

Power Picks

Race Date	1/24/26
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Race-Day Overview

WELCOME TO PEGASUS WORLD CUP DAY at Gulfstream Park!! This is always one of the most anticipated race days of the year. And here in the U.S., it's arguably the best card during the winter months. Of course, we have Derby Prep Days and unbelievable International Racing in Saudi Arabia and Dubai later this winter/spring as well. On today's Power Picks, we'll go FULL-CARD coverage of the races at Gulfstream....no real need to cover any other track (except the Coast to Coast bet sponsored by our friends at Santa Anita).....all eyes on S. Florida! Not only that, many tracks are canceling due to the winter storm. The pool sizes at GP will be MASSIVE today.

There are 8 stake races today, plus 2 Tapeta handicap events. So, 10 of the 13 races are stakes quality, wow!! Pick and choose your spots wisely from a horizontal betting perspective (P3, P4, P5, etc...), otherwise you'll go broke quickly! The bets I'll be focusing on the most include the Late P5, Mandatory Payout 20c Pick 6, and the \$3 Turf Pick 3, plus of course the Coast to Coast Pick 5 that includes 3 races from GP and 2 from SA. The turf rails are OUT 66ft in some races, 0 ft. in others.

Weather should NOT be a factor, but of course, ALWAYS CHECK FOR SCRATCHES OR CHANGES!! Good luck today!

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

Overall ROI (since Feb. 2021): **\$2.07** (\$2,079.64 / 1007)

2026: **\$3.84** (\$53.80 / 14)

2026 Plays of the Day: **\$4.20** (\$16.80 / 4)

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: Gulfstream Park - Pegasus World Cup Day

Howard Kravets' FULL CARD ABC GRID - Race 1 Post Time: 11am EDT

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
1	4	2,8,10,12	3	2,4,8,10,12	\$0.50 EP5	\$100
2	2	4,6,8,10	3,5,9	2,4,6,8,10		
3	2,3	1,12	5,10	2,3	\$0.50 MP5	\$80
4	6,11	3,12	4,5,9,10	3,4,5,6,9,10, 11,12		
5	4	1,2,5	-	4		
6	2,4	1,5,6,8	10,11	2,4		
7	3,11	8,10	4	3,4,8,10,11		
8	1	6,9	2,5	1,6,9	\$0.20 P6	\$147.20
9	3,6	1,11	9	1,3,6,11	\$0.50 LP5	\$128
10	7,8,9	2,4,6,11,12	-	2,4,6,7,8,9,11, 12		
11	3,8	1,11	7,9,10,12	1,3,8,11		
12	2	4,10	6,8,9,11,12	2,4		
13	1	4,7	2,3,8,9,10,11	1		

Paul Halloran's Late P5 ABC Grid:

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
9	1,3	11	4,6	1,3,11	\$.50 P5	\$108
10	8	4,11	3,5,6	3,4,8,11		
11	3,11	1,12	8,10	1,3,11		
12	1,2	4,10,12	7,9	1,2,12		
13	1,7		4,8	1,7		

Pete Visco's Late P5 ABC Grid:

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

Howard's All-Stakes Late P5 Analysis - Races 9-13

Today's ALL-GRADED STAKES Late P5 is a real doozy. However, in my opinion, you can reduce your ticket price dramatically by taking some stands in the last two races, albeit not the most creative selections. If you single what I believe are the two most likely winners of the entire card, #2 Program

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Trading and #1 Disco Time, you can afford to spread in the first 3 legs, ESPECIALLY in R10, which is an IMPOSSIBLE puzzle: girls on the turf. R9 and R11 are both not easy either, but don't think you have spread a lot, just a little. I would press-up with those aforementioned favorites, and back up on a "saver ticket." The pools will be massive...it won't take much to get a nice payoff if a price comes in.

