



Power Picks

Race Date	03/23/24
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Race-Day Overview

Back from Vegas just in time to crank up the final Ky. Derby Preps of the year!! The next few weeks will be crazy important, as 100pt. races will be running, and the Top 2 finishers in each race are guaranteed spots in the Ky. Derby if they choose to go. The 3rd place finishers receive 25 points, so if they've accumulated points before their race, they have a chance to qualify as well. This week, we'll go to the Fair Grounds in New Orleans for their biggest day of the year, the La. Derby card with an All-Stakes Late P5. Then, we'll focus on another huge card at Turfway for the Jeff Ruby Steaks S. featuring a great Late P5 and the return of Shards, a horse a few on the pod have ownership pieces of who ran in the BC Juvenile Turf Sprint last year. It's gonna be a helluva a day today, and a wild ride the next few weeks!

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

Overall ROI (since Feb. 2021): \$2.13 (\$1,181.28 / 554)

YTD: \$1.26 (\$84.65 / 67)

Racetrack: The Fair Grounds

ABC Grids – Pick 5; R8 - 12 , Post 4:32pm EST

Howard Kravets' Grid:

Late P5: 5A (\$4) - 4A1B (\$32) - 3A2B (\$95) - 4A1C (30) - TOTAL (\$161)

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



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Pete Visco's Grid: Pete Visco's Grid: 5A (\$8) - 4A1B (\$44) - 3A2B (\$92) - 4A1C (\$16) - TOTAL (\$160)

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
8	9,12	6,10	-	6,9,10,12	\$0.50	\$96
9	3,5	1,9	7	3,5	-	-
10	4,13	3	9	3,4,9,13	-	-
11	5	6,7	-	5,6,7	-	-
12	5,7	11,12	4,10	5,7	-	-

Paul Halloran's Grid: All A - \$8 4A/1B - \$36 3A/2B - \$58 4A/1C - \$48 Total: \$150

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
8	9,12	4,10	3,6	4,9,12	P5	\$90
9	5,9	7	3	5,9	-	-
10	3,13	4	2,5	1,3,4,10,13	-	-
11	5,6	7	1	5,6	-	-
12	5	7,12	2,9,11	5,11,12	-	-

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

Big day down on the Bayou, and I'm excited to see many good horses run. FYI, some of these will come back on Derby Weekend, so pay attention carefully to trips, pace, etc....If you look at my caveman ticket, you'll notice I'm spreading less and less as the Late P5 pushes forward. That's just a coincidence, not a betting strategy. The biggest spread for me is the first leg, ladies on the turf going long. I'll be much thinner later in the sequence, especially on the end as I'm singling #5 Catching Freedom on my caveman ticket while using many others on my ABC. This sequence could yield some nice prices....but willing to spend some today at the Fair Grounds!

Price/Spot Play(s)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	6	Tufani	8-1	4	\$15 WP #6 Big Exactas: 6 / 1,3,4,9,12 Small Exactas: 1,3,4,9,12 / 6
Notes					



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The All-Stakes Late P5 kicks off with a VERY difficult turf race for older fillies and mares. I've always been a fan of #6 Tufani, who has come through for me before. She's talented, relatively lightly raced, and has upside that others in here don't. Last time, she got a brutal trip with much trouble and had no chance. There's plenty of early speed on paper to set up her late kick, and I like the fact she's been rested up since January. With the right trip, she'll fire a big shot in the lane, the questions will be if the racing gods open the door for her at the right time. I'm not worried about the distance, class, or her talent. I don't think we'll get that ML of 8-1, more like 5-1. I wouldn't bet her to win at anything lower than 4-1 in this big, talented field.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	1	Red Route One	6-1	3	\$10 Win, \$20 Place Trifectas: 1 / 5,7,9 / 3,5,7,9 5,7,9 / 1 / 3,5,7,9 5,7,9 / All / 1

