Power Picks

Race Date	10/24/26
Edition #	Vol. 6, No. 43

Race-Day Overview

You can feel the energy and the excitement? It's the calm before the storm. Today is the penultimate weekend before the 2026 Breeders' Cup, and closing weekend sadly for the Keeneland Fall Meet. But, it's the return to racing at Churchill (Sunday) for their first "Stars of Tomorrow" cards of only 2yo's (not covering on this Tip Sheet), and today is also a great day of racing at Belmont for their NY-Bred Showcase Day, which we'll cover here for the Late PIck 5! As usual, we'll also take a look at the Sunday Coast to Coast Pick 5 sponsored by our great friends at Santa Anita. LET'S BUILD THAT BC BANKROLL!!

*****Our Breeders' Cup Power Picks Tip Sheet package is NOW AVAILABLE on our website, click here: hhhracingpodcast.com. It's very popular and affordable…please look into it…every year we help you crush your bets on that weekend! AVAILABLE ONLY THROUGH NOON EDT THIS WEDNESDAY!!***

Let's CRUSH OUR BETS today, good luck!!

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

***Overall ROI (since Feb. 2021): $2.15 ($2,625.57 / 1223)**

2026: $2.61 ($599.51 / 230)

2026 Plays of the Day: $3.16 ($237.17 / 75)

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: Belmont

Howard Kravets' Late Pick 5 ABC Grid; R7 starts at 3:23pm EDT

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	1,7	4	6	1,4,7	$0.50	$67.50
8	1,8	2,9	4,6	1,2,8	-	-
9	2	1,5	3	2	-	-
10	7,8	4	9,10	4,7,8	-	-
11	2,9	3,4,7	1	2,3,4,7,9	-	-

Pete Visco's All-Graded Stakes Pick 5 ABC Grid

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	4,6	1,7	2,3	1,4,6	$0.50 P5	$81
8	1,8,9	4	2,5,6	1,8,9	-	-
9	2	3,4	5,8	2	-	-
10	4,8,9	7,10	2,6	2,4,7,8,9,10	-	-
11	4,7,9	2,3	8,10	4,7,9	-	-

Paul Halloran's All-Graded Stakes Pick 5 ABC Grid

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	1,4	2,7	6	1,2,4	$.50 P5	$54
8	8,9	2	1,7	2,8,9		
9	2,3		5	2,3		
10	7,10	8	4,9	7,8,10		
11	7,9	2	4	7,9		

Howard's Late Pick 5 Analysis

Not the easiest ALL-STAKES Late Pick 5 at Belmont today with some very talented NY-Breds. I'd go light in R7 and especially R9, where my single and likely winner lies. R8, 10, and 11 are difficult….I would spread more in those legs. There's value abound today, so don't be too keen on using the favorites in these races. They're competitive and many can win most of the events, except for R9 in my opinion.

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)
9	1	Out on Bail	15-1	2	$5 Win, $15 Place/Show #1 Trifectas: 2 / 1 / 3,4,5 2 / 3,4,5 / 1
Notes:					

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I'll start today's Spot Plays with a bit of a wacky idea. **#1 Out on Bail** is trained by the talented turf conditioner, Michael Maker. This is a pretty aggressive spot for a horse who was out for a while before his last race, then ran just okay at the quirky Kentucky Downs last time. There seems to be intent here, and Out on Bail has some backclass in his form, including open-company stakes efforts. At his best, he's competitive today. Will we get that? Don't know, but I expect Santana to be aggressive from the rail and attempt a pocket trip behind the favored #2 Waralo. Maybe he can "trip out" and find his previous form to outrun his odds. My other thought is that some are regressing, like #3 Twenty Six Black, while additional horses need a hot pace and won't get it. We're getting a juicy price too….for our Spot Play ROI, I'll go $1 PS on the #1. Just hoping Out on Bail can finish in the money for our trifecta.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	7	Iron Honor	5-1	4	$25 WP #7

Notes:

This race is the big one on NY-Bred Showcase Day….it's the $250k Empire Classic. **#7 Iron Dome** ran in this race last year as s 3yo and had the lead until the top of the stretch when he tired and finished 6th. However, he's a better animal now. He's also more fresh, only his 5th start this year compared to his 9th start last year. Santana will be forward, but he doesn't need the lead. He ran very well losing to talented 3yo Preside last time, who will be staked throughout his 2027 campaign. He's been working well at Churchill for Asmussen, and I have a feeling we'll see one of his better efforts. He'll need it, pretty tough field. Note he's faced open company all year long, and this is his first race of 2026 vs. NY-Breds.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
11	9	Gallant Greta	4-1	5	$35 Win #9 BIG Exactas: 9 / 2,3,4,7 Smaller Exactas: 2,3,4,7 / 9

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT BELMONT!! In what appears to be a pretty wide-open race, I really like **#9 Gallant Greta** for Maker and Prat. The horse has had a light campaign this year, as this is only her 2nd start, which I like vs. many that have been banging heads vs. each other several times. Distance is no problem, and she won nicely last time in a listed stake at Remington…that feels like a prep for this tougher event. My only concern is the wide post and lack of early speed. But that's why you trust Prat to figure all of that out. IF he can manage the right trip, she'll by flying late in the lane and I believe to by her fellow competitors. I'd be happy to get 5-2, we'll see.

