



KEENELAND 

*Power*

## Picks Tip Sheet

Race Day Date	10/20/24
Picks By	Paul Halloran

### Race-Day Overview

If you manage to turn a profit at Keeneland today, you will have earned your money. This is a challenging card with no real free spaces. There are four maiden races, including three in a row to open the proceedings and one in the finale. The feature is a very competitive edition of the Rood & Riddle Dowager, a 12-furlong turf marathon with a tepid favorite. There are the usual full fields – more than 8 horses in seven of the nine races. I get the feeling it's the type of card in which a few solid opinions might make for a good day. And we have a \$190K Pick 6 carryover starting in Race 4. Only 5 days left in what has been a fantastic meet.

### Today's Picks

*\*\*For information on how to read an "ABC Grid" and ticket construction, please refer to our podcast website, [hhhracingpodcast.com](http://hhhracingpodcast.com), and go to the "Power Picks" section...you have to scroll down a bit under the SPP promotion...a video explanation is also available on the page.*

**Go to the next page for analysis and opinions ... good luck!**



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### Racetrack: Keeneland

#### ABC Grid - Post Time 1 p.m. EST

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

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost	Stars/Rating
1	7,8	4,6	1	4,6,7,8	.50 P5	\$96	3
2	4,6,8	1,12		4,6,8			3
3	5,7	8,10	1,2	5,7,8,10			3
4	4	1		4			4
5	2,5,9	8	6	2,5,8,9	.50 P5	\$96	3
6	5,12	4,11	7,8	4,5,11,12			3
7	9,11	7	2	9,11			3
8	1,12	7,9	6	1,12			4
9	4,12	5,6,13(AE)	3,9	4,5,12			2

#### P5 Strategy/Analysis

5 is the magic number today as Race 5 is the anchor leg of the early Pick 5 and the first leg of the late sequence. And it's not an easy race. I have 3 "A" horses and will be going 4 deep on caveman tickets. The 4 in the fourth will be a popular single and I'll be on that train. In the late P5, the Dowager is a competitive race, but you may be forced to go skinnier than you would like for budgetary reasons. I think there is a good chance both sequences will pay decent. If you're playing the P6 carryover, I would try to get by with making the 4 a single in the first leg (Race 4).

#### \$3 Turf Pick 3 ABC Grid

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
3	5,7	8,10	1,2	5,7,8	\$3 Turf P3	\$54
6	5,12	4,11	7,8	5,11,12		
8	1,12	7,9	6	1,12		

#### \$3 Turf P3 Strategy/Analysis

The aforementioned Dowager in Race 8 is the anchor leg of the Turf Pick 3, and I'll likely play an ABC ticket in order to get more coverage than the two horses I'm using in the late P5. I think the middle



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leg is the most wide open of the three. If I were going to press, I would lean on the #5 and 7 in the first leg and the #12 in the 8<sup>th</sup> race. This one will likely pay well.

### Top 3 Selections

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

### Paul's Play of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
1	8	Curls Nite Out	8-1	4	\$25 WP 8

**Notes:** Let's see if we can start the day with a price. This is a filly who lost a Hawthorne off-the-turf by 22 lengths, so there's obviously room for improvement. It is worth noting that the winner of that race, Stable Currency, lost a \$100,000 allowance by a neck at Keeneland Friday (unfortunately for those of us who played her on top). No one else has run back, so school's out on how good or bad the race was, but this is a maiden claimer with no future Zenyattas signed on. Trainer Chris Block has a 14% win rate with 2YO second-time starters and Jareth Loveberry is a solid jock. Curls Nite Out will need a better start than her debut, but hopefully her last work (5F in 1:00 1/5) is a hint that she will get it.

### Most Likely Winner of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
4	4	Mighty Madison	6-5	4	\$50 exacta 4-1

**Notes:** Horses coming out of Saratoga have performed well at this Keeneland meet and this filly had two very tough losses on Union Avenue. The back-to-back 87 Beyers are better than any horse in this field has registered. Trainer Phil Bauer has the magic touch, winning at 22 percent this year and 20 percent at Keeneland over the last 5 years. Throw in Irad and it adds up to a MLW – Most Likely Winner. Since the horse could be even money or lower, I'll try to nail a cold exacta with Mr. Dettori on the rail horse, Nay V Belle, whose only two bad races were a Santa Anita route and Charles Town 2-turn sprint.

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## Longshot Play of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	5	Bilderberg	15-1	3	\$20 WP

**Notes:** This looks like one of those last-race-of-the-day clusters that blow up the tote board – and many multi-race wagers. With that in mind, I’m going bomb hunting with this Steve Asmussen gelding making the biggest class drop in horse racing: maiden special weight to maiden claiming. Asmussen, who gives a leg up to his son, Keith, wins at 23 percent with 2-year-old maidens going turf to dirt and 22 percent MSW to MCL. This son of Ghostzapper – whom I was fortunate to visit last week in Kentucky – didn’t lift a hoof in his debut at Kentucky Downs, but he may not have liked the grass or the undulations. This is admittedly a reach, but if we connect we will get paid!

## 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)
6	5	Just the Sky	8-1	4	\$20 WP \$10 DD 5 with 9,11

**Notes:** In what I think is the most wide-open race on the card, I’m looking for value and should get it with this daughter of Justify. It took her six starts to break her maiden, which she did with a furious stretch drive at Ellis on August 11. Not thrilled with a lengthy layoff after that, but if Cherie DeVaux didn’t want to go to Kentucky Downs and Churchill running on turf as often as Oaklawn, there may have not been any other appealing options. DeVaux, whom I hold in the highest regard and believe to be a future Hall-of-Famer, is 19% off a maiden win and 15% off this kind of layoff. She and Johnny V are dangerous together – 24% over the last 5 years.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
7	11	Raise Cain	5-1	4	\$40 win

**Notes:** The far outside post is far from ideal, but better to be there at 1 1/8 than 1 1/16. And Jose Ortiz is among the best at working out decent trips in situations like this. Ben Colebrook is an underrated trainer, although with only a 10% strike rate going sprint6 to route. I think Jose can sit off #9 Hero Status, who is also stretching out, and get first run on the closers. Raise Cain is 0-4 at 9 furlongs, but all were graded stakes. He might find this company more to his liking.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	12	Banks	6-1	3	\$20 win \$5 exacta 12 with 3,4,5,6



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**Notes:** Yes, I know I have a different horse as my longshot of the day in this race, but that's the type of race it is. This is more of a value play, because if Banks goes off close to his ML of 6-1 – which may be unlikely with Irad riding -- I think he is worth a shot. Outwork is 15% with 2YO first-time starters and trainer Brittany Russell clicks at 21% with sophomore horses on debut. Russell, a dominant force in Maryland, is winless at KEE the last five years but it's a small sample (0-9). She and Irad are 3-16 together (19%) the past 5 years. I like that the Fair Hill-based horse has a work at KEE – 48 2/5 last Sunday. Let's hope we can go to the Banks.

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

Race	Bet Type	Selections	Cost
3	\$1 Tri	5,7,8 with 10 with ALL 5,7,8 with ALL with 10	\$60
7	\$10 DD	9,11 with 1,12	\$40

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

