

Power Picks

Race Date	5/9/26
Edition #	Vol. 6, No. 18

Race-Day Overview

Derby "hangover" weekend starts today, as we all try to recover from the amazing racing at Churchill last week. Our tip sheet will cover great racing in NY at Aqueduct for their Late P5 / stake races, plus we'll go to S. Florida for their Late P5 and two stakes which serve as qualifiers for Royal Ascot in the UK next month.

CHECK FOR SCRATCHES AND CHANGES AS USUAL...NY IS EXPECTING SOME RAIN AND COULD BE OFF THE TURF, ALTHOUGH THE WEATHER IS NOT SUPPOSED TO BE SEVERE. MY GUESS THEY'LL BE RUNNING ALL TURF RACES ON THE GRASS.

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

*Overall ROI (since Feb. 2021): **\$2.14** (\$2,331.26 / 1091)

***\$3.21 ROI ON OUR DERBY/OAKS PACKAGE TIP SHEET SPOT / PRICE PLAYS...DOES NOT INCLUDE 2ND PLACE FINISHES OR EXACTAS/TRIFECTAS TIPPED OUT!**

2026: **\$3.13** (\$306.58 / 98)

2026 Plays of the Day: **\$3.40** (\$102.12 / 30)

Today's Picks

** For those of you not familiar with the "ABC" method of betting, go to our website, hhhracingpodcast.com, and click on the "Power Picks" tab on the top of the page for more information on how to read an "ABC" Grid and place bets using the "ABC" Method.

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Racetrack: Belmont at the Big A

Any picks in **BROWN** for Howard are dirt choices IF grass races are rained off.

Howard Kravets' LP5 ABC Grid - R7 starts at 4:09pm EDT

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	3,5	1,4	6	3,5	\$0.50 LP5	\$60
8	5,6	1,4,8	2	1,4,5,6,8	-	-
9	1,3	-	5	1,3	-	-
10	7 / 9	1,3 / 4,6	4,5	1,3,7	-	-
11	2,9 / 9	4,5,7 / 3,5	-	2,9	-	-

Paul Halloran's LP5 ABC Grid:

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	3,5	6	7	3,5	\$.50 P5	\$60
8	3,6	5,7	2	3,5,6		
9	3,5	1		3,5		
10	1,3	7		1,3		
11	1,2	4,7	9	1,2,4,5,7		

Pete Visco's LP5 ABC Grid:

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	3,5	1	6,7	3,5	\$0.50 P5	\$96
8	5,6	1,2,4	7,8	1,4,5,6	-	-
9	3,5	1,2	6	3,5	-	-
10	1,7	3,4	2,5	1,4,7	-	-
11	4,8,9	1,2,7	5,10	1,4,8,9	-	-

Howard's Late P5 Analysis - Races 7-11

First of all, the weather could be a factor today, as they're expecting rain in NY. It doesn't seem to be overly severe or heavy, more like a steady rain. There are NOT very many main-track only's or dirt options in the turf races, so we'll just have to wait and see what NYRA does if the rain comes. With Aqueduct closing this meet, you'd think the powers-that-be would be more willing to run on that grass, assuming it's safe enough. So, let's go off the premise they're running all grass races on turf. I don't see a need to spread too much in this sequence, other than legs 2 and 5 (R8 and R11), both turf sprints. The other legs appear somewhat chalky. But when we say that, weird things seem to happen. If you beat chalk in R7 and R9 (two graded stakes), you're really gonna get paid.

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Price/Spot Play(s)

(Reminder, "stars" are rated from 1 – 5, with 5 being the most confident of plays)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
7	5	Inefficiency	3-1	4	\$25 Win #5

Notes:

#5 Inefficiency is NOT going to be 3-1. That being said, the lightly-raced filly has a big shot here and should get a good setup from midpack with plenty of early speed signed on. She's won impressively in her first two career starts, but does meet a MUCH tougher field than she's been facing. I assume Chad believes she can handle the step-up in class, although #3 Eunomia will be a handful if the pace is not too hot early. Do NOT take too low a price on (shall we say, an inefficient one) on the #5 horse. My longshot play would be #1 Cassiar for Dylan Davis.

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

Notes:

As mentioned on the podcast Thursday, it was hard for me to be creative in this sequence. **#5 Alpenglow** is the exception, although my confidence level in this horse is not super-high. The 3yo Charlatan filly has one chance to win this race realistically. Break sharply and aggressively, go to the lead, and hold on late. I don't see her winning any different way. Two back, she tried turf, but didn't break well at all, plus the distance was probably too far. Last time, she did what she'll need to do today. I don't know if she's talented enough to beat this field even if she gets the lead early, but I'll pay around 6-1 to find out. No one here blows me away, and it's possible she'll be left alone a bit on the lead.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	1	Trendsetter	3-1	4+	\$20 Win #1 BIG Exactas: 1 / 3,5 Smaller Exactas: 3,5 / 1

Notes:

While **#1 Trendsetter** is **MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT BELMONT AT THE BIG A**, it's about as weak a "best bet" I've had on this tip sheet for a while. Which means my confidence is not super high. The Peter Pan is a short field of five horses, and my main thought here is I just don't fancy the favorite, #3 Growth Equity, at Evens despite the fact he's a likely winner. The only true value in the race is Trendsetter, as it seems he's getting better as the races go longer, and he's only one of a few that can pass others in the stretch. Maybe the potential wet ground will carry the speed, but Trendsetter gets his regular rider and should be running late into a reasonable pace given the small field. I know "last time was the time" with him at 32-1 at Keeneland, but somewhere around that morning line of 3-1 seems fair to me here. I'm TOTALLY against the #5, Talk to Me Jimmy, due to the other speed from the #2 and #6. Hope I just didn't talk "Jimmy" into the Winner's Circle!

