



Power Picks

Race Date	03/02/24
Edition #	Vol. 4, No. 9

Race-Day Overview

Welcome to a HUGE DAY / weekend of racing across the country. I've circled March 2nd on the calendar and have been waiting for these races to be run for a long time....just fantastic cards everywhere. Today, we're focusing on the East Coast at Gulfstream Park for Fountain of Youth S. Day and their All-Graded Stakes Late P5, plus New York for the G3 Gotham S. and 3 other supporting stakes in their Late P5. Gulfstream has a total of 9 STAKES! Every stake race has been covered on our videos between Picks and Ponies and Bettin' & Boozin. You can find info. on the undercard stakes on Ep. 63 of Bettin' N Boozin on our YT Channel.

We've also covered California and their big day, which is pushed back tomorrow, on the YT Channel with a taped preview video. Weather in Florida should be great, and there's a chance of rain in NY. CHECK FOR SCRATCHES AND CHANGES, GOOD LUCK!!

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

Overall ROI (since Feb. 2021): \$2.15 (\$1,160.88 / 540)

YTD: \$1.23 (\$65.25 / 53)

Racetrack: Gulfstream Park

ABC Grids – Pick 5; R10 - 14 , Post 3:44pm EST

Howard Kravets' Grid:

Late P5: 5A (\$2) - 4A1B (\$24) - 3A2B (\$104) - 4A1C (10) - TOTAL (\$148)

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
10	5	3,8,10	6,7	3,5,6,8,10	\$0.50	\$100
11	4,5	3,8	2,7	3,4,5,8		
12	2,5	3,4,6,10	-	2,3,4,5,10		
13	6	2,5,8	3,7	6		
14	8	1,3,5	-	1,8		



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Pete Visco's Grid: 5A (\$8) - 4A1B (\$36) - 3A2B (\$60) - 4A1C (\$48) - TOTAL (\$150)

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
10	7,10	8	2,5	7,8,10	\$0.50	\$108
11	4,5	3	2	4,5	-	-
12	3	2,9	1,4,10	2,3,9	-	-
13	3,6	8	4,7,11	3,6,8,11	-	-
14	1,8	3,5	-	1,5,8	-	-

Paul Halloran's Grid: All A - \$1 - \$16 4A/1B - \$36 3A/2B - \$58 4A/1C - \$36 Total: \$146

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
10	5,10	7,8	2	5,7,8,10	P5	\$72
11	4,5	8	3	4,5,8	-	-
12	2,10	3	5,6	2,3,6,10	-	-
13	6	5,8	2,3	5,6,8	-	-
14	5,8	1	3	8	-	-

P5 Analysis – Races 10 – 14 (Yellow background denotes Plays of the Day!!)

The All-Graded Stakes Late P5 at GP is one helluva sequence. In my opinion, the last two races are the ones in which I'll take a stand, while the first three seem very difficult and spreads. Some might disagree with me on R11, where #5 Tumbarumba (my top pick last time he ran at a nice price) is 8-5 ML and the one to beat. But I don't think he towers over this field at all, and it's not easy to win back-to-back races of this caliber at GP. I'll be spreading wide in the first three legs and hope to catch a price, then go skinny late. The key for me is probably R13 with #6 Chili Flag, my Play of the Day. She won't be a big price, but we might get 2-1 or 5-2 if people don't go crazy for Chad and Irad....who am I kidding, she'll be odds on probably, lol!

Price/Spot Play(s)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
11	8	Gilmore	15-1	4	\$5 Win, \$10 Place #8 BIG exactas: 4,5, / 8 Smaller exactas 8 / 4,5
Notes					



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If this name looks familiar, it should. He's been on my Power Picks Tip Sheet before. I know I can be stubborn at times with certain horses, sometimes in a good way, sometimes not. This is one of them. The "divorce" papers are signed and ready to be delivered to Gilmore's attorney if he doesn't run well today. I KNOW HE HAS TALENT. Last time, he didn't break well at all and was a non-threat. In fact, that has happened a few times. But today there are three things specifically I like: 1) The jock switch to Tyler G., 2) The far outside post, and 3) Lack of early speed signed on. He has shown much ability in the past, especially last summer when he was up close to some fast paces and VERY nice horses, finishing very respectfully. I'm hoping he breaks well with no one to his outside, and Tyler G. is on a send mission. If he can simply be up close early and in the clear, I really do believe he'll fire a big shot. And today, we'll get a price. For our ROI, we'll go \$1 to win and \$3 to place.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
13	6	Chili Flag	9-5	5	\$30 Win #6

