Power Picks

Race Date	02/24/24
Edition #	Vol. 4, No. 8

Race-Day Overview

The Kentucky Derby Preps continue to roll on, this week stopping in Arkansas for the $1.25mil Rebel S. at Oaklawn. They also have some nice supporting stakes and a great Late P5 sequence we will feature. Then, we'll travel to Santa Anita for a solid Late P4 with a stake for the girls going two turns on the turf. Our ABC Grids for Oaklawn today are great examples of the variety you can structure your ticket. I am not pressing-up, Pete is pressing-up a little, and Paul is pressing-up a lot. Meaning, Pete and Paul can hit multiple times, while I'm spreading a little more hoping to catch some prices. Either way you decide to play, I hope it works out for you!

Due to our successful run last week with Sierra Leone, I'm personally hoping many speed horses to well in the Derby Preps to help set up the wicked closing kick our horse has in the stretch, not that he needs much help at this point! Good luck, CHECK FOR SCRATCHES AND CHANGES AS USUAL, WEATHER IN ARKANSAS AND CALIFORNIA LOOK GREAT TODAY!!

Spot / Price Plays (National Avg. is $1.60):

Overall ROI (since Feb. 2021): $2.16 ($1,152.08 / 534)

YTD: $1.20 ($56.45 / 47)

Racetrack: Oaklawn

ABC Grids – Pick 5; R8 - 12 , Post 4:35pm EST

Howard Kravets' Grid:

Late P5: 5A ($4) - 4A1B ($30) - 3A2B ($86) - 4A1C (28) - TOTAL ($156)

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
8	7	1,8	3,5,9	7	$0.50	$84
9	6	2,10	1	6		
10	3,8	1,11	5,9	1,3,5,8,9,11		
11	6,8	7,9,11	3,10,12	3,6,7,8,9,11,12		
12	2,7	4,13	3,8,10	2,4,7,13		

Power Picks

Pete Visco's Grid: 5A ($1 for $24) - 4A1B ($30) - 3A2B ($24) - 4A1C ($72) - TOTAL ($150)

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
8	7,8	-	1,6	1,7,8	$0.50	$108
9	6	1	2,4,10	6	-	-
10	6,8	1,11	3,5,13	1,3,6,8,11,13	-	-
11	7,11	6	3	3,6,7,11	-	-
12	1,2,7	-	-	1,2,7	-	-

Paul Halloran's Grid: All A - $5 - $40 4A/1B - $2 - $40 3A/2B - $1 - $16 4A/1C - $.50 - $36 Total: $132

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
8	7,8		1,5,9	7,8	P5 - $2	$96
9	1,6		8	1,6	-	-
10	8	5	1,3,6,10,11	5,8	-	-
11	7,11	2	6,8	2,7,11	-	-
12	7	2	12	2,7	-	-

P5 Analysis – Races 8 – 12 <mark>(Yellow background denotes Plays of the Day!!)</mark>

> *Today's Late P5 at Oaklawn starts with two races that appear chalky. I'm not going to get cute in either one, hoping to single the right horses in both to set myself up for catching prices in the next two big stake races. If Timberlake wins the Rebel, so be it….the Pick 5 won't pay much most likely. The last race seems "obvious" with the #2 and #7, but you never know with lightly-raced maidens that can improve greatly from one start to the next. I'm hoping to start chalky and finish with a flury of big prices in the final 3 legs.*

Price/Spot Play(s)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	8	Magic Tap	9-2	4	$20 Win #8 BIG Exactas: 8 / 3,4,5 Smaller Exactas: 3,4,5 / 8

Notes
I've always been a fan of this horse. In his 4yo debut, he rated kindly, which is something he's had trouble doing previously. That might be a necessity today based on the abundance of early speed signed on inside and outside. Then, he angled inside in the stretch after waiting patiently to find room. Although he didn't win by much, it was a bit deceiving because the 2nd place finisher was NEVER going

by and he galloped out very well past the wire. He's a bit of a grindy type and I wish the race was 1 ⅛ miles instead of 1 1/16th, but I like his positional speed, post position, and upside in this competitive field! Look for him to make a mid-pack run and overtake the leaders in deep stretch. Tyler G. is definitely an upgrade here.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
11	8	Next Level	30-1	5	$5 Win, $15 Place, $25 Show Trifectas: 8 / 6,7 / 3,6,7,9,10,11,12 6,7 / 8 / 3,6,7,9,10,11,12 6,7 / 3,6,7,9,10,11,12 / 8

