

Power Picks

Race Date	8/8/26
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Race-Day Overview

*It's WHITNEY DAY! What an unbelievable card, per usual, on a big day at Saratoga. 4 Grade One races, big-time allowance affairs, and LOADED maiden races all over the place with potential future superstars debuting...doesn't get much better than this for August! I gave alternate selections in **red** within the tip sheet for Saratoga in case the rain comes, but let's hope it doesn't, only a small chance.*

Plus, we'll take a look at the Late P5 at Ellis Park ON SUNDAY with many stakes and an exciting card in Kentucky. As usual, check for scratches and changes, good luck!!

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

*Overall ROI (since Feb. 2021): **\$2.13** (\$2,465.96 / 1158)

2026: **\$2.67** (\$439.90 / 165)

2026 Plays of the Day: **\$3.20** (\$163.20 / 51)

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: Saratoga

Howard Kravets' LATE P5 ABC Grid; R8 Post Time 5:14pm EDT

(red selections IF OFF TURF)

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
10	1,5,7	3	-	1,5,7	\$0.50 LP5	\$144 / \$72
11	3,4,10	7	6	3,4,7,10	-	-
**12	1 / 8	3,6,8 / 1,3,6	5 / -	1,3,6,8 / 8	-	-
13	1,8	2	3,5,9	1,8 / 1,2,8	-	-
14	7,8,12 / 2,11	2,4,5,10 / 1,12	1,11 / -	7,8,12 / 1,2,11,12		

Grade 1 races

****R12...Whitney S.: IF WET, 4 will run, if dry, 4 stays in; alt. picks are IF 4 is IN the race**

Paul Halloran's Late P5 ABC Grid

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
10	1,3	4,7	5,6	1,3	\$1 LP5	\$96
11	3,10	4	6,7	3,10		
12	1,6	8	3	1,6		
13	1,2	8,9		1,2,8,9		
14	2	1,8,12(AE)	3	1,2,8		

Pete Visco's Late P5 ABC Grid:

On vacation this week with family....check his "X" account today if you have social media access for possible selections.

Howard's LP5 Analysis

The Late P5 today is fantastic. What complicates matters is the last two non-stakes races, especially the finale. In terms of the first three legs (all G1's), I would spread the most in the R11, the Saratoga Derby, a VERY trip-dependent race where many can win. I'll go relatively skinny in R10 and R12. I might single in the Whitney (either Magnitude or Baeza) depending on which Saffie runs. My biggest spread of the sequence would be the last, assuming it's on turf. A VERY tough handicapping puzzle. Good luck in a great Late P5 which should pay good to great depending on who wins the Whitney....if Magnitude or Baeza wins, the payout will go down. Even Sovereignty, who figures to be 3rd choice today, will boost the Late P5 payout.

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)
10	7	Lagynos	5-1	3	\$15 WP #7 Trifectas: 7 / 1,3,5 / 1,3,5,6

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					1,5 / 7 / 1,3,5,6
Notes:					
Fantastic version of the G1 Fourstardave S. I've been against #7 Lagynos the last several times, so I hope this pick today doesn't burn me. Let me say this first....he has to run the race of his life. But, by my figs, he's literally within 1.5 lengths of the best in here. He's a win machine with 5 in a row, but this is his toughest test. What I like most are three things: 1) There's plenty of early gas and he's the best closer in the race, 2) He should be able to tuck in on the first turn, and 3) Jose knows him well and is riding in career-form. Plus, the price will be right. He'll need to get a good trip for sure, but why not in a wide-open field where he's a decent price?					

