Power Picks

Race Date	4/12/25
Edition #	Vol. 5, No. 14

Race-Day Overview

Another big weekend this Spring, as we'll dive into the Late P5 at Keeneland and Late P5 at Oaklawn. No Santa Anita this week, they're taking time off until next week when they start their Spring/Summer Meet which ends in Mid-June.

It's Grade 1 Gamble Weekend at Keeneland, one of the live-money tournament "majors" during the year. Almost the entire podcast + "extended family" is here at Keeneland to take in the action / win some money, so wish us luck for those playing in the G1 Gamble! Check out our "X" handle throughout today and tomorrow for cool coverage, including, hopefully, interviews with trainers and jockeys and videos from the paddock. The sequence is REALLY good, which includes the G1 Jenny Wiley and G3 Lexington S. The turf rails will be down, which means closers should have a fair opportunity to make their run in the stretch….expect good to firm conditions on the lawn and fast on the main track.

At Oaklawn, the return of the "Grizzly Bear", Thorpedo Anna, runs in the G1 Apple Blossom as a heavy favorite, plus a nice stake sprint, the G3 Count Fleet. Big fields as usual, challenging sequence. CHECK FOR SCRATCHES AND CHANGES!!

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

Overall ROI (since Feb. 2021): $2.12 ($1,743.06 / 822)

YTD: $2.18 ($152.70 / 70)

Racetrack: Keeneland Racecourse

Howard Kravets' Grid: Late Pick 5

R7 starts at 4:12pm EST

Race	A	B	C	Use in horizontal bets	Caveman Bet	Cost
7	1,7,12	2,8	9	1,2,7,8,12	$0.50 P5	$90
8	8,11	5,13	2	8,11		
9	6,7	3,8	7	6,7,8		
10	1,6,7	2,4,5	8	1,6,7		
11	8	6,10,(13)	7	8,10		

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Pete Visco's Late P5 Grid:

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	1,2,12	7,8	10	1,2,7,8,12	$0.50 P5	$80
8	2,5	8,11	3,10	2,5,8,11	-	-
9	6,7	3	2,5	6,7	-	-
10	2,7	1,6	5,8	1,2,6,7	-	-
11	8	6,10	11	8	-	-

Paul Halloran's Late P5 Grid:

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	1,12	2,7	8	1,2,7,8,12	$.50 P5	$60
8	5,8,11			5,8,11		
9	7,8		1,6	7,8		
10	1,2	6,7	8	1,2,6,7		
11	8	2,10	6	8		

Late P5 Analysis (R7 - 11): (Yellow background denotes Plays of the Day!!)

Interesting Late P5, and a very challenging one to say the least. It's very hard for me to find a single, but I suppose that would be in the last race, R11, with #8 Sherbini. I can't say I have a ton of confidence however. I'd also go "thin" in R9, the G3 Lexington S. The other legs are very difficult and I'd be spreading as much as possible. The G1 Jenny Wiley S. (R10) is practically an "all-button." This can definitely pay a healthy number.

The following are today's Price / Spot Plays. AS ALWAYS, I'M LOOKING FOR VALUE AND WON'T USUALLY TIP OUT FAVORITES UNLESS I REALLY LIKE THEM. The "Stars" rating is the usual 1 – 5, with 5 being the MOST CONFIDENT / RECOMMENDED PLAYS.

Price/Spot Play(s)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	11	Al Jafara	3-1	3	$15 WP #11 BIG Exactas: 11 / 2,5,8,(13) Small Exactas: 5,8 / 11

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Notes: Very tough race here, and it's a bit of a guessing game. This is certainly a little bit of "in Chad I trust." #11 Al Jafara has not raced since last year in France. I watched both replays…she's a bigger filly that probably wants more ground than today (won at 1 ⅛ in France). She doesn't appear to have an electric turn of foot, but with plenty of time to mature since last year and in the hands of Chad, she should handle the distance. Was working with nice allowance/stake-type Golden Canary down in Florida in the mornings. Flavian has to make sure the filly is in position at the top of the stretch. I assume he'll have her in the right spot. Tough post too. But if Chad is making her N. American debut here, she must be nice. Don't take too low a price on the win end.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	7	Praetor	2-1	4	$30 Win #7

