



KEENELAND 

Power

Picks Tip Sheet

Race Day Date	10/4/24
Picks By	Paul Halloran

Race-Day Overview

Opening Day is special in any sport, any season. In horse racing, it is especially meaningful at Saratoga and Del Mar in July and Santa Anita the day after Christmas. We are doubly blessed at Keeneland to have two opening days – April for the Spring Meet and October for the Fall Meet. Today is one of those days. Fall Stars Weekend consists of 10 graded stakes, including six Win and You're In for the Breeders' Cup. All in one weekend and it starts today. The feature is the Darley Alcibiades for 2-year-old fillies, on a card that also features the Phoenix for sprinters on dirt and the Jessamine for 2-year-old turf fillies. Keeneland offers a bettor-friendly daily double with 15% takeout; highly recommend you take advantage on that. Another terrific wagering opportunity is the \$3 Turf Pick 3 – the brainchild of Keeneland wagering director Jim Goodman, the best there is – which includes the final three turf races on the card. The \$3 base forces you to narrow your choices, which is a good thing in horizontal wagers. Trust me on that. Enjoy today and the next 16 outstanding days of racing at Keeneland, located in Lexington, Ky., the horse capital of the world. If you haven't been there, don't be a fool like me and wait until you're 60 to go. Get there!

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 SPP promotion...a video explanation is also available on the page.*

Go to the next page for analysis and opinions ... good luck!



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Racetrack: Keeneland

ABC Grid - Post Time 1 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	3,6	1	5,7	3,6	.50 P5	\$96	3
2	8,9	1,3		1,3,8,9			4
3	11,12	4	6	4,11,12			4
4	6,11	5	7	6,11			3
5	6,9	1	8,10	1,6,9,10			3
6	2,9		3	2,9	.50 P5		4
7	1,4		5	1,4			5
8	6,12	2,9		2,6,9,12			3
9	6,8	7		6,8			5
10	6,7	8	3,11	3,6,7,8,11		\$80	3

P5 Strategy/Analysis

As you can see, no singles in either my "A" column or caveman picks, so both sequences are challenging, in my opinion. Strongest lean in the early sequence would be in Race 3, #11 Upon a Star for Brad Cox. I have "A" horses at ML odds of 4-1, 5-1, 6-1 and three at 8-1 on the card, so if I do get lucky I will get paid. In the late Pick 5, the top selections are much more logical, led by #4 Nakatomi in the Phoenix and #8 Immersive in the Alcibiades. Will be pressing the all "A" ticket in that sequence.

\$3 Turf Pick 3 ABC Grid

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
5	6,9	1	8,10	1,6,9	\$3 Turf P3	\$72
8	6,12	2,9		2,6,9,12		
10	6,7	8		6,7		

\$3 Turf P3 Strategy/Analysis

Good luck. You can see in my ABC grid above that I have only moderate confidence in these three races, hence the 3-star ratings. This bet is well worth playing, but you have to take some stands. For



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the purposes of this tip sheet, I will stay with a \$100 max. budget and today's came in at \$72. Moderate risk that could result in great reward. If I had to pick a strongest lean in the sequence it would be #6 Baraye in the finale. If I'm alive, I'll be looking for a Frankie Dettori flying dismount to close the day!

Top 3 Selections

Race	1st	2nd	3rd
1	6	3	7
2	8	9	3
3	11	12	4
4	11	6	5
5	6	9	1
6	9	2	3
7	4	1	5
8	6	12	9
9	8	6	7
10	6	11	7

Paul's Play of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	8	Immersive	2-1	4	\$40 win 8 \$20 exacta 8-6

Notes: Godolphin home-bred was impressive in going 2-2 at Saratoga, including the Grade 1 Spinaway in the mud on closing weekend. Breeding (by Nyquist out of a Bernardini mare) and running style suggests the added distance will be a positive. Over the last 5 years, Brad Cox wins at 22% in 2-year-old graded stakes races on dirt, and it goes up to 31% at Keeneland.

Most Likely Winner of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
7	4	Nakatomi	7-5	5	\$10 Pick 3 - 4 with 2,6,9,12 with 8

Notes: There is a chance Federal Judge gets a dream, front-running trip from the rail, but if Nakatomi can catch Skelly, who had things his own way in the Vanderbilt, he can catch Federal Judge, a gelding in search of his first graded-stakes placement. You have to go back to the spring of 2023 to find anything resembling a sub-par race in Nakatomi's PPs, and he matched his career best Beyer (105) at Saratoga last time. Call Sgt. Al Powell and tell him everyone in (with) Nakatomi is in trouble.

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Longshot Play of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
5	9	Stylish Sue	8-1	3	\$20 WP

Notes: I think there is a reasonable chance that Frankie puts this filly on the lead and takes them on a merry chase for 9 furlongs. If the #7 For the Biscuit insists on going to the front, sitting off him could have the same effect as he looks like a hopeless longshot at 30-1. The ML favorite, #10 Olivia Maralda, is Group 2 placed in Europe (in 2022) and Grade 1 placed at Santa Anita this year and has Flavien Prat in the irons, but I'll take my chances with Stylish Sue at more than twice the odds.

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)
1	6	Gatlinburg	4-1	3	\$20 win \$10 DD 6 with 8,9

Notes: Let's come out swinging with a Spot Play in the meet opener. Steve Asmussen drops this colt in for a tag for the first time in his career and gives a leg up to his son, Erik. This son of Malibu Moon is 1-for-13, but it's a non2L so they are all camera-shy. This horse logged a career-best 85 Beyer in an off-turf affair at CD in April, when he lost to Phileas Fogg, who was an upset winner of a good optional claimer at Aqueduct last weekend. Anything close to that makes him a major player here.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
6	9	Banned for Life	5-2	4	\$40 win

Notes: The value here lies in beating the #2, Montalcino, a flashy debut winner at Saratoga. I thought Banned for Life was at least as impressive in breaking his maiden – albeit in his sixth try. He had to run down 4-5 shot Hurricane Nelson, one of the horses Montalcino vanquished in his win. Al Stall was confident enough to ship Banned for Life to Saratoga after five straight losses and the horse rewarded him with a 4-length win and 93 Beyer. He has a better post than Montalcino for a 7-furlong race and regular pilot Luis Saez rides.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	6	Destino d'Oro	3-1	3	\$20 win \$20 DD 6-8

Notes: There are several ways to go in the Jessamine, a prep for the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Filles Turf. Handicapping this stakes requires you to evaluate the races they are coming out of, with six of the fillies off a maiden win and two back after stakes triumphs. It's hard to gauge how the Kentucky Downs runners will fare, but I'm betting that #6 Destino d'Oro will move forward off an impressive maiden score there, in which she closed from sixth in the stretch to win by 2+ lengths. Brad Cox wins at 31% with second-time starters in turf routes, 29% off a maiden win. Prat up makes it even better.



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

Race	Bet Type	Selections	Cost
2	\$20 DD	8,9 with 11	\$40
4	\$10 DD	6,11 with 6,9	\$40
10	\$1 Trifecta	6,7 with 11 with ALL 6,7 with ALL with 11	\$40

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

