Race Day Date	Saturday October 26, 2024
Picks By	Pete Visco

Race-Day Overview

It's CLOSING DAY of the Keeneland Fall Meet!! It's a sad day for most who love playing and/or attending races at Keeneland, but, on a positive note, it means that we are also one week away from the Breeders' Cup. For today, though, the focus is on closing out what has been a fantastic meet in Lexington, KY.

The card is highlighted by three stakes races, the Bowman Mill, the Grade 2 Fayette, and the Grade 3 Bryan Station. Each of these fields might not contain top-quality horses in terms of their respective divisions, since those horses will most likely be going in the Breeders' Cup, but all three are evenly matched on paper with, I think, plenty of option on the win end and the chance for some prices to get home.

Although the Breeders' Cup is dominating the conversation within horse racing circles, you have to figure that a lot of people are going to take some shots on the last day of a meet that most people love and that should lead to some nice-sized pools for whatever types of wagers you like to play. Being the serial horizontal player that I am, that's exactly what I am looking for as I try to build up my bankroll in advance of Breeders' Cup weekend.

Today's Picks

**For information on how to read an "ABC Grid" and ticket construction, please refer to our podcast website, hhhracingpodcast.com, and go to the "Power Picks Tip Sheet" section…you have to scroll down a bit under the PP promotion…a video explanation is also available on the page.

Go to the next page for our analysis of the races……Good Luck!

Racetrack: Keeneland

ABC Grid - Post Time 1:00 p.m. EST
The "Stars" rating is 1 – 5 and represents the level of confidence we have in our picks for each race.

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost	Stars/Rating
1	5	2,3,4,8	1	2,3,5,8	$0.50 P5	$96	3
2	2,5	1,3,9	6,7	2,5,9	-	-	3
3	7,9	1,8,11	2,12	7,9	-	-	5
4	1,6	7,11	2,8	1,6	-	-	4
5	3,4,(13)	2,5,7	6	3,4,5,7	-	-	4
6	3,4,5	1,6	2,7	3,4,5	$0.50 P5	$108	5
7	3,4	1,2,11	6,7	3,4,11	-	-	3
8	7,8	4,6	2,9	4,6,7,8	-	-	3
9	1,3,6	4,9	8	1,3,6	-	-	4
10	5,8	4,9,12	2,3	5,8	-	-	5

P5 Strategy/Analysis

Early Pick-5: The Early Pick-5 has a couple of races (1st, 3rd) with what looks like will be low-priced favorites that look pretty strong. Obviously, it would be great to beat one of them to try and get this to pay, but the play could also be to go skinny or even single in those two legs to either go deeper elsewhere or play a bigger denomination ticket. Even though I have the **#5 – All Class** as a lone 'A' in the 1st, I think there are a few in there that could pull the upset, so, at least from a caveman standpoint, I am going to go deeper there. The 3rd is the race where I have the most confidence in my 'A' horses, so that's the race where I am going to stay skinny.

Late Pick-5: The two Graded Stakes races that they carded for closing day and that fall in this sequence, the Fayette and Bryan Station, came through as very competitive, deep fields where I think you can go a lot of ways which always makes for great betting races. Actually, this Late Pick-5 sequence, in general, looks pretty tough on paper which could lead to a nice payout to close out the meet if we can get a few prices home. For me, the 6th and 9th are the races where I am going to want to spread a bit since I have more than a few 'A' horses, but I think I can make up for spreading in those by going somewhat skinny, with some prices, in the other three legs.

$3 Turf Pick 3 ABC Grid

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
5	3,4,(13)	2,5,7	6	3,4,5,7	$3 P3	$108
7	3,4	1,2,11	6,7	3,4,11	-	-
9	1,3,6	4,9	8	1,3,6	-	-

$3 Turf P3 Strategy/Analysis

The Turf Pick-3 is wager that I, like many people, really enjoy playing. In this sequence, we are kicking it off in the 5th race with a long-distance turf race with a large field. The favorite, **#3 – Public Assembly**, is a Chad Brown horse for Peter Brant that cost $300,000 and is coming off a maiden breaking score. A horse like that is always hard to leave off the ticket, but

also helps when you are trying to get skinny. The 2nd leg is a tough allowance race where I am looking to try and beat the 9-5 favorite, **#11 – Kehoe Beach,** even though I did include her on my caveman ticket. The final leg is the 9th race, the Grade 3 Bryan Station Stakes. This is the leg where I am looking to spread and think we can get a price horse home. If that's the case and if we can beat the favorite in leg 2, I think we can get the kind payout we can get excited about.