Notes

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT GULFSTREAM PARK!! Although Chili Flag is the ML favorite, I think there's an outside chance she'll drift up due to the big field, we'll see. Anyway, if you carefully watch her last effort (which we showed the replay on our Thu. podcast), she was ready to explode in the stretch only to be hemmed in and crowded with a hole closing on her. Reminded me a bit of Integration in the Pegasus Turf. But that's the problem with closers...they're at the mercy of pace and trip. This field is MUCH easier than the one she faced last time, and I don't think the extra 1/16th will be a problem. She's one decent trip away from winning, and I think today will be her today. I would NEVER take too low a price on her however....I would need 2-1 or higher to even consider a win bet.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
14	8	Locked	5-2	4	\$20 Win #8 Trifectas: 8 / 1,3,5 / 1,3,4,5 1,5 / 8 / 1,3,4,5

Notes

The feature race of the day is of course, the Fountain Of Youth S. This is the 2nd strongest Derby Prep we've seen to date, only surpassed by the Risen Star, but not by much. The key to the race may be the break. You'd have to assume the two talented 2nd-time starters, #1 Speak Easy and #3 Victory Avenue, will break sharp and try to get the lead over the other. Even though it's a small field, the pace could be hot early. #5 Dornoch should sit a nice cozy trip, but can he stalk and go by very good horses off the layoff. Trainer Gargan has suggested he'll be better down the road. Then there's #8 Locked, my BC Juvenile top choice who finished a good 3rd in that race all considering the pace / way the race was run. Fierceness ran a hole in the wind and got loose, while Locked didn't break great and closed well, but much too late. My ONLY concern with Locked is the time he missed (albeit brief) from being sick. But, he's come back with two strong works, and Todd knows he needs points to get into the Derby. Plus, he should sit a good mid-pack trip without being too wide and make his move whenever J. Ortiz decides to push the button, probably at the start of the far turn. I have a sneaky feeling the Ortiz brothers (on the #1 and #8) will throw it down late, with Locked getting the better of Speak Easy.



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Racetrack: Aqueduct

ABC Grids – Pick 5; R6 - 10 , Post 3:31pm EST

Howard Kravets' Grid:

Late P5: 5A (\$2) - 4A1B (\$25) - 3A2B (\$121) - 4A1C (\$7) - TOTAL \$155

6	2,9	4,5,8	6,11,12	2,4,5,8,9	\$0.50	\$100
7	6	1,2	-	6	-	-
8	6	1,4,7,8	-	1,4,6,7,8	-	-
9	6	2,3,8	4,5	2,3,6,8	-	-
10	3,8	7,10,11,13	-	3,8	-	-

Late P5 Analysis – Races 6 – 10

The Late P5 at Aqueduct today contains 4 stakes and a very difficult allowance race. Be aware, there is a rain in the forecast and you'll want to upgrade horses with wet track form. As you can see by my ABC grid, I'm taking a stand in certain races on the top end, especially R9, where I have a price horse on top as lone "A". My spread races are R6, and some extent, R10. I'm leaning more heavily on #6 Jody's Pride in the Busher S., R7, as I think she's the most likely winner of the sequence. However, the 3yo girls this year have not been very reliable. I believe there's a chance this Pick 5 can pay very well today. And if the track is sloppy, that might create more chaos.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	6	Twenty Four Mamba	8-1	5	\$15 WP #6 Trifectas: 6 / 2,3,8 / 2,3,4,5,8 2,3,8 / 6 / 2,3,4,5,8 2,3,8 / 2,3,4,5,8 / 6

Notes

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT AQUEDUCT!! The Tom Fool S. has PLENTY of early speed, at least on paper. Horses like #3 Super Chow, #5 Rotknee, and to some extent the #8 Durante, seem to be "need-the-lead" types. #6 Twenty Four Mamba is in great form for Trainer Baker, and most importantly, the race flow suits him as he's the only real closer who can pass late. Even though he's stepping up in class, this field doesn't scare me. Dylan Davis is riding well and knows the horse too. I don't want to take too low a price on anyone in this field, so it seems logical to go with a middling price in this field on top. I'm not sure we'll get the 8-1 ML, but I think 6-1 or so is within reason. I'm playing to win and using underneath in all spots of my trifecta plays. Interesting horse and race....let's hope the #6 horse wins for his namesake Kobe Bryant!



