

Power Picks

Race Date	8/15/26
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Race-Day Overview

Another big Saturday of racing, as we go North of the Border for the biggest day in Canadian racing, the \$1million King's Plate Card, their version of Kentucky Derby Day. There are 6 stakes, all of which are covered on this tip sheet.

Then, we'll look at the Late P5 at Saratoga with two stakes including the G1 Breeder's Cup Win-And-You're-In Christophe Clement on turf (formally the Sword Dancer). Should be a great day of racing, weather is supposed to cooperate at both locales....CHECK FOR SCRATCHES AND CHANGES!

Next week, we'll feature Del Mar for their biggest day of the summer, Pacific Classic Day!

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

***Overall ROI (since Feb. 2021): \$2.12 (\$2,470.40 / 1163)**

2026: \$2.61 (\$444.34 / 170)

2026 Plays of the Day: \$3.16 (\$167.64 / 53)

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.**

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Racetrack: Woodbine (R6 / stakes start at 3:11pm EDT)

Howard Kravets' ALL-STAKES ABC GRID

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
6	5,7	8	6	5,7,8	-	-
7	6,8	4,5	2	6,8	\$5 P3 (7,9,10)	\$80
8	6	4	1,3,7	6	-	-
9	3,4	2,5	-	2,3,4,5	-	-
10	1,9	4,8,12	5,7	1,9	-	-
11	1,3	4	2,6	1,3,4	-	-

Paul Halloran's ALL-STAKES ABC GRID:

No grid sent....see our Thursday Picks & Ponies show for his analysis

Pete Visco's ALL-STAKES ABC GRID:

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
6	5,7	2,8	3,4	2,5,7,8	\$1 P4	\$96
7	4,8	2,5,6	3	4,8	-	-
8	6,7	4	1,3	4,6,7	-	-
9	3,4,5	1,2	9	2,3,4,5	-	-
10	1,8	5,9,12	4	1,8	-	-
11	3,4	1,2,6	-	1,3,4	-	-

Howard's Stakes Analysis

There is no Pick 5 or Pick 6 that covers these races only. There are many betting options however, including an enticing \$5 Pick 3 in R7,9,10. Obviously, if ML-fave #1 Luster wins the King's Plate, all horizontal payouts will decrease dramatically. The main question is...do you want to single her and press-up your opinions, or try to beat her and really get a massive score? I'll tend to play the latter, while still using her on smaller press-up tickets.

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	8	Notorious Gangster	4-1	3+	\$20 Win #8

Notes:

#8 Notorious Gangster is a 4yo with big upside. He's turning back in distance which should work wonders for him. He'll have to avoid a wide trip into the far turn, but there is early speed signed on (less if #2 scratches) and last time he was wide into a slow pace going two turns...those are bad combinations. He has numbers to go back to and should fire a big one today...it'll depend on the pace

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and his trip, but he won't be the favorite and is capable with one of his better efforts. Look for him flying late, most likely down the crown of the track.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	6	Proctor Street	2-1	5	\$40 Win #6 BIG Exactas: 6 / 4,7 Smaller Exactas: 4,7 / 6

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT WOODBINE! I'm usually trying to beat #6 Proctor Street when she runs, but not today. She's simply the class of this field, and had a no-hope trip last time at Saratoga. I'm hoping the jock uses her just a touch early to gain a mid-pack trip, as I don't want her launching from the back into a slow pace like last time. She has numbers that in general are just better than everyone in the field, although not by a ton. The wildcard of the race is #4 Eponine. Her Beyer figs are a bit slow but she earned a massive Timeform number last time, which is a number I usually trust. But she got a perfect trip too. Can she beat me? Sure, but I'm betting against that happening. I hope today is Proctor's day...I'd take as low as 8-5 to find out. I'm not sure I'll get that price however...depends how much money Eponine and the rail horse take in the pools. For me, it's now or never with Proctor Street.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	4	Epic Affair	20-1	2	\$5 Win, \$10 Place, \$15 Show

Notes:

Maybe I'm reaching for something here, but why not in a race that seems wide-open to me? We talked at length on the podcast Thursday about #4 Epic Affair, a bomb that my co-hosting buddy Pete Visco also touted coincidentally. The Epicenter filly broke a tad slow, and was 4- 5 wide on a tight course swinging out of the far turn. She had no chance in that race as the 1-2 finishers ran that way around the track in a fast time. She's bred to run further, and Trainer Cox is capable of winning with longer prices, especially with this jockey, who keeps the faith and stays on after taking money in her debut. There's enough early speed to set up a possible closing kick, and I don't think it'll take massive improvement to compete. Maybe she's not good enough to win, but throw her in your exactas and tri's underneath for sure. For our Spot Play ROI, we'll go \$1 Place and Show.