Notes
Paul Halloran, are you paying attention?! This is one of his favorite horses, and today I'm picking him on the Power Picks Tip Sheet. #1 Red Route One is a stone-cold closer who's been forced into being used a little more early due to lack of pace in the race. Today seems to be the opposite. And while the rail is not ideal, I hope they just take him back and let him make one run like he did last year. There appears to be ample early speed between the #3, 4, 9 and maybe #7. And, the 9 furlongs should be ideal. Is he the most talented horse in the field? Probably not, but circumstances seem to be in his favor. DEFINITELY use underneath in your vertical exotics (reverse-tri key?!). *For our tip sheet ROI, I'll go \$1 Win and \$3 to Place.*

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	13	I'm Very Busy	4-1	4	\$15 WP #13

Notes
Sometimes, an effort / running line jumps off the page. For me, #13 I'm Very Busy has one of those lines, and it's his last race. I have to admit, I've never been a big fan of this horse...until his last, which was his 4yo debut. He ran HUGE in the Pegasus Turf, just losing to Aidan's Warm Heart and beating the talented Integration. It's clear this Chad trainee has improved greatly since last year, unless the last race was a one-off...hard to believe that based on breeding and connections. For me, there are a few questions: 1) How will he handle the far outside post? 2) If the grass becomes a little wet, then what? Will he be an underlay (overbet)? Despite everything I just brought to the table, I don't think this field is an easy one, but certainly easier than his 4yo debut at Gulfstream. This is a litmus test. If he passes it, I think we'll see him on Derby Day in the big \$1mil. turf race against his stablemate Integration.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
12	5	Catching Freedom	4-1	5	\$25 Win #5 BIG exactas 5 / 2,11,12 Smaller exactas: 2,11,12 / 5



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Notes

Saving the best for last, THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT THE FAIRGROUNDS! The La. Derby is a fun race with a big field and many contenders. The ML-fave is the #12 Track Phantom, who's honest and fast. He should be able to get over from his post and be a major threat. I'm hoping the #2 for Chad is aggressive early, or Track Phantom's stablemate, the #1 Hall of Fame, takes the lead early. I don't think they'll be flying early, but it should be reasonable. Therefore, I'm going with I believe the most talented horse in the field to run them down from the 1/2 mile pole, #5 Catching Freedom. He was a bit goofy in the Risen Star to just lose out to current Derby fave Sierra Leone by 1 length +. He's not a superstar in the morning, but really closes well though the stretch, and the extra 1/16th of a mile will be great for him. He has a long stride and is a bit grindy, so hopefully he'll be wide and in the clear. I'm a bit concerned the pace won't be fast enough or he won't get a clean trip in this big field. But I know he has the talent. Look for him late trying to run down the leaders.

P.S.: I just want to mention I ALMOST put #2 Hall of Fame (8-1) in this spot on the Tip Sheet, the OTHER Asmussen in the field. I've always liked him, LOVED his maiden breaker two-back, and ran into trouble with a less than ideal trip last time. Don't let him beat you at a decent price today!!

Racetrack: Turfway Park

ABC Grids – Pick 5; R8 - 12 , Post 4:13pm EST

Howard Kravets' Grid:

Late P5: 5A (\$8) - 4A1B (\$40) - 3A2B (\$74) - 4A1C (\$28) - TOTAL \$150

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

Late P5 Analysis – Races 8 – 12

Turfway Park puts on a show today for their feature card, including the 100pt. Derby Prep Jeff Ruby Steaks S. This Late P5 is pretty difficult....the Tapeta surface at Turfway plays pretty fair, but they've been racing at night, so we'll see how it reacts during the day. Based on the cooler temperatures, I'm going to guess it'll play more towards speed, but we'll have to watch for any biases. The biggest spread race for me is the first one, R8, and R10. I'm going light in the last two races in general. It'll be interesting to see how the out-of-town shippers do compared to the locally-based horses....that's something else to keep an eye out for early in the card!