Racetrack: Keeneland

Howard Kravets' ALL-GRADED STAKES ABC GRID - R6 Starts at 3:40pm EDT

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
6	1,2	3,5	-	1,2,3,5	$0.50 P5	$84
7	8,10	6	3,4,7	6,8,10	-	-
8	3,4,11	5,8,9,10	1,6	3,4,5,8,9,10,11	-	-
9	4,7	1,12	11	4,7		
10	1,9	2,10	8	1		

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Late P5 Analysis

The last 5 races of the Keeneland Fall Meet are VERY good. This Pick 5 has plenty of nice horses and big fields, very typical of a Saturday at Keeneland. I couldn't find a single or horse I fell in love with, but I think I'd take a stand in R9 and R10, the last two races, and spread in the first three in general. I'm really excited about the Late Double, as R9 is a solid turf stake, and the last is about as salty an allowance race you'll find at this time of year for 3yo's. I wish it was on the BC undercard next weekend, but I'm sure those races will be great as well. The last race today could easily be a graded stake for 3yo's. Good luck!

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	4	Nevada Beach	6-1	5	$30 WP #4

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT KEENELAND!! The G3 Fayette is a VERY tough race with some nice talent. Contention runs deep here, so I'll go for a bit of a price. Baffert's **#4 Nevada Beach** was mentioned for the BC Classic earlier in the year based off his solid 3yo season last year. But, he had some physical issues and didn't debut in 2026 until his last run in the Goodwood, where he disappointed as the favorite. That was a race he CLEARLY needed. If you want to argue that he should be in the BC, I'd come back and say, "where?" He's not good enough to win the Classic and he's not really a miler. My feeling is he's rounding back into form, and this is likely a stepping stone for the G1 Clark at Churchill over Thanksgiving Weekend. Most importantly, I think he'll really appreciate the Midwest-style tracks, which are not the super-highway that is the West Coast, and his grindy style might play very well in Kentucky. We'll find out more today. I'll go $1 WP for our Spot Play ROI.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	1	Blackout Time	12-1	2	$5 Win, $20 Place / Show #1 Trifectas: 4,7 / 1 / 4,7,11,12 4,7 / 4,7,11,12 / 1

Notes:

I'll be honest, I have NO IDEA what to expect from **#1 Blackout Time** switching from dirt to turf. Truth is, I've never liked this horse. HOWEVER….he has VERY GOOD pedigree on the dam side for the turf, and they always mentioned he might try it some time, so today's the day. The dam Beauty Parlor won over $200k on the turf, and her progeny has had limited success with her babies in turf races. (18% route wins). Esquivel has ridden great for McPeek, and a ground-saving trip is coming. Now, maybe he's just okay and won't handle the turf. BUT….what if he likes it and runs big. He has dirt numbers that fit in this race and will be a pretty juicy price. I'll go $1 PS for our ROI and use him underneath in exotics, plus an "insanity" win bet just in case he takes the whole prize. Blackout Time is one of the horses I'm most curious to see run on the card.

Power Picks

Coast-to-Coast (CTC) Pick 5 Preview

Sponsored by Santa Anita / 1st Racing



Welcome back to our coverage of the $1 base Coast-to-Coast bet, sponsored by Santa Anita. When SA is running, we'll give you opinions of the SUNDAY bet…watch our "Wire-to-Wire" show for more details, as this week's grid is Howard's opinions. Andrew Rdesinski joined Howard on the show this week.

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
GP9	1,4,7	2,5	3,6	1,2,4,5,7	$1	$60
SA3	5,7	1,6	3	5,7		
GP10	1,8	3	4,7	1,3,8		
SA4	3,4	1,6	5	3,4		
SA6	2	1,3,6	-	2		

***Overall opinion**: To be alive to the last leg, where I'd single #2 Catfish Cory to close out the sequence. This is a tricky sequence despite the smallish fields, so be careful with your ticket construction and choose wisely.*

YouTube preview…."Wire to Wire Ep. #25": https://youtube.com/live/INQzxtOhL7E?feature=share

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

