



Picks Tip Sheet

Race Day Date	Saturday, April 4th, 2026
Picks By	Howard Kravets

Race-Day Overview

Welcome to Day #2 of the Keeneland Spring Meet....it's Blue Grass S. Day!

Always one of my favorite days of the racing calendar, today does not disappoint. Although, I will say the All-Stakes Late P5 field sizes are a bit smaller than usual with all the great racing throughout the country, and there will be some heavy chalks in the middle of the card...but some big faves lost yesterday, so it's never easy at Keeneland.

I'll be focusing my betting attention in the later part of the card, with the big stake races and a few horses I'll be tipping out that will be bet heavily vertically and using horizontally. Good luck today...as always, CHECK FOR SCRATCHES AND CHANGES!!

Today's Picks

***For information on how to read an "ABC Grid" and ticket construction, please refer to our podcast website, hhracingpodcast.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.

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Cost	Stars/Rating
1	5,6	2,4	-	2,4,5,6	\$0.50 P5	\$64	3
2	4,7,8	6	1	4,6,7,8	-	-	4
3	4	3	2,6	3,4	-	-	3
4	8,10,(15)	2,4,(13)	3,5,6,9	2,4,8,10, (15)	-	-	2
5	10	2,12,(14)	5,9	10	-	-	5

6	3	-	5,8	3	-	-	5
7	7	-	5,6	7	\$0.50 P5	\$60	4
8	4,10	7,8,9	3	4,7,8,9,10	-	-	3
9	1,4	2,3,5	-	1,4	-	-	3
10	2,8	12	3,4,10	2,4,8,12	-	-	4
11	4,6,9	-	1	4,6,9	-	-	5

Top 3 Selections

Race	1st	2nd	3rd
1	5 - Quality Mischief	6 - Gethsemane	2 - Thailand
2	8 - Accost	4 - Deep Flame	7 - Gilded Bandit
3	4 - Sippin Pretty	3 - Swing Vote	2 - Our Two Girls
4	8 - Rune	10 - Dyna	2 - Honfleur
5	5 - Praetor	2 - Gate to Wire	12 - U Devil You
6	3 - Shoot It True	8 - Hey Bertie	5 - Buttercream Babe
7	7 - Saudi Crown	5 - National Identity	6 - Multitask
8	10 - Imaginationthelady	4 - To a Flame	9 - Sister Troienne
9	1 - Eclatant	4 - Ragtime	5 - Grand Job
10	2 - My Boy Prince	8 - Litigation	12 - Usually Wrong
11	4 - Reagan's Honor	9 - Ottinho	6 - Further Ado

Late P5 Strategy/Analysis (R7 - 11)

Keeneland is always a serious challenge. Horses are coming in from all over the country for this boutique meet with huge purses, high-level stakes, and prestige to boot. However, today's All-Stakes Late P5 is very playable with possible singles, so I don't think it's quite as challenging as usual. #7 Saudi Crown SHOULD take care of business in the opening leg, but is not a cinch as he's burned money before. I would spread in R8 and R10, and go medium depth in R9 and R11. Unlike some people, I absolutely would NOT single #6 Further Ado in the Blue Grass, while recognizing he is the horse to beat and certainly can win the race. As you know by my Spot Plays later in the Tip

Sheet, I think the outside horse, #9 Otzinho, has a chance to pull off a shocker, or at least be in the money. Should be a fun-filled last 5 races at Keeneland today, can't wait!!

\$3 All-Turf Pick 3 ABC Grid

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
6	3	-	5,8	3	\$3 P3	\$45
8	4,10	7,8,9	3	4,7,8,9,10	-	-
10	2,8	12	3,10	2,8,12	-	-

\$3 All-Turf P3 Strategy/Analysis - (R6, R8, R10)

I'd never say a Turf Pick 3 at Keeneland is easy, but this one seems very reasonable to play without spending a ton of money. #3 Shoot It True should win the first leg, unless she's just not ready off the layoff, which I doubt. I would spread most in R8, even though I think the #9 or #10 will win. Then, I only need 3 horses in the last leg, but easily could use more as it's a turf sprint.