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Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	10	Le Gris	12-1	4	\$15 WP #10

Notes

The start of this challenging All-Stakes Late P5 is the Rushaway S. for 3yo's. Big scratches of the #2 and #9 will lower the post-time odds of all the horses, so #10 Le Gris will probably be around 4-1 when the leave from the gate. The Stall trainee is on fire, as they clearly have taught this one how to rate and finish. The synthetic surface is an unknown, but horses who handle the turf / slop usually like the Tapeta. Jockey Loveberry (remember Two Phils last year?) should have this one in good position entering the far turn, and I hope swoop on by in the lane. He has to make sure this one is not too far back when he makes his imposing run. The price and his form are reasons why I like this one, even though he might be a bit slower on paper than some others, but not by much.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	5	Cellist	8-1	5	\$5 Win, \$20 Place #5 Big Exactas: 1,2,3,12 / 5 Smaller Exactas: 5 / 1,2,3,12

Notes

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT TURFWAY PARK! I have to admit I've always been a bit of a fanboy of #5 Cellist. He usually gives a good account of himself, and sometimes at a good price. The problem is he's more of an underneath type. That's okay....that's how we'll bet him with \$1 win and \$3 place for our Tip Sheet ROI. He seems to his best when covered up and not chasing on the outside. And I think the with Wolfie and Country Final in the race, he can take back a bit and make a run. He's faced classy individuals and almost beat Wolfie two-back on this surface with a career Beyer top. I also like Saez hopping aboard, an upgrade from Garica in my opinion. This is a wide-open race unless you think Wolfie will just wire the field. 1 1/8th mile is pushing it for that one, and it's anyone's race on paper. Let's hope Cellist can create a masterful performance today.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
12	8	Otello	15-1	3	\$10 WP #8

Notes

I've been a fan of #8 Otello for a while. He's honest and professional. For full disclosure, I did NOT speak with Asst. Trainer Miguel Clement about this one, as he's in Dubai getting Pandagate ready for the \$1mil UAE Derby next Sat. in Dubai. Other than #10 Endlessly who deserves to be the favorite, who else are you really scared of? And, if the Clement's believe Otello will handle the synthetic surface, I won't question the decision. Last time, he was stuck in a very slow pace and just didn't run on. Today, he'll pace to run at and should be making a nice run late. There's enough turf breeding to make me believe he'll handle the synthetic. I don't know if a win is in the cards, but he could finish underneath in the trifecta and spicen that price up! I'll go \$1 Win \$3 Place for our ROI Tip Sheet.



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



Kentucky Derby Update #5

Well, it's time! The 100 pt. major Derby preps are here, with big races the next 3 successive weekends all over the country including Turfway, The Fair Grounds, Dubai, Oaklawn, Gulfstream, Santa Anita, Aqueduct and Keeneland....one of my favorite times of the year. As I mentioned at the beginning of the Tip Sheet, The points breakdown for the big preps are 100-50-25-15-10, so the first two finishers will qualify, plus the 3rd place finisher will have a big shot as well depending on certain factors. There were no preps last week.

This week is the Louisiana Derby and Jeff Ruby Steaks....it sure looks like the La. Derby is the stronger of the two, with many returning from the strong Risen Star S. last month. We previewed this on our Thursday show. #5 Catching Freedom should love the extra distance, but I would carefully watch #2 Hall of Fame. I ran HUGE two back and had plenty of trouble in his last. I have a feeling they're going to send hard from the rail and see if he can wire the field. Another longer price I'd take a look at is #11 Tuscan Gold for Chad Brown. I think he's super-talented, but worried about the wider post and his inexperience. We'll see.

At Turfway Park, an interesting edition of the Jeff Ruby Steaks will be run. Don't sleep on this prep! We've seen some horses do well in the Derby out of this prep, most notably Two Phils last year and a horse called Rich Strike a few years back! This race seems to have more early speed signed on than in New Orleans, so I expect a closer to win here today. Selfishly, since we have a nice Future bet on Sierra Leone, I'd like to see speed horses do well in these preps to quicken up the early pace in the Derby!

In other news, here's where it looks like some horses will run in their next start...Sierra Leone (Blue Grass), Track Phantom (Louisiana Derby), Dornoch (Blue Grass), Fierceness (Fla. Derby), Timberlake (Ark. Derby), Deterministic (Wood or train up to Derby), and Pandagate (for Adelphi Racing, UAE Derby).