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
12	3	Antiquarian	10-1	5	\$5 Win, \$25 Place #3 Exactas: 1,6,8 / 3 Trifectas: 1,8 / 3 / 1,5,6,8 1,8 / 1,6,8 / 3
Notes:					
THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT SARATOGA! It's Whitney S. time!! I know, I know, here's what you're thinking.... "Howard is going with his boy again who's been disappointing in his last two." I totally get it, so if you don't believe, just stop reading. BUT.....#3 Antiquarian has had serious excuses in his last two starts, and I KNOW the talent is there. I like the switch the Manny Franco, and I'm really hoping he lets the two speed horses (#1 and #4) go, or if #4 is out, just sit off of the #1 and #2. He's ran some massive races in his career and is due with a good trip today. Distance is no problem, and neither is the track. Two back, he ran big in the Met Mile despite battling unnecessarily on the lead. Last race was a nightmare...he stumbled early, then was between horses taking a lot of dirt, and just had no chance. Pletcher sticks with him and believes in the horse, and so do I. Can he win? Maybe not, but I'll be playing mainly underneath with an insanity win bet. For our Spot Play ROI, I'll go \$1 Win and \$3 Place. Divorce papers might be filed if he doesn't fire big today....somewhat now or never for me and Antiquarian. I'll be very happy if he's in the money. I was patient with Sierra Leone 2 years ago and he paid me off in the 2024 BC Classic...hope my persistence pays off today.					

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
14	8	Miztertonic	8-1	2	\$10 WP #8
Notes:					
I'll be the first to admit this is a bit of a flyer. #8 Miztertonic was AWFUL last time...absolutely no excuse and no late kick whatsoever. But there are few points that should be made. First, he was coming off a 2mile race, so maybe that zapped him. He only had one work between that 2mile race and the last one. Now, he's had two works, including a good one (on paper at least) before this race. Trainer Brion is no dummy, she's sharp. I don't think she'd run him here if she didn't think he could bounce back. Has back-numbers that are competitive here. Let's give him a chance to rebound at a nice price. There are no killers in this wide-open race. For our Spot Play ROI, we'll go \$1 WP.					

See next page for Ellis Park analysis.....

Power Picks

Racetrack: Ellis Park (SUNDAY)

Howard Kravets' Late P5 ABC GRID - Starts at 3:12pm EDT

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

Howard's Late P5 Analysis

Nice sequence of races, 4 of them stakes, plus a maiden turf race to end the card. I'll take a stand with Baffert's #5 Plutarch in R7. He's been working well in Cali and Ky, and is simply the class of the field if he fires is B+ game or better. I'd back up with others. R6, R8, and especially R9 are spreads for me. I'll go lighter in the finale and hope either the experienced #2 or the fresh face firster #4 fires and wins.

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	5	Plutarch	2-1	4	\$25 Win #5

Notes:

I'm not really proud taking a ML-fave off a layoff trained by Baffert...not very creative. But, I don't think Bob would ship here unless he thought the colt was ready. I watched his works in the morning and I like what I saw. He's faced some good ones in Cali, and at one point, Baffert thought he was one of his better Derby prospects in his shedrow. This is a good spot to reboot his 3yo season facing average horses at best for this stake level. Geroux should have him just off the speed, and with a good trip and readiness, should take care of this field at around 8-5.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	2	Owen Almighty	3-1	5	\$25 WP #2

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT ELLIS!! #2 Owen Almighty is finally racing at distances that suit him best. He ran very well off the short layoff last time in a difficult race at Churchill, a nice tightener for today's event. He's tactical but doesn't need the lead. He should be forward for Saez, who can break and look right to evaluate the situation. It won't be easy with the presence of Coal Battle and other talented horses, but the right trip and ride should get the job done for Owen, who hasn't won since pulling off the upset in the TB Derby in March of last year.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	4	Ageeba Beach	8-1	2	\$15 WP #4 BIG Exactas: 4 / 1,2,10 Smaller Exactas: 1,2,10 / 4

Notes:

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This is more of a hunch play / gut feel pick more than anything. This field is awful for a maiden special weight in Kentucky and a big purse. I have to look for a fresh face, as the horses that have run are very "meh" to me. That leads to firsters and **#4 Ageeba Beach**. Hope she takes money on the board, if not, fade this pick. The 3yo filly is a half to Ramsey Pond, a Saffie-trained horse who earned over \$300k on the turf. The dam won her only turf effort. Trainer Lynch is not great in this category of firsters going long, but can pop once in a while and this feels like its one of those potential spots. Horse has good works (bullets two of last three) and Yesdit Hazelwood is more than capable. Cairo Prince filly cost \$135k, so there are at least some expectations. Let's see what she can do. Again, if she's 6-1+ on the board, she's probably a fade.

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