Top 3 Selections

Race	1st	2nd	3rd
1	5 – All Class	2 – Edistrudis	8 – Lite It Up Louie
2	5 – Bourbon Breeze	2 - Outofnothingatall	9 – Princess Is Olivia
3	7 – Mambo Queen	9 – My Gal	8 - Tizntshelovely
4	6 – Windy Walk	1 – Best Performer	7 – Kiki Krazy
5	3 – Public Assembly	4 – Take Shape	7 – Heart Spin
6	5 – Politicallycorrect	4 – Macho Music	3 – Mitty's Griddy
7	4 – Belle of Rights	3 – Neom Beach	11 – Kehoe Beach
8	7 – Heroic Move	8 – Hit Show	4 – War Campaign
9	1 – Neat	3 – Herchee	6 – Brilliant Berti
10	8 – Free Country	5 – Thunderhawk	12 – Winter Creek

Pete's Play of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	8	Free Country	10-1	4	$25 Win / Place - 8

Notes: What better way to try and close out the card and the meet than with a nice, double-digit odds winner? That's what we are going to try and do here. This is a race that I think is completely wide open. I don't really like or trust any of the lower priced horses all that much, which is always a great start when trying to catch a long shot winner.

One thing I like is that, in his debut, this horse took money against a solid field, the winner of which is the 7-2 2nd choice in the Bowman Mill. Now, **#8 – Free Country** wound up finishing way back in that race, but there are positives to take away for me. First, he showed a ton of speed out of the gate. However, he wound up getting pressed through very hot fractions and folding badly. Second, Dallas Stewart is moving him into Maiden Claiming and the hope is that the initial race was a good learning experience and now they will be able to harness that speed to get him to settle so he can hold longer. Stewart has actually won his last two races after dropping from MSW to Maiden Claiming.

Stat: Dallas Sewart / Tyler Gaffalione Combo – 2nd Time Starters – 8/13 W (62%), 11/13 ITM (85%), $5.15 ROI

Most Likely Winner of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
1	5	All Class	1-1	4	$15 Exacta – 5 / 2,8 $5 Exacta – 2,8 / 5

Notes: I'm not really going out on much of a limb here since **#5 – All Class** is the even money favorite on the morning line, but she does look like, on paper, the most likely winner of the day. Just based on form and figures, she looks like the best horse in the race by a decent margin. Now, Saffie Joseph is switching the mount to Tyler Gaffalione, the meets leading rider,

so we are getting a nice jockey upgrade. Add to that, this horse is the top speed per Timeform Pace Ratings and is outside of the other speed (**#2 – Edistrudis**), so Gaffalione should have the opportunity to decide whether he wants to sit just off or clear and take the lead.

Stat: Joseph – Jockey Change to Gaffalione in Dirt Sprints – 8/28 W (29%), 16/28 ITM (57%)

Longshot Play of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
2	5	Bourbon Breeze	20-1	3	$5 Win - $10 Place / Show – 5 $10 Exacta - 2,5 $5 Exacta – 5,2 $1 Trifecta Key Box – 5 w/ 1,2,3,7,9

Notes: For my longshot play, I am definitely taking a bit of a leap of faith with **#5 – Bourbon Breeze**. This one feels like more of an underneath play, but I do not rule this horse out on the win end. One reason is that the horses in this race just flat out aren't all that good. The 5-2 favorite, **#2 – Outofnothingatall**, looks like the logical choice on paper, but definitely is not one to be overly scared of. She is coming off a 120+ day layoff and his trainer, James Toner, is 2/42 on the win end off that type of layoff.

Bourbon Breeze doesn't look all that great on form and maybe just isn't good anymore, but I am going to take a shot against that being the case. She does have a win over the Keeneland track when she broke her maiden here as a $200k OBS purchase. Out of that race, she lost to a little horse known as Thorpedo Anna and then next out she ran 2nd to Fiona's Magic, who is also a graded stakes winner. Then, in her 3yo season, her former trainer, decided to bounce around to different tracks and surfaces and distances, so maybe she was just never able to find where she fits best. Even last out, after dropping her down, she wound up catching a sloppy track and was stuck way in the back after coming in off a really nice work. My hope now is that the move to Garcia Genaro after the claim, the stretch out to 7f, and a fast track while racing at this lower claiming level will be all that she needs to try and recapture that 2yo form.

