



# Power Picks

Race Date	04/13/24
Edition #	Vol. 4, No. 15

## Race-Day Overview

*It's hard to follow up last weekend's big day of racing, but today is pretty darn good too! We'll take a look at the monster Late P5 at Oaklawn with two high-quality stakes, plus Weekend #2 of the Keeneland Spring Meet with their Late P5 plus bonus coverage of their All-Turf \$3 Pick 3. And, most of the HHH Racing Podcast crew will be at Keeneland playing in the Grade 1 Gamble live-money contest, so hopefully one of us will come home the winner....like last year when Paul Halloran took the crown! Good luck today, and CHECK FOR SCRATCHES AND CHANGES!!*

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

Overall ROI (since Feb. 2021): **\$2.19** (\$1,270.70 / 580)

\*YTD: **\$1.87** (\$174.07 / 93)

## Racetrack: Oaklawn Park

ABC Grids – Pick 5; R8 - 12 , Post 4:56pm EST

## Howard Kravets' Grid:

Late P5: 5A (\$8) - 4A1B (\$32) - 3A2B (\$48) - 4A1C (52) - TOTAL (\$140)

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



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Pete Visco's Grid: 5A (\$16) - 4A1B (\$48) - 3A2B (\$56) - 4A1C (\$32) - TOTAL (\$152)

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
8	4,6	2	7	4,6	\$0.50	\$90
9	7,9	2,4	1	1,2,4,7,9	-	-
10	4,6	2	-	2,4,6	-	-
11	3,4	7	2	3,4,7	-	-
12	2,9	10	12	2,9	-	-

Paul Halloran's Grid: All A - \$1 = \$16 4A/1B - \$1 = \$56 3A/2B - .50 = \$38

4A/1C - .50 = \$28 Total: \$138

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
8	4,7	2	6	2,4,7	P5	\$108
9	7	1	2,5	1,2,7	-	-
10	4,6	1	11	1,4,6	-	-
11	3,4	8	2	3,4	-	-
12	2,3	9,12		2,3,9,12	-	-

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

Oaklawn's Late P5 features one of the biggest races of the year for the older fillies and mares, the G1 Apple Blossom. In addition, a very nice sprint for the boys, the Count Fleet S., will be run along with good, difficult allowance races. Race 9, the second leg, is one of the most difficult handicapping puzzles you'll find, so that is clearly my "spread" race today in the sequence. I'll take stands mainly in R10 and R12, which are the Ark-bred races with standouts in my opinion. As usual, the fields are big and this Pick 5 has a chance to pay nicely.

### Price/Spot Play(s)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	8	Happy Is a Choice	20-1	3	\$5 Win, \$10 Place, \$15 Show
<b>Notes</b>					
The G3 Count Fleet brings together a very talented, fast field of sprinters, including the return of Skelley from his trip to Saudi. While the myth that horses will "bounce" from their Middle East /					



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overseas travels has been greatly overblown and disproven over the last several years, Skelley does come back MUCH quicker than most who take that trip. You can look at that as a positive or negative. He is the horse to beat....but what strikes me is the amount of early speed in the race. There are many that want to be forward, so I'll go with one that should be closing, but probably not the one you'd expect. #8 Happy is a Choice is facing the toughest group of his career, but the 4yo Runhappy gelding is in the form of his life and just getting better. He made an aggressive 4 to 5-wide move last time and blew by the field, although on his wrong lead for a good part of the stretch. If you believe a closer will win today, it's between him and likely 2nd choice #6 Tejano Twist, who is also a major threat and more established. I'll go with the improving sort who will be three to five times the price as the aforementioned Tejano Twist and Skelley and probably bigger price than nice horse Jaxon Traveler who is awfully good right now. At least use Happy Is a Choice underneath to spicen up your exotics in the exacta or trifecta....looking forward to seeing what this 4yo can do today vs. stakes company. For our Spot Play ROI, I'll go \$2 Place and Show.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
11	2	Taxed	5-1	5	\$20 Win #2 BIG exactas: 2 / 3,4,7 Small exactas: 3,4 / 2

