

Power Picks

Race Date	11/15/25
Edition #	Vol. 5, No. 45

Race-Day Overview

Today features two very good sequences, especially at Churchill Downs, where the 2025 Claiming Crown Championships take place. These races are for horses that have been claimed for a certain price since 2024, and the field sizes are ENORMOUS with many difficult handicapping puzzles and talented, hard-knocking horses in good form. Also, they're coming from all over the country and different circuits, and from different class levels. If you're right in any of these races, you'll get paid for sure...we'll focus, as usual, on the Late P5.

Aqueduct's solid November racing is also on the docket for the Tip Sheet, as we'll take a look at the Late P5 with turf races abound. Weather is going to cooperate according to the forecast, so that should allow the fields to hold together. Good luck today....AS ALWAYS, CHECK FOR SCRATCHES AND CHANGES.

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

Overall ROI (since Feb. 2021): **\$2.06** (\$1,976.14 / 961)

YTD: **\$1.81** (\$389.53 / 215)

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.*

Racetrack: Churchill Downs

Howard Kravets' ABC Grid – R7 starts at 3:55pm EDT

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	8,10,11	5,9,13	7	5,8,9,10,11,13	\$0.50 P5	\$72
8	4,5	3	6,7,(13)	4,5		
9	7,12,14	8,11	1,6,10	12,14		
10	2,10,12	-	6,7,8	2,10,12		
11	3,4,9	-	7,8,12	3,9		

Power Picks

Paul Halloran's Late P5 Grid:

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	9,11	5,10	8,13	5,9,10,11	\$.50 P5	\$96
8	4,5	1,6	8	4,5		
9	7,11	12,14	6,8	7,11,12		
10	2,10	12,13	1,7	2,10,12,13		
11	3,9	4	1,2	3,9		

Pete Visco's Late P5 Grid:

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
7	9,13	10,11	5,8	9,10,11,13	\$0.50 P5	\$96
8	1,4,5	3,8	6	1,4,5	-	-
9	11,12	4,7	6,8	11,12	-	-
10	12	2,7,10	3,6,13	7,12	-	-
11	3,4,9	2	1,8	2,3,4,9	-	-

Howard's Late Pick 5 Analysis – Races 7 - 11

Let's just start with this....it's difficult. Of course, I thought that way last week, but was fortunate enough to have a big score and 4 "A" horses winning on the ABC grid, so let's hope history repeats itself today, but it won't be easy. You could literally spread in every race and spend \$500 on this P5 ticket, but very few of us could afford that, so let's pair it down. For my money, I would spread most in R7, R9, and R10....then go a bit lighter in R8 and R11. It's VERY hard to find any singles here. If I HAD TO, I'd think about the #2 in R10 and/or either the #3 or #9 in R11 (see Spot Plays). The latter single in R11 is more likely a winner, I think. I certainly would not be singling with much confidence. Also, be aware that there are MANY AE's (also-eligibles) in the entries today, so if there are scratches in the main body, they'll be replaced with others, so full fields are almost guaranteed.

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	12	Keen Cat	8-1	3	\$15 WP #12 BIG Excatas: 12 / 7,8,11,14 Smaller Exactas: 7,8,11,14 / 12

Notes:

This race, like many in this sequence, is difficult. I have no desire to take a low-priced horse here. #12 Keen Cat has raced vs. a bunch of these before and faired very well, splitting victories 2 and 3 back vs. the 4-1 ML #10 Gilmore in this race. Keen Cat has been resting up since Aug. 1st, is turning back in distance, and gets plenty of pace to run into. His midpack style is perfect for this race flow, and Hernandez knows the horse well. One concern is the outside post....no doubt Hernandez will have to

Power Picks

work out a trip from there, but so do many contenders. He's been working steadily, including a bullet 46 ½ seconds work on Nov. 9th to sharpen him up. His best matches up well here...he'll need it vs. a very competitive group and big purse.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	2	Cadet Corps	6-1	5	\$25 Win #2 Trifectas: 2 / 10,12 / 6,7,8,10,12 10,12 / 2 / 6,7,8,10,12 10,12 / 6,7,8,10,12 / 2

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT CHURCHILL. It wasn't easy to find a Play of the Day today at CD due to the large fields, but I'll settle on #2 Cadet Corps to fill that role. I wouldn't say this is my most confident Play of the Day I've given out on these Tlp Sheets. This horse has a few things going for him. The inside post will allow him to save ground on the first turn and perhaps the second turn too, which is more I can say for his main rivals who are marooned out wide. He's been rested and is ready for this effort, with several meaningful works at his home base at Monmouth. Junior Alvarado is having a big year and should suit this horse well...Junior opts to ride here today instead of nice ones in NY, hmmm?! I expect him to come from off the pace and make a run late. He might be SLIGHTLY slower than others if they run their best, but I think the post, time off, jock, and speed figs puts him right there at a decent price. He's won 15/41 lifetime starts too, so he knows where the Winner's Circle is....except at CD since he's never run there.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
11	9	Echo Lane	3-1	4	\$20 Win #9

Notes:

The finale brings together another talented, big field, this time on the turf. The horse to beat is the #3 Risk Manager, who is in raging form and might be a length or two better than most in the field. However, it's a huge field, and there's NOT a lot of early speed signed on. Risk Manager might have traffic trouble in the lane, and at around 7-5, I'm not sure I want to find out if he can handle that. Meanwhile, **#9 Echo Lane** is MUCH more tractable early, and he figures to have less traffic to deal with, in theory. He's probably a length or two slower, but also is in great form and should sit a good trip if the jock is aggressive. Let price be your guide for which horse bet on the win end, but the value is probably Echo Lane. The surprise package, if there is one, might be #4 Nantasket Beach (8-1).

