

Race Day Date	October 13, 2024
Picks By	Pete Visco

Race-Day Overview

This is the closeout day of the 2nd weekend of the fall meet at Keeneland. A lot of the focus at this time of year in the horse racing world is the upcoming Breeders' Cup. This Sunday card doesn't really have many implications for the Breeders' Cup aside from the potential of Star of Mystery coming back in three weeks to contest the Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint if she runs well in today's feature, the Grade 2 Franklin Stakes, which, on paper, looks like a really tough race with some high quality turf sprinters.

However, what we do have today is a top-to-bottom quality nine-race card with a bunch of big fields and some very good betting opportunities. One thing about a nine-race card that I always enjoy is the importance to us serial horizontal of the middle race (the 5th) since it anchors the Early Pick-5 and kicks-off the Late Pick-5. In this case, the 5th race is a contentious, 12-horse field of \$16k Claimers where the favorite is an extremely soft 4-1 (#7 – Gilmore) making it a difficult race to handicap and to try and go skinny in your horizontals. I'm guessing the Racing Office knew what they were doing when they carded that race in that swing position.

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 Tip Sheet" section...you have to scroll down a bit under the PP promotion...a video explanation is also available on the page.

Go to the next page for our analysis of the races.....good luck!







Racetrack: Keeneland

ABC Grid - Post Time 1:00 p.m. EST

The "Stars" rating is 1-5 and represents the level of confidence we have in our picks for each race.

Race	Α	В	С	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost	Stars/Rating
1	1,10	2,9	3,6	1,10	\$0.50 P5	\$90	4
2	3,5,9	11	1	3,5,9	-	-	2
3	1,2,4	3,5	-	1,2,4	-	-	5
4	3,5,7	4,8	2,9,12	3,4,5,7,8	-	-	2
5	5,6	2,7,11	3,8,10	5,6	\$0.50 P5	\$108	4
6	7,9,10	3,5	1,8	3,7,9,10	-	-	3
7	2,7	3,4	=	2,4,7	-	-	4
8	1,5,6	3,7	9,10,11	1,5,6	-	-	5
9	3,4,7	1	2	3,4,7	-	-	2

P5 Strategy/Analysis

Early and Late Pick-5s: With most Pick-5's, you are looking for that leg where you are super confident and can potentially single a horse to manage cost and have the ability to spread in other legs. In both of these sequences, I did not have an opinion that was so strong that I felt comfortable singling. What I did have, was a couple of races in each sequence (Races 3, 5, 6) where I think we can get double-digit payout horses home. Many times, as long as you can do that, you can get a solid, if not very good, payout. Getting a horse like #6 – Koselio to win in the 5th at 6-1 would be ideal since, as I mentioned earlier, it is the swing leg that anchors the Early Pick-5 and kicks-off the Late Pick-5.

\$3 Turf Pick 3 ABC Grid

Race	e A B		С	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
4	3,5,7	4,8	2,9,12	3,5,7	\$3 P3	\$81
6	7,9,10	3,5	1,8	7,9,10	-	-
8	1,5,6	3,7	9,10,11	1,5,6	-	-

\$3 Turf P3 Strategy/Analysis

Since the All-Turf Pick-3 is a \$3 minimum bet, I wanted to tighten up a bit at least from a caveman ticket standpoint so as not to over-inflate the cost. The 4th race is the one in the sequence for which I have the least amount of confidence in my top picks, so that's the leg where I would probably go deeper if I wanted to add horses and bump up the cost some. That race just seems wide open to me, which is tough when you are trying to narrow down your picks, but great when you are looking for a race where we can get home a price horse that can really blow up the payout. The 6th and the 8th are races where, even though I am not going super skinny, I really like the top choices and have some strong opinions. The 8th is the one race where, if #1 - Star of Mystery is as good as the morning line suggests, could be the big favorite that can possibly be singled in order to cut the cost down.







Top 3 Selections

Race	1st	2nd	3rd
1	1 – Good Temper	1 – Good Temper 10 – Fearless Lady	
2	9 - Refuah	3 – Earl of Dassel	5 – Global Pride
3	4 – Royal Spa	2 – Shidabhuti	1 – Tough Street
4	3 – Serving Time	3 – Serving Time 5 – Poverty With Aview	
5	6 – Koselio	5 – Ember	11 – Proven Hope
6	9 – Queen Regent	7 – Holy Foley	10 – Broadway Boogie
7	7 – Mystic Pleasure	2 – Anywho	4 – Upper Case
8	1 – Star of Mystery	6 – Dontlookbackatall	5 – Future Is Now
9	3 – Diamond Heist	3 – Diamond Heist 7 – Night Time	

Pete's Play of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
3	4	Royal Spa	6-1	4	\$25 Win/Place - 4

Notes: This is a short field, only five horses signed on, which is not always conducive to getting a price, but I think the opportunity is there in this race because the horses at the top of the market look strong on paper. The horse that I like, **#4** - **Royal Spa**, at quick glance, looks to potentially be a notch below the favorites. However, digging in a bit uncovers a few things that I really like. First off, since this is not a stakes race, Lasix is available for use. This is a key fact for this horse since she has not lost (3-for-3) when she's been on Lasix. She has run solid races without it but seems to have a better late kick when she is on. Second, the best race of her life came at Keeneland, going 7 furlongs, with Lasix, and with Flavien Prat aboard. All four of those factors are in place today. Finally, one knock against this horse is that she looks slow on the Beyer scale compared to the favorites. However, three back, in the race that I am using as one of her key races, she was given a 112 Timeform figure. That is close to being on par with the top choices, so my hope is that she is fast enough even if Beyer doesn't necessarily agree.

