late Pick 5 offers a strong mix of competitive dirt races and a stakes-heavy finish. The sequence gets underway with a somewhat speedless $50,000 claimer in Race 6 before moving into an extremely difficult allowance in Race 7. I have pretty decent opinions in both that I'll take some tabs with, but those two races still could offer some serious value from a pick 5 standpoint. From there, the fireworks begin with the Indian Summer Stakes, where undefeated Wood Island and Ruiva headline a talented group of 2-year-old turf sprinters. The Spinster Stakes follows, with Grade 1 winner Fully Subscribed the one to beat against Counting Stars and Immersive. The sequence closes with the Bourbon Stakes, another Breeders' Cup Challenge race featuring a deep group of 2-year-olds on the turf. Bottom line: There are plenty of opportunities to narrow during the middle portion of this sequence, the first two legs and the final are where tickets may fall

apart.

$3 All-Turf Pick 3 ABC Grid

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
5	1,3,4	9	-	1,3,4,9	$3	$24
8	8	-	4,6	8		
10	2,5	8	-	2,5		

$3 All-Turf P3 Strategy/Analysis - (R6, R8, R10)

Most people I would assume are singling Ruiva in the middle leg, and while more often than not I try to beat favorites that look like a public lean, I would head that direction as well. Race 5, the first of two turf sprints, is a wide open field where I like some prices that would equally balance out using the heavy favorite for Ward in the 8th. I would try to use only a couple in the finale considering there won't be a huge favorite, and all options seem like they'll play pretty equal when it comes to both the win pool and the will pays.

Noah's Play of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
4	7	Belzoni	4-1	5	$50 Win #7

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT KEENELAND! Belzoni was awesome on debut, especially for a guy in Bill Mott who doesn't win all that often with first time starters, which is most likely why he was over 12-1 that day. He and the winner were well clear of the rest, while Grand Yaupon came back to finish 2nd to Iroquois winner Salahudin. He took a SERIOUS amount of money second time out into the heat of the big favorite USS Valor, and we all know how that went down. Since then the race has come back to be even better, with USS Valor dominating the Champagne, and the third place finisher coming back to win yesterday as well. I really couldn't tell you what went wrong for Belzoni in there, but it was too bad to believe based on the debut, and he's been working extremely well since then, with a best-of-44 48 flat going 4 furlongs on Sep. 23.

Most Likely Winner of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	8	Ruiva	7-5	4.5	Ex 8 / 4,6

Notes:

After a narrow defeat behind G2 Oak Leaf runner-up Holmby out on the west coast, **Ruiva** returns to the grass, where she turned heads even with a third place finish across the pond at Ascot in the Group 2 Queen Mary S. Wesley Ward is obviously extremely dangerous with these 2yo's, and there must be a

plethora of talent here for him to pick up a medley of frequent flier miles with this juvenile filly. I would try prices like the 4 and 6 underneath to extract some value from this favorite.

Longshot Play of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
5	3	Murdock	15-1	3	$10 Win 3 | Ex 1,4 / 3
Notes:					
Murdock hasn't quite been the same since we last saw him at Keeneland, but I think there are a couple excuses to be made. He was on the wrong part of the track last time over a surface that was even more obscure than normal, so I think you can be forgiving of his last effort. The one that leaves me puzzled is the loss at 1/9 at Canterbury, but he's gonna be a huge price in here, and I'm hoping that getting a nice setup and being back on a surface he appreciates could wake him back up.					

Other 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). The "Stars" rating is 1 – 5.***

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
2	1	Get Them Roses	5-2	4	$25 Win #1
Notes:					
Get Them Roses seems like the logical alternative here to the favorite Maginnesontap, who I don't fully trust. The rail runner switches to the Walden barn after some even efforts at the MSW level against some high quality runners, including the opener on Kentucky Derby Day. Drops to a more reasonable level today, and he SMOKED a lightly raced stablemate High Camp, who was 2nd choice in this year's Virginia Derby, in a workout on Sep. 25th. Looks fit and ready to go for these new connections.					

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
6	6	Tarantino	7-2	3.5	$20 Win #6
Notes:					
Tarantino has muddied up form as of late that may lead him to be offered at a bit of a better price. Based on his races June 17th and July 4th, he's far and away the horse to beat. After a less than ideal trip against Senior Officer and Tip Top Thomas up at Saratoga, he made chalk bettors very upset last time. But it was a sloppy track, and for some reason he started going backwards around the far turn, so much to a point where he was almost 5 lengths back of the leaders. He started to kick into gear but it was just too late, so I'm not sure what happened exactly. We know how hit or miss Jacobson can be, and with the real only speed threat being Barksdale to his immediate outside, I see a golden opportunity for Tyler to be aggressive here and take control of this race early on.					

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
7	11	Tre Italiani	6-1	3	$20 Win #11

Notes:
Tre Italiani is the play for me in what seems to be a wide open allowance group here in Race 7. I still feel that he would've won here at Keeneland in the spring if he didn't get a little goofy late and drift out, causing him to be DQ'd. I was really impressed with his last start at Ellis, where it was one of those 'win the battle but lose the war' type situations. I'd like Corrales to be forward if possible, I know there is a decent amount of speed in here, nothing overwhelming, but he seems like one who's tough to get by if knocking heads in the lane.

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

Race #	Bet Type	Selections	Cost
1	$20 Daily Double	2 / 1	$20
6	$20 Daily Double	6 / 11	$20
9	$20 Daily Double	2 / 2	$20

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

HHH Racing Podcast