Howard's Play of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
11	9	Ottinho	20-1	5	\$5 Win, \$20 Place BIG Exactas: 4,6 / 9 Smaller Exactas: 9 / 4,6

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT KEENELAND!! Here we go, another big Derby Prep, and another bomb (price will go down come post time, read below) I'm touting to make a big splash in the mutuals, again mainly underneath. This angle has been awesome for me the last few weeks, hope today is the same. **#9 Otzinho** for Chad Brown and Flavian Prat seeks to qualify for the Derby. He was meant to run in the Wood Memorial at Aqueduct, but Chad switches to the Blue Grass after Paladin was scratched. I have two major concerns: 1) He's never run on any other surface, and 2) This was not the original plan, to run at Keeneland. That all being said, he's a half to HoF'r Gun Runner and is meant to be a good one. The Withers has been broken down by me quite a bit, the same race Grittiness came from before his surprise 2nd in the Virginia Derby. That was just a funky track, and several horses have improved off that effort. **#2 CLASS PRESIDENT (and the #7) WILL SCRATCH TODAY**, which will lower Otzinho's price greatly, I'm guessing around 5-1 post time, maybe 3rd choice. There feels like a lot of early speed in here, and I just think Prat will let the speed go and sit a great trip. I'm hoping Flavian takes back and makes one run, although the blinkers on indicate either more early speed or more focus, I hope it's the latter. There's talent here...will it manifest itself today? We'll see, but I'm getting a decent price to find out. For our ROI, I'll go \$1 Win \$3 Place, as he's more likely to finish in 2nd than 1st.

Most Likely Winner of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
6	3	Shoot It True	3-5	5	\$20 Exacta 3-8

Notes:

#3 Shoot It True is a VERY talented NY-Bred trained by Ward. She was awesome last year once switched to grass, and this comeback race does not look too difficult. Contention does NOT run deep...it's a perfect spot for the talented filly to get her 2026 started. Unless she's just not ready (doubt it) or gets a horrific trip (always possible), she's a winner, and we'll see her back in stakes races after this.

Longshot Play of the Day

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
4	8	Rune	15-1	3	\$15 WP #8

Notes:

In a race without a standout, I'll take a shot with what should be lone early speed in the **#8 Rune**. The filly has plenty of early gas, but not only should she be loose, she's bred to go long on the turf, as she's a daughter of the talented Yoshita. Maybe she's not good enough and lacks stamina, but perhaps she gets brave on the lead into slowish fractions and can hang around longer than expected. I think the key will be how much pressure the #10 for J. Ortiz puts on Rune early...or does he let her go. Trainer Lobo (on the #8) is capable of pulling off upsets, and this field feels like that could happen with one slow half mile. Be aggressive Joel, and take your chances on the lead.

Other 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	5	Quality Mischief	9-2	4	\$20 WP #5

Notes:

If **#5 Quality Mischief** is patiently-ridden by J. Ortiz, this colt can upset the Race 1 field. He had no chance last time in the Risen Star (G2) vs. Paladin, but the previous two starts are definitely good enough to beat this field, where he closed from behind. The Cox-trainee has been working steadily since, and the horses to his inside should create at least an honest pace. I'd love to get 3-1+ here.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	10	Imaginationthelady	7-2	3+	\$20 WP #10

Notes:

There's a common theme you'll hear throughout today's Tip Sheet: classy horses coming off layoffs vs. horses that have been running throughout the winter. You need to decide which layoff horses you trust and which ones will "need one" and are pointing to something down the road. It's a tricky situation, which is part of the reason why Keeneland can be a challenge. **#10 Imaginationthelady** was one of the better 2yo turf fillies in the country, but that's not saying much because it was a weak group. However, she finished a solid 4th in the BC Juvenile Female Turf and won here on this track last fall. I love the way she's working for her comeback, completely blowing by her barnmates in the morning (who didn't run great last weekend at GP however). She's a big filly who prefers to be on the outside, and there's enough early speed to set up her closing kick. She'll need racing luck...it's a big field with some talented runners, but I'll trust Tyler G. and Walsh to have her ready to win vs. a somewhat weak group overall in my opinion. Pay attention to how stablemate stakes-runner Vasy ran yesterday at Keeneland...they've been working together in her most recent work in the a.m. at Payson

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	2	My Boy Prince	6-1	4	\$25 Win BIG Exactas: 2 / 4,8,12 Smaller Exactas: 8,12 / 2

Notes:

#2 My Boy Prince once again shows up on this Tip Sheet as a Spot Play, something I've done successfully with this horse before. The G2 Shakertown is always a challenging race, and today is no exception. I LOVE #8 Litigation as a horse and tipped him out at GP, but this is a significantly tougher spot (he absolutely can win too). I believe My Boy Prince will be a higher price and will get a better trip, although the latter is just speculation frankly. He's versatile, can sit close or be further back. With this inside post, I expect him to save ground a few lengths off the lead, then explode in the lane with only a need to find room. 5 ½ furlongs at Keeneland should be perfect for him. He's got plenty of figs and back-class to get the job done, but will have to run his "A" race. He only lost to Litigation by 1 length two starts back, and that's when Prince was coming off a layoff.

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

Race #	Bet Type	Selections	Cost
5	\$30 Daily Double	10 / 3	\$30
7	\$20 Daily Double	7 / 4,10	\$40
10	\$1 Trifecta	2,8 / 2,4,8,12 / 2,3,4,8,10,12	\$24

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