### Notes

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT OAKLAWN!! The G1 Apple Blossom is always one of the best races of the year for the older fillies and mares. Today's race is no different...at least three have a chance, and you could make a case for more. #4 Adare Manor is the horse to beat, but I'm going with one of the four 4yo fillies with #2 Taxed. Her signature win last year was in Baltimore in the Black Eyed Susan S. on Preakness weekend, and she did display plenty of talent while being a big inconsistent. I'm guessing she needed the break at the end of her 3yo season as she had a long campaign and probably was just tired. She's been freshened up, and while receiving a great trip and setup, she looked fantastic coming back in her 4yo debut, blowing by a decent field with a big gallop out, clearly wanting to do more. She's had two VERY sharp works since over the Oaklawn oval and might be catching her main competition at the right time. Adare Manor is very tough, but not as good outside of California, and Wet Paint is coming off a long layoff and probably prefers a bit longer than this 1 1/16th mile distance. Plus, it's a "hunch play" with your taxes due in a few days (ugh!) on April 15th.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
12	2	Time Andbeyond	9-5	4	\$15 Win #2 Trifeceta: 2 / 1,3,9,12 / 1,3,9,12 3,12 / 2 / 1,3,9,12

### Notes

It's not always easy to trust maiden claimers, but the fact of the matter is these races end up "chalking out" more than most. And although this is not the most creative pick or big price, it would be nice to hit this Pick 5 on a skinnier ticket or spreading early and getting this favorite home in the nightcap, with the #2 Time Andbeyond. The biggest drop in racing is Mdn Sp. Wt. to Mdn Claiming, and that's exactly what the 4yo colt is doing. I wish he had a bit more early speed, but this field is full of horses that are struggling to find their form, and many have already lost at this level, while "Time" has been competing



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vs. MUCH tougher in his career. Any decent trip and effort should get job done at somewhere around 7-5, unless a horse freaks and really steps up his game. I should mention he's 0/8 in his career with two slower works preparing for this, so I would completely understand if you choose to go in a different direction....but with whom? That's the question.

## Racetrack: Keeneland

ABC Grids – Pick 5; R7 - 11 , Post 4:12pm EST

### Howard Kravets' Grid:

Late P5: 5A (\$6) - 4A1B (\$36) - 3A2B (\$84) - 4A1C (\$32) - TOTAL \$158

7	1,8,11	2,4,12	7	1,2,4,8,11,12	\$0.50	\$96
8	7	2	5	2,7	-	-
9	3,7	5,6	9	3,5,6,7	-	-
10	8	2	5,9,10	8	-	-
11	4,10	2,5,8,9	1	4,5,9,10	-	-

### Late P5 Analysis – Races 7 – 11

After a fantastic card last Saturday at Keeneland, the quality of today's Late P5 is just as good. Three high-quality stakes and two allowances fields make up this challenging sequence full of high-class runners. It should be mentioned the track took in a decent amount of rain earlier this week, so I'm expecting a softer turf course than last week. Keep tabs on how the turf plays and which paths are most effective. The key to my success today is two-fold: 1) trying to beat Gina Romantica in a VERY tough G1 Jenny Wiley (R9), and 2) hoping Encino wins the Lexington (R10). While Gina can absolutely win, others intrigue me, and Encino is talented and should take to the dirt. The first and last legs are big spreads for me (R7 and R11), while I'll go skinnier in the middle legs. Plan on spending some money here today if you want a good chance to hit this Pick 5!

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	7	Surge Capacity	5-1	5	\$20 WP #7 BIG exactas: 7 / 3,5,6 Smaller exactas: 3,6 / 7 Daily Double: 7/8

### Notes

THIS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT KEENELAND! There's great turf stake races, then there's this one! WOW, what a field for the G1 Jenny Wiley. Whomever wins this race will deserve it and need to run their best. Chad Brown has three in here, all of different ownership groups. I'm going with the filly with the most upside, the #7 Surge Capacity for Klaravich ridden by Joel Rosario. First, let me say she'll need a great trip and ride, and while some poo-poo Joel Rosario, it seems on the biggest stages he rides his best. He also knows this horse well and I'm sure this is the one race he wants to win the



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most this weekend at Keeneland. Yes, she's coming off a planned layoff, but she's been pointed to this since the end of her 3yo campaign, and been working on par (at least it appears on paper) with probable favorite Gina Romantica in her last two down at Payson (did NOT see the workouts). She went 4-for-5 last year and has a serious, wicked turn of foot. Her win in the G1 Matriarch at DelMar last fall was a thing of beauty, blowing by Fluffy Socks in deep stretch while coming through traffic. It should be noted that she's already won on softer turf, which is what I expect on Saturday in Kentucky. Gina has not done that yet. According to the Timeform US, Surge should be forward in a race that doesn't have a lot of early gas, so I hope Joel is a bit aggressive and tucks in right behind the leaders in the second flight. I can't wait to see what she can do today, as the probable 3rd or 4th choice. Her ML of 5-1 seems fair to me, but I have a feeling she might drift down to 4-1 or even 7-2. I would not go lower than that on the win end. She has a chance to be something special this season, but she better bring her "A" game today if she wants to win this great race.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	8	Encino	5-1	4	\$15 Win #8 Trifectas: 8 / 2,5,9,10 / 2,5,9,10 2,5 / 8 / 2,5,9,10

