

Power Picks

Race Date	3/28/26
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Race-Day Overview

The second of three monster weekends of racing starts today with the Ky. Derby Preps Arkansas Derby and Florida Derby (plus UAE Derby in Dubai this morning). Both Oaklawn and Gulfstream have fantastic cards with stakes abound, so should be another great day of racing. Plus, to say this tip sheet is on fire would be an understatement....let's hope we can find some more winners today! You will notice the Spot Plays are mainly lower-priced horses today....I just had trouble being creative with longer prices (except for one horse) at either feature track.

We'll go Hot Springs, Ark. first for the Late P5 at Oaklawn. Although the field sizes are generous, I thought the races COULD be chalky, we shall see. Renegade for Pletcher and Irad will be the heavy favorite in the feature.

The Florida Derby at Gulfstream will be next on the tip sheet, as we cover their Late P5. Now, this sequence seems difficult to me with some prices that can score. The Fla. Derby itself looks like a 3-horse race on paper....no one would be surprised if the Ky. Derby winner comes out of this race. CHECK FOR SCRATCHES AND CHANGES...WEATHER SHOULD NOT BE A FACTOR AT EITHER LOCALE.

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

Overall ROI (since Feb. 2021): **\$2.11** (\$2,218.82 / 1053)

2026: **\$3.22** (\$193.48 / 60)

2026 Plays of the Day: **\$3.90** (\$74.10 / 19)

Today's Picks

*** For those of you not familiar with the "ABC" method of betting, go to our website, hhhracingpodcast.com, and click on the "Power Picks" tab on the top of the page for more information on how to read an "ABC" Grid and place bets using the "ABC" Method.*

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Racetrack: Oaklawn Park

Howard Kravets' All-Stakes P5 ABC Grid - R6 starts at 5:42pm EDT

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
10	1,6	2,4,7	-	1,2,4,6,7	\$0.50 LP5	\$60
11	5,6,7	2,3,4	1,8	2,3,4,5,6,7	-	-
12	6	2	4,7,8	2,6	-	-
13	6	2,3,5,9	-	6	-	-
14	2	5	10	2,5	-	-

Paul Halloran's All-Stakes P5 ABC Grid:

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
10	1,6	2,7	3	1,6	\$5 P5	\$60
11	4	5,6	2,7	4	-	-
12	2,6	7	11	2,6	-	-
13	6	2,3	5,9	6	-	-
14	2,10	5	6	2,5,10	-	-

Pete Visco's All-Stakes P5 ABC Grid:

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
10	1,6	3,4	7	1,6	\$0.50 LP5	\$108
11	4,5,6	7	3	4,5,6	-	-
12	2,6,11	7,8	3,4	2,6,11	-	-
13	2,6	3,5	4,9	2,3,5,6	-	-
14	2,5,10	6,11	3,8	2,5,10	-	-

Howard's Late P5 Analysis - Races 10-14

Oaklawn's Late P5 today can be described very simply in my opinion: spread early, go thin late. The first two legs, R10 and 11, are VERY difficult and I would use as many as possible. I suggested you go 5 x 6. Then, the last three races seem a bit chalky to me, but you never know. I would lean on #6 Renegade in the Ark. Derby....I know he's the favorite, but the presence of Irad really tips my hand, as he could have ridden Commandment in the Fla. Derby but instead leaves his base to go ride here. R12 and R14 feel like 2-horse races, even though they are large fields. I only have two Spot Plays at Oaklawn today...just too many low prices I like and couldn't find too many creative ideas.