Most Likely Winner of the Day

	Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
Ī	8	1	Star of Mystery	3-2	4	\$30 Win - 1

Notes: I don't think this one requires much explanation. Even though this is a tough field, #1 – Star of Mystery looks like a strong favorite based on form, figures, and connections. Two back, in her 1st race in the U.S., she loses to the best turf sprinter in the world who won in world record time and then, last out, she put a solid field away relatively easily. I don't think she is a lock or anything since there is some tough competition, but she must be looked on as the most likely winner in a race that could be a springboard to a Breeders' Cup run where she would be a contender in the Turf Sprint.

Longshot Play of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
4	5	Poverty With Aview	15-1	3	\$5 Win / \$10 Place / \$10 Show - 5 \$0.50 Trifecta Key Box – 5 w/ 2,3,4,7,8







Notes: When I was narrowing down my horses for Longshot Play of the Day, I was looking for a double-digit horse that I thought had a shot to win. There weren't many of those types of horses across my picks. So, based on that, there were a few factors that caused me to land on **#5 – Poverty With Aview**. First, on paper, this race looks to be wide-open with no real standouts that jump off the page. There were at least five horses that I considered as potential 'A' horses and didn't feel strongly about any of them. That alone is enough to make me think this is a race that is primed for a price to light up the tote board. Specifically, about this horse, the thing that jumped out was the breeding. Her Sire, Instilled regard, is a relatively new Sire, but one who has been super successful. His win percentages are outstanding across the board whether with 1st time starters, dirt or turf, sprint or route, it doesn't seem to matter. Recently, one of his progeny, Minaret Station, who is also a 2yo turf horse, won the Grade 2 Bourbon Stakes going 8.5f at 38-1. That horse also ran 3rd on debut and then came back to break his maiden before that run in the Bourbon. Additionally, the breeding on both sides really leans much more towards going longer and now she is stretching out from 6.5f to 8.5f. I think that added distance is really going to suit her. On debut sprinting, she was closing late and just lost to two horses who got the jump on her with the winner pulling away at 3-5. That horse came back next out to run a very solid 4th in the Grade 3 Matron which I think flattered that debut race. So, I do think this horse has a shot to win, but definitely like her as an underneath horse to hit the board in the trifecta.

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	1	Good Temper	5-2	4	\$25 Win - 1

Notes: The 1st race of the day is a tough Maiden Special Weight with 10 2-year-olds that have previously run but none had races that jumped off the page. #1 – Good Temper has run once in a race that looked just ok on paper where she closed a bit after being stuck in the back. Watching the replay, specifically the head-on, you can see that she broke slow and was knocked around a bit causing her to drop way back. From there, she didn't have much of a chance to win since she was trying to close into a race with not much pace where the top two finishers got the jump on her and just had cleaner trips. So, the hope is that, with a run under her belt now and being on the rail, she can get out cleaner and not have so much to do. One factor that should help with that is going from Luan Machado to Irad Ortiz. That alone is enough to get me to give this horse another chance but is also a big part of the reason why she is 5-2 on the morning line. One other item to point out is a trainer stat I like for Will Walden. Walden goes from having 13% W and 41% ITM percentages with 1st time starters to 36% W and 64% ITM with 2nd time starters. So, he definitely has an ability to improve a horse from start one to two.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
5	6	Koselio	6-1	3	\$15 Win / \$15 Place – 6 \$5 Exacta Box – 5,6,11

Notes: As I mentioned earlier, this is the race on the card that looks the most wide open based solely on the morning line with the favorite being a soft 4-1. That scenario makes it advantageous to look for a price horse. With that, I landed on #6 – Koselio. Let's walk through some of what I like. Initially, you see that he is 3-for-5 on the win end going 8.5f. That was important to me because here was stretch of races on his page when he was sprinting that muddy up his form. When solely looking at his route races, you see that he has 4 wins and 3 seconds out of 7 races. That's the kind of record I like. These races did mostly take place at Prairie Meadows, so this will be a step up, but I don't think this is a very strong field.

One outside of the box angle I liked is related to his trainer Kelli Martinez. Martinez does not bring a lot of horses to Keeneland; she has only brought one since 2021. However, she is 3-for-12 W with domestic shippers to Keeneland which makes me think that she only brings a horse over when she finds a spot where she thinks her horses will have a shot. That's what I am counting on here.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
6	9	Queen Regent	9-2	3	\$20 Win – 9 \$5 Exacta Box – 7,9



Notes: This race came up as a pretty salty Allowance race with some quality runners going 12f. #9 – Queen Regent looks to fit perfectly at this level and configuration. She came over on September 5th and won her U.S. debut as the favorite off a 7-month-layoff. Now, we are getting 2nd off that long layoff, so she may be eligible to improve and even be sharper this time. She gets Tyler Gaffalione up again, which is fantastic since he has been on fire at this meet. The Walsh/Gaffalione combination is very good overall but is 11/33 (33%) W and 18/33 (55%) ITM going 8.5f and up on the turf at Keeneland. From a distance standpoint, she only has the one race at 12f overseas, where she didn't run well, but she has gone 10f and up multiple times and has run very well, which makes me have no concerns. I think her late kick should come in handy with the added distance especially since their projects to be a fairly hot pace. Finally, from a Timeform figure standpoint, she has steadily been improving each of her last six races, so it seems like she still has some upside.

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

Race	Bet Type Selections		Cost
5	Daily Double	\$10 Daily Double – 5,6 / 9	\$20
7	Daily Double	\$10 Daily Double – 7 / 1,6	\$20
8	Exacta – Dutch	\$10 Exacta 1,6; \$5 Exacta 6,1	\$15

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