### Notes

Nick Tammaro, the morning-line maker at Keeneland and friend of the podcast, has a VERY tough job. He has #8 Encino at 5-1, but I have a feeling this horse will get bet down by the public even lower. Encino has not raced on dirt in his life, but Godolphin / Brad Cox know what they're doing, and his breeding suggests dirt will not be a problem. He seems to be improving at the right time, winning impressively at Turfway in a stake with a big Beyer jump to an 89. They scratched him out of the Blue Grass for this easier spot, and I don't take that as a negative. They clearly have bigger races down the line for him over the summer, and feel the Derby would be too much too soon. This spot is much more realistic. I REALLY like the fact he's been working over the Keeneland dirt, so the connections know what to expect. He should stalk the pace comfortably on the outside in mid-back and make a big move on the far turn and into the short-stretch, first-wire finish. Hoping for 3-1 today.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
11	2	Copper Missile	20-1	3	\$5 Win, \$10 Place, \$15 Show

### Notes

For full disclosure, as some of you know, I'm proud to have a small ownership piece of #2 Copper Missile, as do co-hosts Kyle Roscoe, Paul Halloran, and Pete Visco, for Crown's Way Racing (who also has Shards). And realistically, to expect a win in this race today would be a bit overzealous. But there are some things to like that you can't see on the past performances, and for our ROI stats, we'll go \$2 Place and Show on him today (with an insanity win bet on the side just in case!). Let me highlight a few things: 1) The field is nothing spectacular with some decent horses but no standouts 2) He's been training well for Kelsey Danner over the winter/spring, and she's paired him with good horses/borderline stake horses in his morning workouts, and he's ran with them evenly 3) He's a BIG horse who should get better with age 4) He's had some sneaky trouble in his starts, and I like the move to Machado in the saddle...hoping he'll be a bit more aggressive with him early 5) Finally, has a nice post (#2) and should be able to save ground. Now, he has to mature and probably prefers longer than 1 1/16th, but he's worth a use underneath at a monster price based on his speed figs last year. I'm expecting nice improvement today. Good luck to Copper and all of our fellow partners!



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### \$3 All-Turf Pick 3 at Keeneland (R7, 9, and 11)

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	1,8,11	12	2,4	1,8,11	\$0.50	\$54 for \$3
9	7	2	5	2,7	-	-
11	3,6,7	-	5,9	3,6,7	-	-

*I've already discussed some of these races earlier, but since it's a \$3-base bet, you have to narrow your opinions. I'd be most worried about the first leg, just because it's a turf sprint and I think those are the toughest to figure. If I had to save money, I'd take #3 Elusive Princess off the last race, but she's talented too and had such a bad set-up last time, I have to use her. This is a fun bet worth exploring if you've never bet before...and the payouts are unbelievable, especially if you can find one price.*

## Racetrack: Hawthorne Racecourse

ABC Grids – Pick 4; R5 – 8 , Post 5:50pm EST

### Howard Kravets' Selections:

R5: 2-9-1

R6: 8-10-3

R7: 4-2-9

R8: 10-2-3

*Today's Late P4 has two Illinois-bred races and nice, big fields. There are some morning line favorites I'm completely against, so I look forward to betting this sequence.*

*The races I'll spread the most are in R6 and R7, while I'll take more stands in the bookend races, 5 and 8. The last race ML-favorite, #3 Gianni for Rivelli, will take money based on a decent effort in his last and due to connections, but that's one I'll try to beat as there are some very interesting fresh faces coming in from different circuits for high-profile trainers/barns.*



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**Late P4 ticket: 1,2,9 / 3,8,10 / 2,4,9,10 / 2,10 (\$36)**

**REMEMBER, HAWTHORNE HAS THE LOWEST WPS TAKEOUT IN THE COUNTRY AT 12%,  
and a low Pick 5 takeout as well, SO SUPPORT THIS TRACK!!**

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