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Racetrack: Gulfstream Park

Howard Kravets' Late LP5 ABC GRID - Race 8 starts at 3:30pm EDT

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
6	8	4	3	4,8	\$0.50 LP5	\$96
7	5,10	6	2,7	5,6,10	-	-
8	2,9	5,6	1	2,5,6,9	-	-
9	3,5	4,7,8	2	3,5	-	-
10	5	3,8,10	1,2,7,9	3,5,8,10	-	-

Howard's Late P5 Analysis - Races 6-10

Interesting sequence with two 2yo turf races in which winners qualify for the big 2yo race at Royal Ascot during their boutique meeting. The other three races are relatively wide-open, so there's value to be had today. I'll be taking stands in the first and last leg, with a likely winner in the Ward runner in R6, and a bit of a stab with a Repole first-time starter going 7.5f in the last. I'll be spreading a bit in the middle three legs, with a few price/spot plays to boot. I don't see this Late P5 paying a ton, unless the Ward Keeneland graduate loses the first leg at around 3-5.

Price/Spot Play(s)

(Reminder, "stars" are rated from 1 – 5, with 5 being the most confident of plays)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	2	Easy Life	6-1	3	\$15 WP #2

Notes:

My gut feeling tells me the girl's race for a trip to Ascot is MUCH more salty than the boy's version in Race 6. Trainer Weaver has a knack of running huge in these special 2yo races at GP, so I'm taking a shot with #2 Easy Life. LET THE BOARD BE YOUR GUIDE...if she's taking money, she'll be live. If not, I'd go elsewhere. Easy Life is a Life is Good filly, a first-crop sire that we don't know much about at this point, but Life is Good was AWFULLY talented and fast. One of the best horses I've ever seen in a paddock, a real specimen. Can his progeny run on turf? No idea yet. But the horse cost \$300k, so there's intention here for sure. Not much turf pedigree, but perhaps her pure talent will show as they're only going 5f. To be honest, this is a guess.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	3	Corta Fuego	9-2	5	\$25 Win #3 BIG Exactas: 3 / 4,5,7,8 Smaller Exactas: 4,5,7,8 / 3

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT GULFSTREAM!! Unlike the above pick, this is NOT a guess / gut feeling. #3 Corta Fuego raced against some of the same horses last time, including winner Light Fury and Honesto. I thought he ran MUCH better than it looks, as he broke a bit slow, was wide on the first turn, then had to be used earlier than he wanted on the far turn as a horse to his outside made a big move forcing his hand, then ran on gamely in the stretch between horses to hold on for 2nd. Unlike many veterans he's facing, he's only 4yo, so there's still upside. I don't like the absence of published works since that outing, but I'm going to assume he's fine and ready to run. Not easy to win off of Delgado,

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but this trainer does well off the claim. Unless #5 Light Fury freaks again (no idea where that last effort came from and there's other speed to his outside), whom are you really worried about?

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	5	Restock	5-1	3+	\$10 WP #5

Notes:

When was the last time you saw a Repole-owned Japanese-bred turf horse? I'm pretty sure this is his first of this kind...Repole said last year he wanted to get more into the turf game, so here we are. The sire was a VERY good long-distance horse winning more than \$3million and stands in Japan. The filly is by Big Brown and was stakes-placed on the turf. I watched a few of this filly's works, and I like what I saw. Now, you might wonder why this one is not racing vs. tougher w/higher purses in NY where Repole calls home, but maybe he's not sure what's he's got under the hood, plus the horse is trained by D'Angelo who is stabled in S. Fla. There's no one in this race that scares me, although the #8 should appreciate the stretch out and is the main danger in my opinion. D'Angelo is not great with firsters (2/21) and very bad with turf routers first-time out (0/17). But jockey Reyes is 21% with D'Angelo, hmmm? And do you really think D'Angelo has had a turf prospect in his barn like this one going long first-time? I doubt it. Lots of mixed signals, but I'm interested, especially if she's taking money in the win pool.

1/ST



COAST-TO-COAST

PICK 5

EVERY FRI/SAT/SUN

RETAIL ONLY

SATURDAY/MAY 9

 RACE 9 - 5:05 ET

 RACE 4 - 5:33 ET

 RACE 10 - 5:37 ET

 RACE 5 - 6:06 ET

 RACE 7 - 7:07 ET

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First leg starts at approx. 5:05pm EDT; Analysis by Noah Meagher

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
GP9	4,5	-	3	4,5	\$1	\$48
SA4	1,2	-	-	1,2		
GP10	5	3,6	8	3,5,6		
SA5	4,7	3,5	1	4,7		
SA7	1,3	-	-	1,3		

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Overall opinion: Today's sequence is interesting in the fact that there weren't any real strong cases I could make against the favorites in any leg. Outside of GP 10, which is by far the most competitive race in the sequence, the sequence could be very formidable. In the finale, SA 7, co-host Ryan Anderson and I both feel very confident that the morning line favorite Sabertooth is a) the most vulnerable favorite of the sequence and b) most likely won't even be the favorite come post time. Either way you play it, it seems like a sequence you might want to have multiple times. Good luck!

YouTube preview...."Wire to Wire Ep. #16": <https://youtube.com/live/Aba65zj2QE0?feature=share>

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

