

Power Picks

Race Date	12/27/25
Edition #	Vol. 5, No. 52

Race-Day Overview

This is it...the last Power Pick Tip Sheet of 2025! It's been my privilege to bring you analysis of these incredible races and horizontal sequences throughout the year. I hope you CYB and had a fun time reading these tip sheets and trying to figure out the handicapping puzzles that challenge us every day! Next week, I'll give a summary of the 2025 Tip Sheets and take a deep dive into our results, but for now....

We have a BIG WEEKEND, and with the Opening Day move to Sunday due to weather at Santa Anita, we'll cover BOTH SATURDAY AND SUNDAY RACING here on the tip sheet. First, we'll look at Gulfstream today and an excellent Late P5. I'll have the pleasure of being at the track today with Matt Miller, so look for content on our podcast "X" handle for those who are on social media...we also have a LIVE SHOW at 10:45am EDT covering the Late P5.

Then on the tip sheet, we'll analyze the Opening Day Late P5 at Santa Anita ON SUNDAY. Plus, starting this week, we'll have a special analysis of the Coast-to-Coast Pick 5, sponsored by Santa Anita / 1st Racing. Good luck today and tomorrow....CHECK FOR SCRATCHES AND CHANGES!!

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

Overall ROI (since Feb. 2021): **\$2.03 (\$2,003.04 / 987)**

YTD: **\$1.76 (\$416.43 / 237)**

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.*

Power Picks

Racetrack: Gulfstream Park

Howard Kravets' LP5 ABC Grid – R5 starts at 3:18pm EDT

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

Paul Halloran's Late P5 Grid:

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	1,2	4	6,7	1,2,4	\$.50 P5	\$90
8	1,8	2,6	4	1,2,8		
9	3,6	-	5,8	3,6		
10	2	-	4	1,2		
11	4,5	3,8	1	1,3,4,5,8		

Pete Visco's Late P5 Grid:

No grid this week

Howard's Late P5 Analysis - Races 7-11

Today's Late P5 at Gulfstream has two stake races, a handicap (basically minor stake race), and two challenging allowance races...all solid fields. Up-and-coming star Knightsbridge should be tough in the G3 Mr. Prospector with the scratch of White Abarrio. The biggest spread races for me would be R7 and R11, the bookend allowance races. I'll be taking stands in R8 and R10, while going skinny in the 5f turf stake in R9. This is a VERY PLAYABLE sequence that you should strongly consider betting.

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)
8	2	Bail Us Out	5-2	4	\$25 Win #2 BIG EXACTA: 2 / 4,6 Small Exacta: 4,6 / 2

Notes:

This \$100k Tapeta Handicap race, basically a "Grade 4" race if one existed, has a speedy horse on the outside ridden by Irad, the #8 Prevent. My big opinion, other than my top choice, is that I'll be fading the #8. One reason why I like #2 **Bail Us Out** is because there's more quality in this race than the one Prevent is coming out of, plus Prevent got away with murder on the lead in a slow pace, and I have hard

Power Picks

time believing that will happen today. Popular, gregarious S. Fla. owner Michael Iavarone has private-purchased many horses for this meet, and Bail Us Out is one of them. He's classy and fits the profile of this race as a talented closer. He's been very effective on synthetic at Woodbine and GP. If Zayas times it right and there's even a little early pace in the race, I think he'll be tough here at around 9-5. You could single him too if aggression is your forte. Like his local works too...he should be ready off the small layoff.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	7	Playmea Tune	8-1	3	\$5 Win, \$20 Place #7 BIG EXACTA 2-7 Small Exacta 7-2

Notes:

This is PURELY AN UNDERNEATH PLAY, which worked very well for us last week when Sir Greylawn finished 2nd at the Fairgrounds to give us a 10-1 exacta, and Public Assembly finished 3rd to score a nice trifecta...you DON'T have to predict who will win every race, as underneath horses can be just as effective. #7 Playmea Tune is the only true closer in a race that could have some early, especially if #3 Wound Up and/or #4 Super Chow pushes the early pace. He was in this race last year and ran a credible 5th, but was up closer to the pace and on the inside when taking dirt. Now, he's on the outside and can sit back and make a clear run. Plus, this edition is easier than last year with White Abarro scratching. I'll be keying him in 2nd and 3rd in exactas and tri's. For our tip sheet ROI, I'll go \$1 Win and \$3 Place. My tip sheet ROI play will be a straight \$2 exacta 2-7. I might place an "insanity" win bet just in case too. If the #3 & #4 hook up early with the #2, it could fall apart into the lap of Playmea Tune.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
11	8	Modarosa	6-1	5	\$20 WP #8 Trifectas: 8 / 1,3,5,6 / 1,3,5,6 3,5 / 8 / 1,3,5,6

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT GULFSTREAM PARK!! Last week's Play of the Day at Gulfstream worked out well as Public Defender, at a price, finished underneath as predicted to give us a nice trifecta. Today, I hope #8 Modarosa does the same, but I think she's a more likely winner than last week's horse. I'll be in the walking ring and if given the chance, I'll personally tell Junior to GUN from the gate and go as fast and far as he can...one slow quarter, and look out. She's a talented horse who ran well enough off the layoff last time, and she's bred for the turf and has talent. Obviously, she's had issues with the long layoff, but now she's 2nd off the bench and has two nice works since, so she should be tighter. Her main competition prefers to come from midpack or behind, so I'm hoping she gets loose early, slows down the middle half of the race, and hangs on for dear life late. Look for me in the Winner's Circle on the simulcast feed, with a big smile on my face, if Modarosa wins the last at GP!!