Price/Spot Play(s)

(Reminder, "stars" are rated from 1 – 5, with 5 being the most confident of plays)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
12	6	Kelz	9-5	4	\$30 Win #6
Notes:					

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As I've stated on this tip sheet before, I try not to give out short-priced horses unless I really like them. That's how I feel about **#6 Kelz**, who might go as low as 7-5 come post time. Not only is he better than his main rival breaking from the 2-hole, but Kelz has faced some really toughies in his last two in New Orleans. Awesome Gun freaked on the lead that day with an 86 Beyer, and two-back he lost to Reagan's Honor, a West Point horse who ran a 96 Beyer and is going to Keeneland next in the BlueGrass next to face Paladin. There's no one even close to those two in today's field, and given a good trip, he should be able to get the job done. It's nothing creative here, but maybe Kelz is a single in your Late P5? We shall see.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
13	5	Taptastic	20-1	5	\$5 Win, \$15 Place, \$30 Show Trifectas: 6 / 5 / 2,3,9 Bigger Trifecta: 6 / 2,3,9 / 5 Superfecta: 6 / 2,3,9 / 2,3,9 / 5

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT OAKLAWN, BUT TREAD CAREFULLY!! I think #6 Renegade will be too much for this field and I expect him to win as the favorite. So where does the value come from? I think it's **#5 Taptastic** for Asmussen and his son Keith. Let me be as clear as day....I am NOT as confident on this one as I was with bomb Grittiness in the Virginia Derby. He is bred very well, as the dam won \$670k going two turns, and is a half to the talented Tuscan Gold and Contrary Thinking. His debut was better than it looks....he might have appreciated the wet dirt, but he took mud in his face with aplomb, then found room up the inside and galloped VERY well, indicating there was MUCH more in the tank. But here's the thing: Steve brings him back quickly in 3 weeks, and I find that as a HUGE confidence booster, as he's anxious to go on with him and thinks he could be competitive in Triple Crown races. My main thought is to use him ONLY underneath to spice up your trifectas and superfectas if you play that bet. I would use him more in 3rd and 4th than in 2nd place, but you can still make money by keying him in those spots. He's got a big future, I just hope this race is not too much too soon. If Steve believes, so do I. For our Spot Play ROI, we'll go \$4 Show.

Racetrack: Gulfstream Park

Howard Kravets' Late P5 ABC GRID - Race 8 starts at 4:06pm EDT

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
10	3,8,9	2,5,6	-	2,3,5,6,8,9	\$0.50 LP5	\$81
11	2,3,10	4,9	5,6,8	2,3,10	-	-
12	3,4,6,10	1,9	-	3,4,6	-	-
13	1,6,7	-	4,5,9	1,6,7	-	-
14	4	2,6	-	4	-	-

Howard's Late P5 Analysis - Races 10-14

The GP All-Stakes Late P5 today is a real doozy...very tough. Similar to the Oaklawn sequence, I would spread as much as possible in the first three legs, and take stands in the last two. The prices

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would occur in R10-12. In terms of what to do in the last two legs, I would go 2-3 deep in the turf race with the likely winners, then take a stand and single in the Fla. Derby, as I think it's a 3-horse race. That will lower your ticket cost, but of course give you less of a chance to hit it. Pay attention to the weather...small chance of rain coming later in the day in S. Fla.

Price/Spot Play(s)

(Reminder, "stars" are rated from 1 – 5, with 5 being the most confident of plays)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
11	10	Owen Almighty	7-2	3+	\$15 WP #10 BIG Exactas: 10 / 2,3 Smaller Exactas: 2,3 / 10

Notes:

Let me be clear here: **#10 Owen Almighty** was always going to be a better one-turn elongated sprinter in my opinion, and that's what he's getting back today after a taxing 3-yr. season. He ran some big races last year, and is now fresh and ready to start what I think will be a solid 4-year old campaign. Some might ask, "what happened in his last two races in 2025?" First, he was tailing off from his form cycle. Second, he got checked badly and Charles Town and weird things happen on that track, then he faced an in-form Barnes in a highly-regarded Perryville. I'm tossing those last two races completely. Today, he gets to comfortably stalk on the outside and should get a great trip. If he's the horse I think he is, a big effort is coming today. Don't take too low a price. I need to get at least his ML of 7-2. Because his form is dirtied up, I think we might get closer to 5-1.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
13	6	Dashman	3-1	4-	\$25 Win #6

Notes:

