KEENELAND Power Picks Tip Sheet

Race Day Date	Saturday, Oct. 17, 2026
Picks By	Howard Kravets

Race-Day Overview

It's already the 3rd Saturday of the meet, with only one more weekend left. Time flies when you're having fun!

I thought today's card, especially early, is VERY difficult with huge fields and shaky form for many runners. I'll be focusing on the latter part of the card for most of my betting interest. There are two stakes today, both excellent, in R7 and R9, and I have very strong opinions in both of them.

Keeneland got some rain yesterday but it was supposed to clear out by early evening. I'd expect the main track to probably start as "good" and be fast by mid-card for sure. The turf races should all be on, as the rails are out to protect the inside part of the course for the Breeders' Cup in two weeks. I'll give alternate dirt selections for turf races, but it's very tough to know in advance which horses would run if off turf to dirt. CHECK FOR SCRATCHES AND CHANGES, GOOD LUCK!

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" section…a video explanation is also available on the page

ABC Grid - Post Time 1:00pm EST

The "Stars" rating (last column) is #1 – 5 and represents the level of confidence we have in our "A" column for each race, with 5 being our highest confidence. Dirt selections in off-turf races in red.

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Cost	Stars/Rating
1	5,8	6,11	7,9	5,6,8,11	$0.50 P5	$108	3
2	7,8,10,12	3,5	1,4,6	3,5,7,8,10,12	-	-	1

3	3,7,8	5,6	2,3,4,9	3,7,8	-	-	3
4	1,3,9 1,6,9	6, (14) 3, (14)	(13),(15)	1,3,9	-	-	2
5	3,9	1,2,5	4,8,10	9	-	-	3
6	3,11	5,12	4,10	3,11	$0.50 LP5	$48	2
7	12	1,4	3,5,11	12	-	-	4
8	3,8 4,5,10	4,10 6,8	2,5 1	3,4,8,10	-	-	2
9	11	6,9	5,8	6,9,11	-	-	5
10	5,6 9,12	9,11 2,8,11	3,12 (16)	5,6,9,11	-	-	2

Top 3 Selections

Race #	1st	2nd	3rd
1	8	5	6
2	7	12	8
3	7	8	6
4	9 / 6	1 / 1	3 / 9
5	9	3	5
6	11	3	5
7	12	1	4
8	3 / 4	8 / 10	4 / 5
9	11	6	9
10	5 / 9	6 / 12	11 / 8

Late P5 Strategy/Analysis (R6 - 10)

The Late Pick 5 today is playable, with 2 stakes highlighting the sequence. I have very strong opinions in both of them. I would spread in the non-stake races and go light in the stakes (R7 and R9). #12 Deep Flame should win R7, but I'd back up with the #1 and #4 and let #11 Obliteration beat me. In R9, I REALLY like #11 Movie Night (see Spot Plays), but would still use a few others too. The last race is VERY difficult and I'd spread as much as your budget allows. Good luck!!

$3 All-Turf Pick 3 ABC Grid (assuming all 3 races stay on the turf)

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
4	1,3,9	6, (14)	5	1,3,9	$3 P3	$54
8	3,8	4,10	2,5	3,4,8	-	-
10	5,6	9,11	3,12	5,6	-	-

$3 All-Turf P3 Strategy/Analysis - (R4, R8, R10)

There are three reasons why I may NOT play this sequence, and for me that's saying somethin'. First, the course might be soft. Second, the rails are out, and 3rd, it's a very difficult sequence anyway. R4 is a bit of a guessing game, although I think the #1 is interesting. In R8, I'm against the probable favorite #10 and not sure the #8 wants the extra 16th of a mile, plus she doesn't like to win either. In the last, R10, I'd spread there too, but if I had to single or go light, it'be with the #5 and/or #6. This bet should pay great today, and if you hit, you've earned it!

Howard's Play of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	11	Movie Night	9-2	5	$35 Win #11 BIG Exactas: 11 / 6,9 Smaller Exactas: 6,9 / 11
Notes:					
THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT KEENELAND!! I LOVED **#11 Movie Night** last time, and thought she ran a bang up race vs. BC F & M Sprint contender Explora. The jock moved WAY too soon on the filly, and challenged Explora to a 22 sec. middle quarter before just fading very late to get nabbed by Conceit, who she faces again here. WIth Prat and a more patient yet forward ride, Movie Night can beat this good field. #9 Mashallah will take a ton of support, but has never faced these types. I think Movie Night is just as good, and will be twice the price of Mashallah. I'd take 3-1 all day, maybe even 5-2.					

Most Likely Winner of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
7	12	Deep Flame	7-5	4	$30 Win #12
Notes:					
#12 Deep Flame is probably too fast and too good for this field. Ran a massive race vs. Englishman last time, but faces a much bigger field today. The outside draw works well for him. Unless he doesn't break or is caught 5-6 wide, he should get the job done.					

Longshot Play of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	4	For Love & Honor	10-1	3	$5 Win, $15 Place, $20 Show

Notes:
A lot of things would have to go right for #4 For Love & Honor, but she had no speed to run into last time and made a decent wide move to only flatten out late in the lane. With more speed in front of her and a ground-saving trip by Hernandez, maybe she can get up. She's not that far off the top ones and has run big races in the past. I'd use her underneath in exactas and trifectas for sure, as I don't trust the top ones in the market in this race.

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)
5	5	Classic Time	15-1	2+	$5 Win, 15 Place/Show #5
Notes:					
Let me be very clear….I'd be surprised if **#5 Classic Time** won, and it's a bit of a question mark for him to even finish in the money. But there are a few things that caught my interest….this is a wide-open race with many that are hard to trust, and Classic Time does have a bunch of races on the go-back that would be competitive in this spot. There's enough early speed that would allow him to close, and Saez rides. He was gonna be claimed for $45k back at Saratoga, but the claim was voided. He also was a private vet scratch (could mean anything, or nothing), but worked well since. I understand the 15-1, and maybe he won't fire, but that's way too high a price on this horse and he could outrun his odds.					

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
7	1	Solitude Dude	6-1	3+	$10 Win, $25 Place #1 BIG Exacta: 12/1 Smaller Exacta: 1/12
Notes:					
The G3 Perryville was supposed to have the return of last year's BC Juvenile winner, Ted Noffey, but he's not quite ready for his return. However, #12 Deep Flame will be a major problem for the field and will most likely win. I like **#1 Solitude Dude** from the rail to run big and maybe even upset the field if he fires his best and gets some luck. He's only run two bad races, one was battling Englisman early in the Jerkens (toss), and the last when he didn't fire at Charles Town, but that's a quirky track…another toss. I have WAY too much respect for J. Ortiz and Trainer Sharp to think he can't run well today. He gets a cozy inside trip to stalk from, while his main competition is drawn wide. 7f should suit as well….hoping he can finish 2nd and close out a nice exacta with Deep Flame.					

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	11	Movie Night	9-2	5	$35 Win #11 BIG Exactas: 11 / 6,9 Smaller Exactas: 6,9 / 11
Notes:					
SEE EARLIER FOR MY PLAY OF THE DAY….LOVE THE HORSE IN THIS SPOT!!					

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

Race #	Bet Type	Selections	Cost
5	$10 Daily Double	3,9 / 3,11	$40
7	$5 Pick 3	12 / 3,4,8,10 / 11	$20

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

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