Notes: I had a tough time choosing between the #6 Gosger and Praetor in this spot, but went with Praetor based on gut instinct. Here's the key to my selection: With the #4 Rolando out (ran earlier this week), I just don't see a lot of early speed, other than the #6 and #7. One of them will lead (in theory), the other one sit. I figure Praetor will sit a perfect trip off of Gosger, who's talented and progressive also. I just have a feeling Praetor could be special going forward and seems to be able to rate. There is one concern: he's not really bred to go very long and has never been two turns, while Gosger is bred to run all day. I don't love others in here, although Hypnus could improve with blinks on. Chad has mentioned the Preakness as a possibility after this…he must think he very highly of him. Good enough for me, Chad would know more than I.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	7	Kehoe Beach	7-2	5	$20 Win #7 Trifectas: 7 / 1,2,4,5,6 / All 1,2,6 / 7 / All

Notes: Reluctantly, **THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT KEENELAND!** I had a VERY tough time giving out a Best Bet today, but decided to go with this speedy filly for Trainer Wesley Ward. Kehoe Beach bucks the trend of a Ward runner because this one has excelled going two turns. She was VERY quick last year and was able to carry her speed all the way out to today's distance. But she's never faced the likes of these in her career. I studied the Euros carefully, and I'm not enthralled with their overall ability. That being said, any of them can win. The other USA-based horses are good but not monsters for sure. "Beach" should be able to clear from the outside, and I don't see too much early speed to press her. She's been training forwardly, and this is a very aggressive spot in which she's been pointed. I've seen better Jenny Wiley fields. I'll go "local" and hope she wires 'em…the finish line can't come soon enough in the stretch for sure.

These are not the most creative / high-priced horses above, but you can only take what the track gives ya!

Next page for Oaklawn…..

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Racetrack: Oaklawn

Late Pick 5; R8 – 12, Post 5:04pm EST

Howard Kravets' Grid:

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
9	3	-	2,4,6	3	$0.50 P5	$75
10	1,2,8	7,12	-	1,2,7,8,12		
11	2,4,6	1,8	3,5,7,9	1,2,4,6,8		
12	6	5	3	5,6		
13	2,3,5	1,8,9	6	2,3,5		

Late P5 Analysis

There are going to be monster favorites in the Late p5 at Oaklawn, Booth in R8 and Thorpedo Anna in R11. If you beat one of them, you're gonna get paid. If you beat both of them…look out! I really don't think either will lose, but in a weird way trust Booth more than Thorpedo. I'm going to use backups in both, but do think Where's My Ring could be a serious threat to Thorpedo. The other 3 races are VERY tough and you need to be spreading in those (R9,10,12). I'm tipping out some BOMBS in the Price/Spot Plays below, because two races could be "free squares" and you don't need me to tell you how good/"obvious" they are…so let's look into some price shots!

Price/Spot Play(s)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	**2**	**Onthestage**	**20-1**	**4**	**$5 Win, $15 Place/Show** **Trifectas: 2 / 1,4,6,8 / all** **4,6 / 2 / all** **4,6 / 1,4,6,8 / 2**
Notes:					
THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT OAKLAWN!! All I'm trying to do with this play (and the one below) is get these horses in the money for a good place/show bet or into the exotics. I don't expect him to win, but will put an insanity bet in that place just in case. Bottom line is this: there's a TON of early speed on paper, including the other Asmussen, and Onthestage has Timeform numbers that are just as good as most in this field. I can see him closing like a train late to get a piece of this at a big price….I wouldn't be surprised at all. For our ROI, we'll go $1 Place and Show.					

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
12	3	Merasol Sugar	20-1	3	$5 Win, $15 Place/Show Exactas: 1,2,5,8,9 / 3
Notes:					
I love turnbacks, and this one is dropping back in distance. She's done no real running this year, but now Trainer Ortiz rests her up and she's been working well in the mornings. She was staked last year and showed WAY too much talent to not be taken seriously in this field. Maybe she's just no good					

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anymore, but if she fires, look for her late to pick up a piece. These big, wide-open fields can produce prices…maybe here's another one that can hit the board? Again, for our ROI, we'll go $1 Place and Show.

SANTA ANITA - NO RACING THIS WEEKEND
(BUT HAVE HIT THE TOP PLAY ON THIS TIP SHEET THE LAST TWO WEEKS, HOPE YOU CASHED!!)

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