

KEENELAND *** Picks Tip Sheet

Race Day Date	Friday April 11, 2025
Picks By	Pete Visco

Race-Day Overview

It's been a crazy week at Keeneland with the terrible weather, moving of race days, and having maybe the best Tuesday card in history with Blue Grass Day. So there is no better way to continue the seven straight days of racing than with an exciting Friday card featuring a race that always seems to be exciting, the Grade 1 Maker's Mark Mile. This year we have another excellent edition with a mix of foreign invaders and some tough U.S. hopefuls. Should make for an awesome rendition!!

Around the Maker's Mark, we have one other stakes which is a difficult turf sprint Stakes, the Limestone, and a host of other races with big, competitive fields with maybe the toughest race being the 2nd which is a 2 year-old Maiden Special Weight with a field of 12 1st time starters. It's always great when we start seeing the 2 year olds debut, but those races can be a beast to handicap.

All-in-All it's a card that is tough to handicap, but I think is going to lead to some opportunities for some nice payouts whether you are paying vertically or horizontally.

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.

Go to the next page for our analysis of the races.....Good Luck!





Racetrack: Keeneland

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.

Race	Α	В	С	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost	Stars/Rating
1	2,6	1,5	-	2,6	\$0.50 P5	\$96	3
2	1,7	4,10	11,12	1,7	-	-	5
3	2,3,8	1	7	2,3,8	-	-	4
4	3,9	8,10	4,6	3,8,9,10	-	-	2
5	4,5	1,8	3,9,12	1,4,5,8	-	-	4
6	4,7	5,6	1,3	4,5,6,7	\$0.50 P5	\$90	4
7	6,7,12	4,9	11	4,6,7,9,12	-	-	3
8	1,3,9	2	-	1,3,9	-	-	4
9	6	1,8	-	6	_	-	5
10	1,10,11	2	4,7	1,10,11	_	-	4

Late P5 Strategy/Analysis (R6 - 10)

The key to the Late Pick-5 for me, and this will repeat in the analysis of the All-Turf Pick-3 below, is whether or not you feel comfortable singling **#6-Carl Spackler** in the 9th Race, the Maker's Mark Mile. For me, I am comfortable using him as a single for the reasons noted below in the Most Likely Winner of the Day section. Doing that allows me to go deeper in each of the other four legs because I think each one of them are super tough races where you could easily spread. The 7th Race is one where I particularly think you can make cases for half the field. The good thing about this sequence is, aside from the 9th Race, I don't expect there to be any huge favorites that everyone will definitely have on their tickets, so we could get a really nice payout.

\$3 All-Turf Pick 3 ABC Grid

Race	Α	В	С	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
5	4,5	1,8	3,9,12	1,4,5,8	\$3 P3	\$60
7	6,7,12	4,9	11	4,6,7,9,12	-	-
9	6	1,8	-	6	-	-

\$3 All-Turf P3 Strategy/Analysis - (R5, R7, R9)

The key to this All-Turf Pick-3 for me is whether or not you are comfortable singling **#6-Carl Spackler** in the 9th Race, the Maker's Mark Mile. Why that's so important in my eyes is that the other two legs are really tough and look to me like pure spread races. As noted later in the Tip Sheet, I envision **#6-Carl Spackler** as the Most Likely Winner of the Day, so I am definitely going the single route. From an ABC perspective, I did include a couple of other horses that I think have a shot (**#1-Integration** and **#8-Northern Invader**) just in case Carl isn't at his best and needs one.





Top 3 Selections

Race	1st	2nd	3rd
1	6 - Busk	2 - King of Kentucky	5 - Lucky Shot
2	1 - Satisfied Mind	7 - Gorrono Ranch	4 - Cheekwood
3	8 - Papa Yo	8 - Papa Yo 2 - Love Me Not	
4	3 - Mustang Lady	9 - Brooklyn Can Dance	8 - Rare Ruby
5	4 - Hear the Queen	5 - Play With Fire	1 - Ramsey Pond
6	4 - Churning Berni	7 - Stirred Up	5 - Hope Restored
7	12 - Kilwin	6 - Shisospicy	7 - Mighty Eriu
8	1 - Play With Magic	9 - Snowyte	3 - Surprise
9	6 - Carl Spackler	8 - Northern Invader	1 - Integration
10	11 - Task Force	1 - Abundance	10 - Freedom Maker

Pete's Play of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)		
8	1	Play With Magic	9-2	4	\$25 Win - 1		
Notes: It's always shaky having your play of the day be a 1st time starter, but I am going to take a shot with this one. On the							

Notes: It's always shaky having your play of the day be a 1st time starter, but I am going to take a shot with this one. On the Sire-Side, the progeny are 11% W with 3yo and up 1st timers and 15% W in Dirt Sprints, two solid numbers. On the Dam-Side, this horse is a half to Triple Crown winning Justify, so there are some great bloodlines. Also, the Dam-Side progeny are 50% W/P with 1st timers, 47% W with 3yos, and 28% W Dirt Sprints. Finally, Cherie DeVaux is 56% W with 1st timers on Dirt in the past 100 days. All that adds up to a 1st timer who I think can get it done.