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Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	8	Bergen	9-2	4	\$20 Win #8 BIG exactas: 8 / 3,10,11,13 Small exactas: 3,10,13 / 8

Notes

The 1 Mile Gotham S. is a huge Ky. Derby prep. The winner gets 50 points and is in the Derby field, while 2nd place receives 25 points and puts himself in great position to qualify in his next start, if not in the field already. The big, bulky field should lend itself to partial chaos and plenty of early speed, but a bit less with the scratch of #12 Slider. There are many ways to go in this spot, but I really like the prep race for #8 Bergen, plus the distance should be just fine for him. With Slider out, I expect Bergen to be up a bit closer than originally suspected, I'd say mid-pack.

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



Kentucky Derby Update - Edition #4

In this weekend's Derby update, I'll give a brief overview of the 3 main Preps today, plus I'll link the Derby Points Leaderboard and current Vegas odds as well.

First of all, today's races should put some clarity into the prospective Derby field, separating some of the contenders from the pretenders. Today is not the "end-all-be-all" for horses and their connections....they'll still have one more shot to qualify with 100pt. Derby preps starting in a few weeks. But, if horses receive limited points today, they'll be plenty of pressure on them in their next start. And in theory, the 100pt. prep races will have the biggest fields of all the prep races.

Let's start in Florida. The Fountain of Youth is a very contentious race with 4 horses as likely winners. I'm expecting Locked to run a big race, but Speak Easy, Victory Avenue, and Dornoch all have a shot. There should be an honest pace, and the break will play a BIG factor as the run into the first turn is short, as well as the stretch due to the first-line finish of this event. Some are worried about Locked missing a



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work due to sickness, but it was a minor setback only missing one week of training, with two works after that, and Pletcher said he's ready. I'll take his word for it. On the other hand, Trainer Gargan of Dornoch said he'll be better in his next two starts. Maybe that's trainer speak, but I believe him too. I'll go 8-1-5 here. I'm expecting Speak Easy to run big from the rail, but this is a big ask for sure. To this point, it's the 2nd best Derby Prep by a mile. Should be fun to watch!

In NY, a big field of 12 (Slider is scratched) will compete going 1 mile. I hate that such an important prep is a 1-turn mile, but so be it. I've been a fan of #3 Deterministic since before he ran, as there was buzz in the Clement barn that this was their Derby horse. Nothing has happened to change my mind, other than the break needed due to a small chip that had to be removed. He's working well, and the Clement's know what they have under the "hood". #8 Bergen, one of four for Brad Cox, is the horse to beat in my opinion, and if I get anything around his ML of 9-2, a big win bet is coming. I'm expecting him to be more like 3-1 or 7-2 however. The other 3 Cox horses will be players, but they are either a bit slow or unproven vs. these, so I'm a big against, we'll see. Watch the track conditions and race flow of the earlier races, as rain is expected and the surface could be biased-aided. I don't think the Derby winner is coming out of this race, but Deterministic could be the one you want down the road later in the summer, if not sooner.

Finally, let's talk about California. It's amazing to me that only 5 go into the starting gate for the San Felipe, considering a 2nd place finish yields 25 points, which is close to qualifying for the Derby. With Nysos and other Baffert's, it's not easy to accumulate points. If you're not trained by Baffert, you hope he continues to eat up West Coast points and lower the point total necessary to qualify for the Derby. I hope Scatify runs well for West Point Thoroughbreds....because he has early speed and would help set up Sierra Leone's run for glory on the first Saturday in May! Pick a horse for 2nd in your exacta...that's the only way to get value in the race, if you want to bet it at all.

Good luck today....the Tampa Bay Derby is the big prep race next weekend!

[Kentucky Derby Points Leaderboard](#)

[Current Odds in Las Vegas](#)