

# Power Picks

Race Date	4/19/25
Edition #	Vol. 5, No. 15

## Race-Day Overview

*The calm before the storm....the next two weeks are a bit mild in terms of stakes action throughout the country, as talk of the Derby and Oaks are swirling around our brains.*

*However, today brings us some nice sequences, including our feature one at Oaklawn with the \$1.25mil. Oaklawn H. for older males and a listed stake, plus big allowance fields. Then, we'll travel to Lexington for Keeneland's Late p5 with two graded stakes and challenging fields as usual. Finally, Santa Anita is back for their Spring Meet with another solid Sunday Late P4.*

*Two points of note.....*

*1) It is NOT too late to become a member of Team HHH! Although we do not pro-rate our subscription cost, you've only missed a few out of the 100+ cards offered over 2025. And, you'll be AUTO-included into our Oaks/Derby package as well. Info. on [hhhracingpodcast.com](http://hhhracingpodcast.com) under the Power Picks tab, "Specialty Tip Sheet."*

*\*\*\*2) We announced this on Thursday's show...the 16+ page Oaks/Derby Package has arrived. Purchase now by going to [hhhracingpodcast.com](http://hhhracingpodcast.com) and looking under the "Power Picks" Tab. You can see last year's example as well...we tabbed Thorpedo Anna as the Oaks winner, which paid a crazy-good win price in hindsight. Make this year your best Derby Weekend ever!! Please support the podcast and our great hosts/co-hosts!!*

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

Overall ROI (since Feb. 2021): **\$2.12** (\$1,750.66 / 826)

YTD: **\$2.17** (\$160.30 / 74)

## Racetrack: Oaklawn

### Howard Kravets' Grid: Late Pick 5

R8 starts at 5:09pm EST

Race	A	B	C	Use in horizontal bets	Caveman Bet	Cost
8	2,5,8,10,11	3	6	2,3,5,8,10,11	\$0.50 P5	\$96
9	2,12	-	5,7,8	2,12		
10	4,5	1,3,6,7	8	4,5		
11	3,4	2,8	5,7	2,3,4,8		
12	10	2,3,5,7,12	4,8,11	2,10		



### Pete Visco's Late P5 Grid:

*No grid this week*

### Paul Halloran's Late P5 Grid:

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
8	10	8,11	2,5	8,10,11	\$.50 P5	\$96
9	2	12	7	2,12		
10	4,7	5	3,8	4,7		
11	3,4	5,7	2,8	3,4,5,7		
12	4,10	2,7		2,4,7,10		

### Late P5 Analysis (R8 - 12): **(Yellow background denotes Plays of the Day!!)**

As you can see by my grid on the bottom of page 1, I'm "going for it" in the last race with a single "A" in #10 Al's Romeo at 6-1 ML (although I expect him to be more like 3-1). I'll be spreading mightily in R8 and R10, while going thinner in R9 and 11. This is a VERY tough sequence, so you'll probably have to take a stand somewhere and single, unless you have much stronger opinions than I do.

*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	Popperina	8-1	3	\$5 Win, \$15 Place/Show Trifectas: 2,5,8,10 / 11 , 2,5,6,8,10 2,5,8,10 / 2,5,6,8,10 / 11

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**Notes:** The presence of Flavian on #11 Popperina will gather a lot of attention. That's good and bad...good in the sense that she's more likely to receive a great trip, bad in that her price will be lower than it should be. IF THE TRACK COMES UP WET, I WOULD DOWNGRADE HER. It appears she's better on a faster surface, and I don't know if she'll get over the slop nearly as well. The main reason I have her here is the presence of a ton of early speed, and she has shown the ability to close well when at her best. Probably more of a "clunk up" 2nd or 3rd, but win bet incoming just in case. **For our ROI, we'll go \$1 Place and Show.**

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	2	Tizmarkus	5-2	4	\$20 Win #2

**Notes:** In my world, this is a 2-horse race between the two faves. I'm not really sure why the #12 Hicko is such a strong ML-fave at 8-5. Obviously, the horse fits coming off a good effort in a stake in his debut. But according to Timeform, it was a bit slow, and he received a very good trip. #2 Tizmarkus actually ran faster vs. similar, gets an inside slot to save ground, and lost to a good one. His tactical speed will come in handy today, and I'll take the 2-1 if I get it, but certainly not lower than that.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
12	10	Al's Romeo	6-1	5	\$25 Win #10 BIG Exactas: 10 / 2,3,5,7,12 Small Exactas: 2,3,5,7,12 / 10

**Notes:** THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT OAKLAWN! #10 Al's Romeo is very consistent and going good right now. Even though the Beyer figs don't blow you away, according to Timeform U.S., he's better than most in here. He'll sit a very good trip (in theory) from the outside, and the ML price is very juicy at 6-1, although I expect more like 7-2 at post time. Pusac is a veteran rider who knows the gelding very well, and there's enough early speed to set it up for him. I guess he has to beat #7 Zippy Mark, but that one is coming back relatively quick off a year+ layoff and hasn't raced on fast dirt yet. IF the track comes up wet, Al might not be able to get Zippy...but if it's dry, that could comprise the chances of the #7. Pay attention to track profile and conditions.