Stat: Genaro/Morales Combo – 1st After Claim in Dirt Sprints – 3/9 W (33%), 5/9 ITM (56%), $2.13 ROI

Price/Spot Play(s)
* Price / Spot Plays are not usually the favorites, but horses we like that will provide some value (hopefully 5-2 or higher in general). The "Stars" rating is 1 – 5.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
4	6	Windy Walk	3-1	3	$20 Win – 6 $10 Daily Double – 6 / 3

Notes: #6 – Windy Walk is the 2nd choice in this Stater Allowance race behind **#2 – Best Performer** (see negative stat below for Best Performer) and I think she is in great position to take this race down. She had a win earlier this year at Keeneland when she broke her maiden after a rough start to her career. Since then, she has either won or ran horribly, so her form looks a little muddy, as we like to say. However, the bad efforts can be logically explained away, I think. After the maiden breaker, Chris Davis put her in a 50k Allowance where she was the favorite and just never got involved. Then she comes back with two big wins, so they try a tough stakes race at Saratoga where she lost Lasix, and she doesn't run well. After that is another N1X and she runs poorly again. So, finally, last out, they put her back in at the Starter Allowance level and she gets another win. Two things stick out from her races: (1) she seems to like Churchill Downs and (2) she likes the Starter Allowance/Claiming level. That's why I think this spot makes a ton of sense for her. Add to that, she ran lifetime Beyer and Timeform top in last, so she could be coming into her own. Finally, she switches to Luis Saez for the ride, which I like because she has run her best races when she's closer to the lead so Saez can be somewhat aggressive with her to keep her in the mix.

Picks Tip Sheet

Stat: Best Performer – Cano – 1st After Claim in Dirt Routes – 0/37 W (0%), 15/37 ITM (41%)					
Race #	**Horse #**	**Horse Name**	**Odds**	**Stars**	**Bet(s)**
6	5	Politicallycorrect	9-2	4	$20 Win – 5 $5 Trifecta – 5 / 3,4 / 3,4

Notes: The 6th Race, the Bowman Mill, isn't the biggest field with only seven runners, but it is a tough field of 2yo fillies that have flashed some talent. **#4 – Macho Music** is the favorite, and that label is deserving based on form and what looks like a significant pace advantage. Any time you have a horse with talent and a pace advantage, they are pretty tough to beat, but we are going to try and beat this one. We are going with **#5 – Politicallycorrect**. Similar to my pick in the 4th, this horse has a slightly muddied up form just because his last race in the Iroquois was so awful. However, he broke slow, was stuck in the back, never got into the race, and the race was going 8f. Now, Chris Davis again, is cutting this horse all the way back down to 6f where I think he is at his best. His first two races were 6f and below and he looked great. He even ran an excellent race two back in the Ellis Park Juvenile but got run down late by Owen Almighty, who looks like a quality horse, and that was going 7f which could have been a touch too far when trying to hold off a big-time horse. Finally, we are getting Jose Ortiz back up who won both times on this horse so should have a good feel for how he runs.

Race #	**Horse #**	**Horse Name**	**Odds**	**Stars**	**Bet(s)**
9	1	Neat	8-1	3	$15 Win / Place – 1 $1 Trifecta Key Box – 1 w/ 3,4,6,8,9

Notes: The Grade 3 Bryan Station is another really tough race on this closing day card. You could make a case for well over half the field on the win end, I think. That's one thing that drew me to my top choice, **#1 – Neat**. This horse was 3-1 against some of these in his loss in the 8f Gun Runner last out, ran a nice race after breaking poorly and having to swing way wide and still made-up ground late. Prior to that loss, Neat was 3-for-3 going 8f, which is what they are going here. He also had a nice win earlier this year over the Keeneland Turf where he is 1-for-1. As the stat that I noted below attests, I think he is going to be able to work out a great trip from the rail, which has been the place to be at this configuration and has the late punch to get the job done. Based on the Timeform Pace Figures, the pace could really heat up which would be perfect for Neat's stalk and pounce style. I also like that the favorite, **#11 – Trikari**, is stuck way out in PP #11 and should have a tough time working out a decent trip from that spot.

Stat: Post Position – PP #1 at this Configuration at KEE - 6/11 W (55%)

Favorite Vertical/Horizontal Plays Not Included in Price/Spot Play Bets

Race	Bet Type	Selections	Cost
3	Exacta	$10 Exacta Box – 7,9	$20
5	Exacta	$10 Exacta Box – 3,4	$20
5	Daily Double	$10 Daily Double – 3,4 / 5	$20
8	Pick-3	$1 Pick-3 – 4,6,7,8 / 1,3,4,6 / 8	$16

KEENELAND **Power** **Picks Tip Sheet**

Good luck with all your wagers…. CRUSH THOSE BETS!!!