Notes

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT OAKLAWN! A few weeks ago, I touted a big longshot to finish in the money, and that horse came through to finish 3rd. This week, I'm doing it again….at 30-1 ML!! When you give a longshot, you should have several reasons why the horse can be competitive and surprise. I talked about this horse extensively on our Thursday pod, but the main reasons are Trainer Desermeaux's success with prices in these 3yo route stakes, his good numbers with the jock, the change in racing style, and abundance of early speed to set up his anticipated close. His last race was much better than it looked, and he's on the improve. Expecting him to win would be a bit too lofty, but I do think he'll outrun his odds and have a chance to really spicen up the vertical wagers if he does what I think he's capable of here. I'm very excited to see what happens…he could finish 6th by 15 lengths too, but that's the chances you take with a bomb. **I JUST NEED #8 NEXT LEVEL TO FINISH IN THE TOP 4 AND I'LL BE HAPPY!!** Let's go, Next Level!!

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
12	2	Give Me a Reason	3-1	3	$20 Win #2

Notes

The close out leg of the Pick 5 is more tricky than it appears on paper. After taking a second look after our show on Thursday, I like the #7 (ML Even-Money) even LESS than before. There are many "fuzzies" in here and perhaps a large price could win, but of the horses that will take the most money, I like #2 Give Me a Reason. He regressed last time in his 2nd start, but he was wide as wide can be on both turns, and thought he hung around well despite the bad trip. I like the jockey change today to Tyler G., the the favorable inside post helps too. He should be able to sit off the speed and fire in the lane at around 5-2. There are some bombs that could outrun their odds, like the #3, #4, and #13 amongst others, but I'll semi-chalk out here and hope to beat the big ML-fave.

Racetrack: Santa Anita

ABC Grids – Pick 4; R7 - 10 , Post 6:29pm EST

Howard Kravets' Grid:

Late P5: 5A ($6) - 4A1B ($34) - 3A2B ($62) - 4A1C ($21) - TOTAL $123

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	5,6	3,7	1,4	3,5,6,7	$0.50	$80
8	3	1,4,6	5,7	1,3,4,6	-	-
9	1,6,9	5,7	-	1,5,6,7,9	-	-
10	2,9	3,6	1	2,9	-	-

Late P4 Analysis – Races 7 – 10

Today's Late P4 at Santa Anita is a tough one with no obvious single on my opinion. In fact, one of the lowest ML faves, the #4 in R8, is very vulnerable in my opinion, though talented. The biggest spreads for me will be in the two middle legs, R8 and R9, while I'll be taking some stands and going thinner in R7 and R10. This could absolutely pay nicely and highly recommend you take a stab in this sequence today!

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
7	5	Khinjani	3-1	4	$20 Win #5

Notes
The Pick 4 starts with the only stake on the card, the G3 Santa Ana S. While Khinjani did get a nice, ground-saving trip in her North American debut, she did it SO easily that I have to come back with her. Dettori just patiently waited along the inside, split horses, and won for fun despite the margin of victory. This division is crying out for a fresh face, and although #6 Linda's Gift is once again a speed threat, I just have a feeling there's much more in the tank of Khinjani that meets the eye. Dettori rides back too, hoping to get 5-2.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	3	Hawker	8-1	5	$15 WP #3 Big exactas: 3 / 1,4,6 Smaller exactas: 1,4,6 / 3

Notes
THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT SANTA ANITA!! Hawker has had an interesting career for Trainer Sadler. The $675k buy colt by Justify out of Touch Gold mare (dirt pedigree) started his career on dirt at Delmar, beating a horse named Carmel Road who happens to be in the Saudi Cup run earlier today, then was in a loaded maiden race in his 2nd start featuring National Treasure and Practical Move (wow). He was then switched to turf with moderate success. One thing is for sure…he is improving and as a newly-turned 4yo, I think there's still plenty of upside. Sadler switches him back to dirt, and he's been training lights out. Finally, he had the ultimate equipment change as a new gelding and gets blinkers too. This is either an experiment or he's very well-meant today….I'm going with the latter.

Power Picks

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	1	Santo Dios	8-1	3	$5 WP #1 Trifectas: 1 / 5,6,7,9 / 5,6,7,9 6,9 / 1 / 5,6,7,9

Notes
I love the downhill turf races at Santa Anita. And even more, I LOVE turn backs in distance going down the hill. #1 Santa Dios is a very honest sort who's be facing some nice ones in allowance company. He's tactical enough to be midpack, but won't have to close from last. Jockey Laprida won already down the hill for me this meet on a bomb, so why not do it with this mid-price horse? I guess the #5 is the horse to beat, but there are no killers in the is field, and the race is very trip dependent. By the Timeform US numbers, Santo Dios is one of the best horses in the field….I think he'll be more like 5-1.

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