#6 Dashman gets back to what he likes to do best: go long on the turf. The last race was clearly a prep for this, and he faces two others that might be more talented (#1 & #7), however they're coming off of layoffs. The presence of Rosario on this one instead of Far Bridge is at the very least interesting, but Far Bridge gets Prat, so not exactly a decline in jockey talent. The key for me, other than the obvious improvement necessary for Dashman, is the first turn. Rosario needs to save some ground from the 6-hole...he absolutely can NOT be 3-4 wide on that first turn in order to win. The horse has races to go back to that can win this race. A few things need to happen, so don't take too low a price. I'm hoping he drifts to 4-1 or higher.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
14	4	Commandment	5-2	5	\$40 Win #4 Trifectas: 4 / 2,6 / 1,2,6,8 2,6 / 4 / 1,2,6,8

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT GULFSTREAM! On paper, this year's Fla. Derby is the best prep leading into the Ky. Derby. My guess is the Blue Grass at Keeneland next week will be the 2nd best. There are three horses running in this race that I could see winning the Derby...well, more like two, as I'm just

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not the biggest fan of Nearly getting the 10f at Churchill. But he could win at 9f at GP today. Anyway, the narrative that my top choice, **#4 Commandment**, will not fully cranked or not try as hard because he already earned enough points is valid, but won't come into play today IMO. My main thinking is twofold: 1) He didn't extend himself fully in the FOY and had more in the tank, and 2) It's a \$1mil G1, and it would help to win this race for breeding purposes / stud value. Especially with overseas ownership. Another "negative" is Irad leaving GP to ride Renegade for Pletcher in Ark. Irad will ALWAYS ride for Pletcher when push comes to shove...it doesn't mean he dislikes Commandment, but his agent has decisions to make, and Pletcher is Irad's main client in NY during the biggest part of the year. Take it or leave it. Even though you could argue Chief Wallabee ran the better FOY, Commandment was on the rail, which is NOT the place to be lately at GP. He also galloped out TREMENDOUSLY, so the extra distance is no concern to me. Finally, he gets Prat. No downgrade here off of Irad. They're the best two jocks (plus Jose O.) in the country. Maybe because of the speed figs of Nearly and the Chief Wallabee love, Commandment falls through the cracks a bit and we get that 5-2, which I would take in a heartbeat. Side note....I don't like The Puma to win this race at all...would be shocked frankly. He's coming back quickly from the TB Derby and he's no Mage. Just don't get the love for him other than his cool name. Great race, SERIOUS 3yo's in this year's Fla. Derby, enjoy!

Coast-to-Coast (CTC) Pick 5 Preview

Sponsored by Santa Anita / 1st Racing

1/ST	SATURDAY/MAR 28
 SANTA ANITA PARK	 GULFSTREAM PARK
COAST-TO-COAST	 RACE 11 - 4:40 ET
PICK 5	 RACE 3 - 5:01 ET
EVERY FRI/SAT/SUN	 RACE 4 - 5:34 ET
RETAIL ONLY	 RACE 5 - 6:09 ET
	 RACE 14 - 6:42 ET

On the next page is my ABC Grid for the CTC Pick 5 today at GP and SA. It's a low takeout (15%), \$1 base bet with no CAW's allowed (retail only).

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First leg starts at approx. 4:40pm EDT

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
GP11	2,3,10	4,9	5,6,8	2,3,10	\$1	\$90
SA3	1	2,4	-	1		
SA4	4,5	-	3,6	4,5		
SA5	1,5	3,7,8	-	1,3,5,7,8		
GP14	2,4	6	-	2,4,6		

Overall opinion: In general, I thought the middle three SA races were pretty thin from a competitive standpoint, minus they're last leg, R5. At GP, R11 is a spread for the first leg, and the Fla. Derby has three main contenders. I'll be shocked if one of those don't win, and they'll all be fairly low prices. My thinking now is to use all three of them, but to be honest, that's not demonstrating a good way to budget. So, based on scratches, I'd probably just go 2-deep and either press up or spread more in a different leg. The biggest chance of a price coming in would be R11 at GP or R5 at SA.

YouTube preview...."Wire to Wire Ep. #13": <https://youtube.com/live/9zuTmpDBHvY?feature=share>

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