Racetrack: Saratoga

Howard Kravets' Late P5 ABC GRID - Starts at 4:29pm EDT

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
8	2,3,10	8	1,5,6	2,3,8,10	\$0.50 LP5	\$64
9	1,6	3,5	2,4,7	1,6	-	-
10	3,4,5	2	6,8	2,3,4,5	-	-
11	2	4,6,7	-	2	-	-
12	8	1,3,10	4	1,3,8,10	-	-

Late P5 Analysis (R8-12)

Today's Late P5 contains two graded stakes, two very different maiden races, and a mile chute event. Let the board be your guide in the first leg of babies, but I'll probably use 3-4 horses in that leg. The R9 turf sprint stake is tricky, and again I'll use several. I'll be taking a stand a bit in the Clement, using mainly the #1 and #6, while leaning on the rail horse, and use others defensively. It feels like R11 and R12 could be chalky, as the #2 in R11 and #8 R12 feel awfully logical. If it's not them, it could be many others, so ticket structure is very important here....which one, if not both (#2 and #8), are you going to lean on? A relatively cheap ticket is possible for this Late P5, especially in the later legs.

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	1	Ancient Egypt	5-1	5	\$40 Win, \$25 Place #1

Notes:

THIS IS MY PLAY OF THE DAY AT SARATOGA!! I will admit, when you're tipping out Euros first-time in the USA, it's a bit of a guess. But **#1 Ancient Egypt**, the only 3yo in the field, must be here for a big reason....to qualify for the Breeder's Cup. Unless you've been hiding under a rock, 3yo Euro turfers have done some serious damage at Saratoga this summer (Kensington Road and Glacious just to name a few). Because he's facing older, you could argue this is a tougher test than his 3yo counterparts that won at the Spa, but Euros face older horses all the time back at home at this time of year, and the connections are not intimidated. Frankly, our distance turfers (other than Bourbon Square) are just not very good. Egypt also does face two other former Euros in Ft. George and Survie, but they don't tickle my fancy. The Bowling Green S., the prep for this one, was run in a VERY slow fashion early, so it's hard to gauge what quality that race really was. I personally think #6 Minaret Station, who I've chased a lot recently, is the biggest threat to Egypt. I have no idea how this race will be run from a pace factor, but Egypt has been forward in his Euro races, and he's improving with numbers that absolutely fit here. Finally, jock Egan is capable and knows USA racing as he had a nice winter at Gulfstream this past season....and here's the final kicker for me: Ancient Egypt is the favorite in the overseas betting market. They know their own horses...very interesting development. As of Friday night, he's as low as 5-2.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
10	3	Oscar's Encore	6-1	2	#15 WP #3 Trifectas: 3 / 2,4,5 / 2,4,5,6,8 2,4,5 / 3 / 2,4,5,6,8

Notes:

Taking a little shot with #3 Oscar's Encore in this turf sprint stake. I really like the way the Oscar Performance filly won her 3yo debut, albeit on the lead where it appeared speed played very well that weekend. She was battling a horse the entire way, then put that one to bed with relative ease and finished very well in a good time. I like the month + break since, several solid works, and an inside post with J. Ortiz. I don't think she needs the lead, and she might need to rate with plenty of speed to her outside. I trust Ortiz to work it out. I'll go \$1 WP for Regular Tip Sheet ROI. Many can win this race...no reason to take a favorite.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
11	4	Calling Card	5-2	4	\$30 Win #2

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Notes:

The 1 mile Wilson Chute has not been good to me this meet. But it seems, in general, you want to be forward. #2 Calling Card should be exactly that but can sit in behind too. While Maker is solid, the trainer switch off the claim to Rice is a major factor for me here. The gelding also gets back to his own breed, and while not a win machine (2-for-14), I just have a feeling a big effort is coming. The field is only okay, and he won by 7 lengths last time with Franco back on. Gotta believe a 7-5 off odds is in the making...he doesn't lay over the field fig-wise, but Linda not only trains, but owns the horse, hmmm....

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