See next page for SUNDAY OPENING DAY at Santa Anita analysis

Power Picks

Racetrack: Santa Anita (SUNDAY)

Howard Kravets' ABC Grid – R8 starts at 5:15pm EDT

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	1	7	2,3,10	1,7	\$0.50 P5	\$108
8	3,8,9	2,5,11	-	2,3,5,8,9,11		
9	4,8,9	2,5,7	3,11	2,4,5,7,8,9		
10	8,10	9	5	8		
11	2,6	3,8,9,10	-	2,6,8		

Howard's Late Pick 5 Analysis – Races 7 - 11

The Opening Day Late P5 today will have a MASSIVE pool, one of the biggest of this year for sure. It's a MUST PLAY if you're a horizontal player, but it won't be easy. My biggest spreads will be R8 and R9, two VERY tough races. I'll go skinny / take stands in R7 and R10, even those are not easy races either. I'd spread as much as you can in the last race, but for me your decisions start and end with the Euro #10. I'm against, but obviously she's classy....is this the proper distance for her? Good luck finding a single in this Pick 5.

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)
7	1	Anmer Hall	7-2	3	\$15 WP #1

Notes:

I really enjoy watching and betting the downhill 6 1/2 furlong races at Santa Anita. #1 Anmer Hall is very logical here and the fastest horse on paper consistently. Fresu knows the horse well, and he'll get the right pace setup. The main problem is the rail...that's NOT the place to be going down the hill, but with the rails down, there's more room for him to maneuver through the big field. If he can work out the trip, he has a big shot...I would NOT take too low a price on him on the win end however...5-2 would be my minimum odds.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	9	Cabo Spirit	8-1	4	\$20 WP #9 BIG EXACTAS: 9 / 2,4,5,7,8 Smaller Exactas: 2,4,5,7,8 / 9

Notes:

The 1 1/8th G3 San Gabriel is a tough race, but is lacking early speed on paper. #9 Cabo Spirit likes to be forward, this is mainly a pace play. Am I worried that he's on the downswing after his last poor effort? Absolutely yes. But I'll trust the trainer here to have the horse ready, and there are no killers in this field. He has plenty of races to go back to class-wise, and Smith has ridden him several times. Distance should NOT be a problem, and might actually help him stretch out since the pace in theory will be slower. I expect him to sit off the #6, go by, and hang on late in a thrilling finish.

Power Picks

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	8	Cornucopian	7-2	5	\$40 Win #8 BIG EXACTAS: 8 / 9,10 Smaller Exactas: 9,10 / 8
Notes:					
THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT SANTA ANITA! #8 Cornucopian has had an interesting career. The \$1.1mil colt by Into Mischief started his career with a bang, and was the buzz horse of the spring, until he wasn't. After two disappointing efforts, Baffert brings him back in a VERY aggressive spot, as he's eligible to run in an N1X. But, he's been working in an UNREAL fashion, outworking stablemate and competitor Barnes last time. What I like most are two things: 1) He gets an outside post and should sit just off the speed comfortably if he breaks well, and 2) Baffert takes the blinks off and has clearly taught this horse in the morning how to sit and finish. Can he do that Sunday vs. very talented runners when it matters most? We're gonna find out! I think he can rate if necessary and is uber-talented. He better have his running shoes on today. Fun race...hoping Cornucopian lives up to his price tag today.					

Coast-to-Coast (CTC) Pick 5 Preview

Sponsored by Santa Anita / 1st Racing

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

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
GP7	7,8	-	2,3	7,8	\$1	\$96
SA4	3,12	2,9	6,8,10,13	2,3,9,12		
GP8	6,7	2,5	3,8	2,3,5,6,7,8		
SA5	3,7	-	2	3,7		
SA7	1	7,10	2,3	1		



Overall opinion: As you can see in the grid, I'm spreading mightily in Leg 2 and Leg 3, while taking

Power Picks

stands in Legs 1,4, and 5. I would watch the toteboard at the beginning of the sequence, as Leg 1 has some talented first-time starters...let's see which ones are taking money. The key for me is the last race of the sequence...I'm taking a stand with the rail horse, but to be honest, it's a tough race with several contenders. Click on the link below for a detailed analysis of the races...it's the premier of our first "Wire to Wire" podcast covering this bet, enjoy!!

Wire to Wire Ep. #1: <https://youtube.com/live/RStUhWRabiQ?feature=share>

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