## Racetrack: Keeneland

Late Pick 5; R7 – 11, Post 4:12pm EST

### Howard Kravets' Grid:

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	7,11	2,3,9	4,10	2,3,7,9,11	\$0.50 P5	\$90
8	5	-	8,9	5		
9	6,9	2,12	1,4,7	2,6,9,12		
10	1,6,7	5	-	1,6,7		
11	7,8,12	5,11	2,10	7,8,12		

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## Late P5 Analysis

For me, this is a glorified Pick 4. #5 Just a Touch should roll in R8 as a stone-cold single, so we'll have to figure out who'll win the other 4 legs....not easy. I'll be spreading mightily in R7 and R11, while going a little skinnier in R9 and R10. The Ben Ali S. is a 7-horse field, so I would NOT go very deep there and take at least a bit of a stand.

## Price/Spot Play(s)

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
7	7	Pipsy	9-2	4	\$15 WP #7

### Notes:

#7 Pipsy is a horse I know well. I loved her in the N. American debut when she won, then bet her again going 1 mile. She clearly is not a 2-turn horse. She came back and ran excellent races in two G2 events, and Walsh gave her a break. If she's ready, I hope she'll be just off the pace and go by late. She tends to be headstrong, so I hope turning 4yo has helped her relax a bit early. Very likeable sort who will have to be ready in this challenging field, but she's talented and fast. She has to avoid an early speed duel....would like to her a little bit off the early pace.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	9	Missed the Cut	6-1	5	\$25 Win #9 Trifectas: 9 / 2,6,12 / 1,2,4,6,7,12 2,6,12 / 9 / 1,2,4,6,7,12

### Notes:

**THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT KEENELAND!!** Nick Tammaro is an excellent morning line maker. But I think he's a bit off with #9 Missed the Cut, who I could argue is the horse to beat. There's really nothing not to like about him, as he's consistent and loves the distance. Maybe he needed that last race, plus I don't think GP is his cup of tea. Johnny V. would be best suited to find an early spot without being wide, then make that nice late move when the time is right. He almost beat Silver Knott last year here at Keeneland when Silver Knott was going really good. I'm expecting around 7-2, but would take that price in a heartbeat here. #6 Limited Liability might be tough to run down, but I hope someone (#11?) will go with him early, and I just don't trust him while acknowledging he's the horse to beat.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	1	San Siro	9-2	3	\$10 WP #1 BIG Exactas: 6,7 / 1 Smaller Exactas: 1 / 6,7

### Notes:

The Ben Ali S. is a tricky one. It's a well-matched field lacking a ton of early speed. I like what #1 San Siro did 2-back and I think he can do the same thing today. He was patient on the inside and exploded late in his 4yo debut vs. easier. Last time he ran into a buzzsaw in Touchuponastart, who beat Sierra Leone last time. That was San Siro's stakes debut. This is a better spot. Would like to see him stay on the rail until late only a few lengths off, then explode late. He's only 4yo and still has upside...not sure many of these can improve.

## SANTA ANITA - SUNDAY

Howard Kravets' Grid: Late Pick 4

R7 starts at 6pm EST

Race	A	B	C	Use in horizontal bets	Caveman Bet	Cost
7	4,6	1,2	3	1,2,4,6	\$0.50 P4	\$80
8	3,6,7	8,9	-	3,6,7,8,9		
9	8,10	4,9	1	8,10		
10	5,7	8,11	10	5,7,8,11		

### Suggested Special Wagers:

\$3 Late Pick 3:

Big Budget: 3,6,7 / 8,10 / 5,7,8,11 (\$72)

Small Budget: 3,6,7 / 8,10 / 5,7 (\$36)

\$5 Late Double:

Big Budget: 4,8,9,10 / 5,7,8,11 (\$80)

Small Budget: 8,10 / 5,7 (\$20)

Key Horse of the Sequence: *We're on a roll with this play...3 of our last 4 have won, let's keep it going! Let's go with #6 King of Gosford in the American S., a Grade 3 on turf, R7.*

*I'm not in love with the more established, older horses here, and the "King" is a newly-turned 4yo making his 2025 debut. It sure looks like he's been pointed to this spot by D'Amato, and he's got back-class and been working well, with Prat in the irons. He almost won the G1 Hollywood Derby in November and wired the Mathis Mile last time. I expect him to sit just off the pace and go by late at an okay price. He needs to be ready....this field is not easy, but a great spot to get the year started.*

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

