



# Keeneland *Power* Picks Tip Sheet

Race Day Date	October 8, 2023
Picks By	Pete Visco

## Racetrack: Keeneland

Post Time 1:00pm EST

### Race-Day Overview

It's the final day of opening weekend of the Keeneland Fall Meet!! This has been a weekend full of races with huge Breeders' Cup implications and fantastic performances, and we are hoping that continues with two of the final U.S. BC Challenge Races with the Spinster and the Bourbon. The Spinster is a rematch between Idiomatic and Nest as both look to go out with a bang in their final prep for the BC Distaff. Then we close the day out with a big field of 2-year-olds on turf looking to punch their ticket to the BC juvenile Turf. For the HHH Racing Podcast Crew, the Indian Summer Stakes is bigger than all of them as the horse that me, Paul, Howard, and Kyle all own a piece of, Shards, looks for his first stakes victory and to possibly make his way into the BC Juvenile Turf Sprint with a win. We will be rooting hard for that. Plus, if he does win, we will get to see Howard, Kyle, and Noah in the Winner's Circle celebrating as they are at Keeneland this weekend. Good luck to all of you and to our boy Shards!!!

### Today's Picks

*\*\*For information on how to read an "ABC Grid" and ticket construction, please refer to our podcast website, [hhhracingpodcast.com](http://hhhracingpodcast.com), and go to the "Power Picks" section...you have to scroll down a bit under the SPP promotion...a video explanation is also available on the page.*

### Full Card ABC Grid

Early P5: 5A (\$6) - 4A1B (\$29) - 3A2B (\$51) - 4A1C (\$26) - TOTAL (\$112)

Late P5: 5A (\$8) - 4A1B (\$36) - 3A2B (\$58) - 4A1C (\$28) - TOTAL (\$130)

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
1	1,4	2	3,6	1,2,4	\$0.50	\$90
2	1,2	3,4	-	1,2	-	-
3	2,3,4	6	1	1,2,3,4,6	-	-
4	2	3,4	8	2,3,4	-	-
5	1	4	5,7	1,4	-	-
6	8	3,6	1	3,6,8	\$0.50	\$96
7	1,4	9	10	1,4	-	-
8	1,2	6	3	1,2,3,6	-	-
9	2,3	4	1	2,3	-	-
10	2,5	1,3	6,12	1,2,3,5	-	-



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## P5 Strategy/Analysis

**Overall:** In any Pick-5 sequence, it helps if you can find a single. Ideally, it would be a single that not everyone else playing will have as well but, if that's not the case, having a single just helps with the overall cost and equity of your tickets. In these sequences, I was able to land on a few singles which means we have some reasonably priced tickets to play and there is also a chance to press the 'A' tickets to try and land a larger payout even if the sequences chalk-out a bit.

**Early Pick-5:** In the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Races, I was able to land on two singles on my 'A' line. With that, there is the opportunity to go spread in the other three legs, which I think are tough, wide-open races. For me, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Race is where I am looking to go a little deeper since that race seems to me to be the most wide-open and could lend itself to getting a price horse on top. We will need that since the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Races could be chalky.

**Late Pick-5:** From a strategy standpoint if you want to go for the most equity in your tickets, the 9<sup>th</sup> Race is one where you may want to take a stand if you are down to Idiomatic (#2) and Nest (#3) since they will both be very short prices. For me, I was able to include both horses on my 'A' line since I was going skinny enough elsewhere to keep the cost of the tickets down to a reasonable amount.

## \$3 Turf Pick 3 ABC Grid

**P3: 3A (\$12) - 2A1B (\$30) - 1A2B (\$30) - 2A1C (\$42) - TOTAL (\$114)**

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

## \$3 Turf P3 Strategy/Analysis

This \$3 Turf Pick-3 is a really fun bet to jump into, but this specific sequence is a tough one to narrow down because two of the races are deep, 2-year-old fields with lightly raced horses still trying to make their mark on their respective divisions. For me, the 5<sup>th</sup> race was where I could come up with a logical single with **Souper Quest (#1)** but, unfortunately, I think that logic might be shared with many who are playing based on his ML odds and how tough he looks on paper. In the other two legs, I wanted to go as deep as possible while sticking with a reasonable budget. Of course, I and the HHH Crew will be hoping our boy Shards (#1) in the 8<sup>th</sup> can bring home the win and make for a nice-priced winner in this sequence.

