



Keeneland *Power* Picks Tip Sheet

Race Day Date	10/6/23
Picks by	Paul Halloran

Racetrack: Keeneland - Post Time 1 p.m. EST

Race-Day Overview

Opening Day brings with it a feeling of optimism. Hope springs eternal, whether it is on the baseball diamond or the racetrack oval. Saratoga. Del Mar. Santa Anita (the day after Christmas). The great thing about Keeneland is we get two opening days – in the spring and fall. Call it a daily double. Friday’s card is typically terrific: a pair of \$100K maiden races, two Grade 2s (males sprinting on dirt and 2-year-old fillies routing on turf) and the feature, the Grade 1 Alcibiades for 2-year-old fillies on dirt. All three graded stakes are Win-and-You’re-In for the Breeders’ Cup. Undefeated Brightwork faces a stiff test in the Alcibiades, while in the Phoenix Bango will try to prove he’s more than a Churchill Downs wonder. The \$3 All-Turf Pick 3 returns and consists of the final three grass races on the card. This is Day 1 of 17 glorious days of racing in the Thoroughbred capital of the world. Enjoy – and cash a few tickets, too.

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” section...you have to scroll down a bit under the KPP promotion...a video explanation is also available on the page. In general....”A” horses are top picks, “B” horses secondary choices, and “C” horses extreme back-ups.*

Full Card ABC Grid

Early P5: 5A (\$8) - 4A1B (\$36) - 3A2B (\$56) - 4A1C (\$24) - TOTAL (\$124)

Late P5: 5A (\$8) - 4A1B (\$36) - 3A2B (\$58) - 4A1C (\$48) - TOTAL (\$150)

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
1	9,11	3	1	3,9,11	.50	\$96
2	1,8	6, 13(AE)	9	1,6,8,13(AE)		
3	5	6	1	5		
4	1,8	4,5	6	1,4,5,8		
5	4,5	6,11	8	4,5,6,11		
6	2,9	12	4,6,11	2,4,6,9,12	.50	\$100
7	1,4	7	8,9	1,4,7,8,9		
8	1,4	2	3,10	1,4		
9	7	3,5	1,8	7		



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10	10,13	5,9	1	9,10,12,13		
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P5 Strategy/Analysis

In the early sequence, I will lean on Pletcher second-time starter #5 Bandita in the middle leg and try to get as much coverage as possible surrounding her. The average ML on my other A's in the sequence is just under 6-1, so if I can get the right numbers on the right ticket I should get paid. In the late Pick 5, #7 Brightwork will have to prove her mettle around two turns for the first time in the Alcibiades, which will be the rallying cry of those who try to beat the favorite (hello, Harvey Pack). Ken McPeck's #5 V V's Dream looks formidable, but I can't get past how brilliant Brightwork looked at Saratoga, especially beating Chad Brown monstress Ways and Means in the Spinaway. I'll stick with the unrelated Ortiz combo of trainer John and jockey Irad until someone beats her. Irad looks very tough in the finale with #10 Golden Alchemist, but as I own a tiny piece of #13 Drakon, who will draw in, he will be an A on my grid. Tough post, but he is coming off a win from the 12 at Belmont at 21-1. #5 Beuys looks like a must use in the finale as well.

\$3 Turf Pick 3 ABC Grid

P3: 3A (\$12) - 2A1B (\$36) - 1A2B (\$27) - 2A1C (\$24) - TOTAL (\$99)

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
5	4,5	11	6,8	4,5	\$3	\$54
8	1,4	2		1,2,4		
10	10	5,13	9	5,10,13		

Turf P3 Strategy/Analysis

The \$3 base bet requires sharpening our (Apple) pencil in order to stay within a reasonable budget. The heaviest lean will be #10 Golden Alchemist in the last race, though I would love to be alive to a few others, too. Pre-scratches, there are 1,452 possible combinations (11x11x12), so this is no picnic, but if you hit it you will almost certainly get paid.

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). These horses will be included into our "ROI" Stats at the beginning of the SPP's. The "Stars" rating is 1 - 5.**

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
2	8	Lady Chai	6-1	3	\$20 WP 8

Notes: You will want to check the DD probables in Race 1 to get a feel for who will take money in what looks like a wide open \$100K MSW, in which the ML favorite is 4-1. Brad Cox wins at 23% with 2-year-



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old FTS sprinting on dirt and Kantharos is a 14-percent juvenile debut sire. This filly has trained steadily at Ellis and she gets Luis Saez, who returns after breaking his wrist in a fall 8/23 at SAR. Guessing he will try to be forward with this \$570K yearling.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
4	1	Lemorian	4-1	3	\$20 WP 1

Notes: There's plenty of room for improvement coming off a 22 Beyer, but that was in the loaded Grade 1 Spinaway, so this filly gets huge class relief here. She battled for the lead and contested the pace for a half-mile before calling it a day. Low-profile connections – trainer Michelle Elliott and jockey Fernando de la Cruz – should ensure a decent mutuel. The jock has won more than 2,400 races and has a career winning percentage of just under 15, so he is more than capable. There is only one Beyer on the page higher than the 73 Lemorian posted in her debut at Horseshoe Indy, so she fits on numbers, too.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
5	5	Bling	6-1	4	\$30 WP 5

Notes: This race looks like it could fall apart late. This daughter of American Pharoah is cutting back after six straight races of at least 6.5 furlongs, so she should pack a punch down the lane at 5.5. Johnny V rides for underrated trainer Vicki Oliver, providing a marked upgrade in the saddle (no disrespect to Bejarano, but a Hall of Famer is a Hall of Famer). Bling ran a decent third in the Grade 2 Jessamine here last year and she has gotten much faster as a 3-year-old, according to Beyer. It looks like a handful of horses want to be on or near the lead, so let's hope for a fast pace that sets it up for a closer and that closer is Bling.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	4	Crown Imperial	6-1	4	\$30 WP 4

Notes: This looks like a wide open version of the Jessamine, with the winner earning a free trip to Santa Anita for the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf. Crown Imperial isn't the most regally bred turf filly, but she has shown slight improvement in each of her three sod starts. After losing twice to Amidst Waves, a good George Weaver trainee, this daughter of Classic Empire conquered the Kentucky Downs undulations and won the listed Untapable Stakes. Going 6.5 furlongs at KD should set her up to cover 2 more furlongs on a traditional oval. Looking for her to complete the first half of a John Ortiz DD.

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

Race	Bet Type	Selections	Cost
2	DD	\$20 DD 1, 8 with 5	\$40
6	DD	\$20 DD 9 with 1,4	\$40
9	DD	\$40 DD 7-10 \$10 DD 7-13	\$50



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