Most Likely Winner of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)	
9	6	Carl Spackler	9-5	5	\$40 Win - 6	

Notes: There isn't a huge case that needs to be made why this is the most likely winner of the day. We can start with the connections, Chad Brown and Flavien Prat. That combination is always going to be tough in a big-time turf race. On top of that, Carl obviously likes the Keeneland Turf Course since he has a win two back in the G1 Turf Mile with a 102 Beyer and loves the 8f distance where he has 6 wins in 8 starts.

Longshot Play of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
7	12	Kilwin	8-1	3	\$15 Win/Place - 12

Notes: Although I mentioned in the Pick-5 analysis that I thought the 7th Race, the Limestone Stakes, was one of the tougher races on the card, it's hard to pass up the morning line price on my top choice, **#12-Kilwin**, as my longshot play. The biggest thing for me is how good she looked in her first two career starts sprinting on the turf, and then ran pretty well against what has come back as a really good field in the BC Juvenile Fillies Turf routing, which I don't think she wants to do. Now she is cutting back to a distance that suits her and we get a price.



KEENELAND :



HHH Ownership Horse of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
5	7	Minnesota Munny	30-1	1	\$2 Win/Place/Show

Notes: This is a newly added, fun category just for this edition since **#7-Minnesota Munny** is a horse that some of the HHH Hosts/Co-Hosts (including me) have an ownership interest in through Crowns Way Racing. From a handicapping standpoint, she doesn't have much of a shot, but I just wanted to shout her out in case anyone wants to throw down a small bet just to root with the HHH Crew.

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)			
1	6 Busk 7-2 3 \$15 Win - 6 \$5 Exacta Box - 2,6		\$15 Win - 6 \$5 Exacta Box - 2,6					
	Notes: I am taking a bit of a leap of faith with this horse since he has only run on synthetic at this point, but he is in such good form right new that, if the form translates to dirt. I think he has a huge chance. Based on his breeding (Sire Side is 18% W in							

form right now that, if the form translates to dirt, I think he has a huge chance. Based on his breeding (Sire-Side is 18% W in Dirt Sprints and Dam-Side is 21 W in Dirt Sprints), I feel like the transition is doable. As for the race itself, I think **#6-Busk** can either try and clear or sit just off being on the outside. I think him and the **#2-King of Kentucky** will just need to not get into a speed duel for them to both be in the mix, which is why I went with that exacta as well.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
5	4	Hear the Queen	7-2	4	\$20 Win - 4

Notes: The 5th is a very tough Allowance race, but **#4-Hear the Queen** jumped out at me. Similar to my pick in the 1st above, this is another horse coming out of synthetic races, but this time it is onto the Keeneland turf. This is a move that her trainer B. Cox has been very successful with, as evidenced by the stat below. Aside from the trainer angle, I like that she came back in her 1st start as a 3yo with a resounding win on the front-end producing lifetime Beyer and Timeform tops. I always love to see that move forward from 2-to-3. She is also 2nd time Lasix and 2nd with L. Machado up. I think she has a chance to be the speed of the speed and can take this field all the way around the track.

Key Stat: B. Cox - Synthetic-to-Turf Routes - 10/27 (37%) W, 20/27 (74%) ITM, \$2.68 ROI

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	11	Task Force	6-1	3	\$15 Win/Place - 11 \$0.50 Trifecta Key Box - 11 w/ 1,2,4,7,10

Notes: Might as well finish off the price/spot plays with another horse transitioning from synthetic, this time to the dirt, with the **#11-Task Force**. His debut was nothing to write home about. He was 22-1, broke slowly, and ran on a little bit late to finish a non-impressive 6th. However, there are a few things that I think can turn him around this time out. Breeding wise, the Sire-Side is 16% W in Dirt Routes as opposed to 12% W in Synthetic Routes, and the Dam-Side, which doesn't have any other runners, looks good for Dirt Routing. From a trainer standpoint, P. Eurton is much better 2nd out as opposed to on debut as evidenced by the stat below. Finally, a few other things I like are the picking up on F. Prat, the \$225k purchase price on a \$30k stud fee, the drop from MSW to MdnClm, and the strong last two works both on the Keeneland dirt.

Key Stat: P. Eurton - Goes from 9/119 (8%) W, 33/119 (28%) ITM, \$1.23 ROI with 1st Time Starters to 21/105 (20%), 52/105 (50%), \$2.21 with 2nd Time Starters





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

Race #	Bet Type	Selections	Cost
2	\$10 Daily Double	1,7 / 8	\$20
8	\$20 Daily Double	1/6	\$20
9	\$10 Exacta \$5 Exacta	6,8 8,6	\$15

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