## 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)
3	2	Choctaw Bingo	3-1	3	\$25 Win - 2

**Notes:** This is a horse that has bounced around between surfaces, distances, tracks, and class levels and has been pretty good no matter where she ended up. The one thing she has shown an ability to do is win races as shown by her being 5-for-12 on Dirt or 4-for-10 on Turf, she has won races. Recently she has had another change and that was moving to the barn of William Stinson, Jr. after being claimed three back. The first thing Stinson did was to cut her back to sprint going the same 6.5f that we have in this race, and she wins with the best Beyer she has ever had on dirt. He then moves her up again and she runs a tough 2<sup>nd</sup> going 7f, but now runs another dirt Beyer-top. Now, he is showing the confidence to move her up again against an okay but not overly intimidating bunch of claimers, and I think she will fit. She is tactical enough to hopefully work out a nice stalking trip and can use the stamina from her routing days to take this home.



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**Key Stat(s):**

- Choctaw Bingo (#2) - Stinson – Dirt Sprints – 23/95 W (24%), 51/95 ITM (54%)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
7	4	Tunisian Spring	3-1	5	\$30 Win – 4 \$10 Daily Double – 4 / 1,2

**Notes: This is my Spot Play of the Day!** One thing we look for when trying to figure out where we want to press a bet is to look for a favorite that we think we can beat. In this race, **Wicked Again (#1)** is listed as the ML favorite at 8-5. He is definitely a horse that can win this race and is a deserving favorite, but he just looks like a horse that we can try and take down. We are going to try and do that with **Tunisian Sprint (#4)**. He debuted with a nice 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish on the turf losing by a head to the favorite and popped an 81 Beyer and a 106 TimeForm figure. Now, Wesley Ward decides to move him to the dirt, which as you can see by the stat below, has been a move that Ward has thrived with. First off, his breeding suggests that the move to the dirt should be no issue. From a breeding standpoint the progeny of both his sire (Violence) and dam (Spring Party) have had success in dirt sprints as they are 17% W and 33% W, respectively. Also, his most recent work was solid 1:00 5f move on the Keeneland dirt, which shows me that he is still holding his form. I also like that he was well thought of from a purchase standpoint as he was purchased for \$375k from a stud fee of \$50k. Finally, we get Johnny V back up to ride, which I love on a horse that has a chance to be either on or just off the lead.

**Key Stat(s):**

- Tunisian Sprint (#4) - Ward – Turf-to-Dirt in the Past 1 Year - 6/14 W (43%), 11/14 ITM (79%)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	2	Gorilla Tek	15-1	3	\$10 WPS – 2 \$0.50 Trifecta Key Box – 2 w/ 1,3,5 w/ All

**Notes: This is my Underneath Price Play of the Day!** This edition of the Bourbon looks to me like a deep, wide-open edition with a soft favorite in **Noted (#5)** at 3-1 ML. Again, Noted can win this race for sure and is also a deserving favorite with the combination of Pletcher/Irad/Repole. However, there is a stat noted below that gave me some hope that we can maybe take him down and we can hopefully do it with a bomb, **Gorilla Tek (#2)**. On debut, Gorilla Tek won at 13-1 going 8.5f (I like that he debuted going long especially with his breeding) by closing into a solid pace where most of the speed faded and he was able to take advantage. The Beyer came back light at 59, but the TimeForm came back at 96 which roughly equates to a 76-level Beyer. A 76 Beyer would put him square in the mix near the top of the field.

In this race, there isn't blazing speed, but I think there are enough horses who will want to be on or near the lead that we can at least get an honest to quick pace. If that's the case, I like the odds that this horse will be rolling late again (he does have the highest TimeForm Late Pace figure in the field by a lot) to at least hit the board with a chance to steal it. One thing that's tough is going from a debut maiden win right into a graded stakes for young horses. However, although Gorilla Tek's trainer, Philip Bauer, hasn't tried this a lot, he just won this past Friday at Keeneland doing the same thing with Buchu in the Jessamine on turf going 8.5f. What I'm hoping is that Bauer can get that 2yo turf graded stakes double by getting this one home.

**Key Stat(s):**

- Noted (#5) - Pletcher/Repole - Graded Stakes on Turf – 1/18 W (6%), 12/18 ITM (67%)
- Gorilla Tek (#2) - Bauer – 2-Year-Olds on Turf – 5/12 W (42%), 9/12 ITM (75%)



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

Race	Bet Type	Selections	Cost
6	Pick-3	\$5 Pick-3 - 8 / 1,4 / 1,2	\$20
6	Exacta - Dutch	\$15 Exacta - Big - 8 / 1,3 \$3 Exacta - Small - 1,3 / 8	\$36
8	Exacta - Box	\$20 Exacta Box - 1,2	\$40

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