Racetrack: Aqueduct

Howard Kravets' ABC Grid – R7 starts at 2:10pm EDT

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
6	10	1,5	3,8	1,5,10	\$0.50 P5	\$90
7	4	1,5,7	3,8	1,4,5,7		
8	2,6	1,4,7	3	1,2,4,6,7		
9	4	3,7	1,6	4		
10	4,12	9	8	4,9,12		



Howard's Late Pick 5 Analysis – Races 6 - 10

With 2 stakes in this Late P5 and some possible singles, the sequence could be chalky, but I'll be trying to find some prices in certain races while most likely singling horses in others. The spread races for me will be R7, 8, and especially 10, the finale. My strongest opinions are in R6 and R9. If I were playing a skinny ticket, I'd focus on singles on R6 with the #10 and R9 with the #4. They both are likely winners if they run their A- efforts. Possible price horses occur in R7, R8, and R10 (see Spot Plays for all). If Laurelin AND Fionn are both beaten on the win end in R7, I guarantee the Late P5's payout will jump up big time. I hope that's the case!

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	1	Scythian	8-1	5	\$10 Win, \$20 Place Trifectas: 1 / 4,7 / 3,4,5,7,8 4,7 / 1 / 3,4,5,7,8 4,7 / 3,4,5,7,8 / 1

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT AQUEDUCT!! For purposes of the ROI on this tip sheet, I'll go \$1 to win and \$3 to Place. Trained by Mott, **#1 Scythian** is a talented NY-Bred filly who was staked in open company last year, and ran perfectly fine. She even ran in the BC Juvenile Fillies Turf vs. a monster called Lake Victoria (remember?!). She was rested up for a while, and brought back in a dirt race, then last time finished 3rd in a state-bred allowance. But watch that replay....she was ready to explode up the inside, but got steadied BADLY midstretch, had nowhere to go, but galloped out like a train. I'm fully convinced she would have won that by open lengths with a Beyer in the high 70's. Her dam dropped a few babies that were effective at this elongated distance, and Mott is aggressively placing her here. Don't know who's riding with Civaci injured and Junior Alvarado at Churchill today, but I still like her anyway. One concern is the softer turf that has been developing in the last 48 hours...she's never been on anything except firm. If she's not fast enough to win, at least use her underneath in exotics like I've suggested above. I think we'll get that 8-1 ML price vs. two heavily bet horses (Fionn and Laurelin). She'll save ground and ideally love the distance. Just hope she handles softer turf. Fascinating horse with the right trip in today's G3 Jockey Club Oaks.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	6	Empire Sky	3-1	3	\$15 Win #6

Notes:

First thing right off the top....**#6 Empire Sky** should NOT be 3-1. That's too low a price on the win end for me. However, he's moving in the right direction and ran well vs. very likely heavy favorite #2 Long Pour last time, losing by 2 lengths. He gets a major jock upgrade to Kendrick, and plenty of early speed to run into. My main angle here is the distance....I don't think Long Pour will be as effective going 6 ½ furlongs, and I don't see that as a problem for Empire Sky. Empire Sky will have to improve a bit and hope for other early speed to develop, but both seem very possible to me. Again, don't take too low a

Power Picks

price on him however IMO. Don't completely sleep on bigger prices #1 and/or #7 either. I just think this race is not as simple as Long Pour. But if that one wins by 2-3 lengths, I wouldn't be surprised.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	4	Abigail	8-1	4	\$10 WP #4

Notes:

Last race of the day is a maiden special weight for 2yo's on the turf. #4 Abigail gives me some mixed signals, but the ML price is too juicy to ignore. The Clement-trained Constitution filly was as green as the grass she was running on first out, when pushed wide on the first turn, a bit rank, then had some steering issues on the far turn and into the stretch. That all being said, she finished strongly and galloped out well, signaling some talent. Clement's first-call rider, Rosario, was scheduled to ride (more confidence gained), but he's injured, so not sure who'll be riding as of this writing. I also don't like that she was 30-1+ in her debut. When the Clement horses are talented and ready, they're bet. But perhaps this filly surprised the barn and she'll be much better today. There are no killers in the field either. She's worked steadily since, and is a MUST USE in your exotics, horizontally and vertically. I hope she is not too far back when they turn for home, then we'll see what she's got. For our ROI, we'll go \$1 WP.

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