FULL-CARD 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)
1	2	High South	10-1	2	\$5 Win, \$15 Place/Show BIG Exactas: 4,8,10,12 / 2 Smaller Exactas: 2 / 4,8,10,12

Notes:

I'll start today's Spot Plays with an UNDERNEATH TYPE. #2 **High South** is one of those horses that has a right to improve big-time. The filly is working well for a very sneaky trainer, and she has tactical speed in a race that could put her within range. I don't fully believe in the heavy favorite, #4 Maggie Go, for Chad. High South is bred well and might fire big to start her 4yo campaign. This is a very aggressive spot, as everyone knows the fields are going to be stacked on Pegasus Day. For our ROI, I'll go \$1 Place and Show and hope for expected improvement while saving ground throughout. I don't have a ton of confidence here, but just a gut feeling. Sometimes, that's all you need. I'd be happy to win a small exacta or trifecta bet in the opener.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
2	2	Swing Vote	3-1	3	\$20 Win #2

Notes:

As always, it's imperative to check the tote board with firsters. That being said, unless one of the debutantes is taking a lot of early money, I do like the one with experience, #2 **Swing Vote**. I was at GP the day she debuted, and the filly lost all hope after breaking a good 2-3 lengths slow from the rail. Mott (with another Eclipse Award to his credit as of Thu. night) has put two slow maintenance works into her since, so my feel is she was ready to roll in her debut and just got unlucky. She made a big middle move and lost to a pretty well-meant firster, who was 30-1 ML and went off at 6-1. I expect Swing Vote to break much better and run big. The firsters don't wow me on the clock in the mornings or pedigrees either....but it's Pegasus Day, so I could be wrong about that.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
4	6	Growth Trajectory	10-1	4	\$15 WP #6 Trifectas: 6 / 3,11,12 / 3,4,5,9,10,11,12 3,11,12 / 6 / 3,4,5,9,10,11,12

Notes:

I like #6 **Growth Trajectory** quite a bit today. At first glance, I thought she might be a bit slow. But her debut puts her squarely in the mix, and her comeback race in November, while not spectacular, was professional. She appears to be a filly that's a bit headstrong and needs cover. She'll get that today because there's plenty of early speed to set it up for her. This \$100k handicap is MUCH weaker than the boys counterpart race in R6, so she doesn't need to be a superstar to win. Prat will give this one a good ride, and she has a big shot at around 5-1 if she can take to the Tapeta. Chad is showing confidence by putting her in this race, so therefore I believe also.

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Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
7	3	Litigation	5-1	5	\$35 Win #3

Notes:

Sometimes I surprise myself. I hope in a good way, but it doesn't always work out in this tough game. **MY PLAY OF THE DAY ON PEGASUS DAY** is in a turf sprint for godsakes, not exactly my cup of tea. That's how much I LOVE **#3 Litigation (5-1)**. If the name sounds familiar, he was a Spot Play 1 month ago on these very Tip Sheets. He went off at just under 3-1 last time, and no one in the world can convince that he was NOT the best that day. Just watch the replay, it's completely ridiculous. Now, everyone will see that trouble, but I don't care. I don't know if he shied away from a hole that wasn't there, saw a shadow, took a bad step, etc...it's just tough to tell on the pan shot and/or head-on view. But he lost a good 2-3 lengths and ALL of his momentum. Yet somehow, vs. some VERY good horses, he re-gathered and made a HUGE RUN to finish a deceptively-good 6th by only 2 ½ lengths. I hope Mario gets him into the game at least a little bit early and is mid-pack going into the turn. If he gets ANY clear run at all, I think he'll fly by them all late. There's NOT as much early speed as there was last time. That might be good because he might not be as far back, but they'll be flying as always going 5f on the GP turf. If his post time odds are 5-1 like his ML, I might do what our Bettin N Boozin boys call an "IWW", better known as the "Irresponsible Wager of the Week"(in a good way).

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
8	1	Life and Times	8-5	4	\$30 Win #1 Backup Exacta: 6,9 / 1

Notes:

I don't usually tout an 8-5 shot, because everyone knows he's talented and fast. But I'm placing **#1 Life and Times** on this tip sheet due to the fact he's NOT the ML-fave, which to me is silly. I know #6 Knightsbridge is good, but Life and Times has been completely ridiculous in his first two starts and blew away his workmate recently...a horse who just won a graded stake at the Fairgrounds going two turns. My only negative is the rail...but if they work out a trip and don't get caught in a speed duel (actually hope he takes back a little), I think he's the goods. Other than the Pegasus race, Life and Times is the horse I'm looking most forward to see run today. I'll take 6-5 thank you.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
9	6	Missed the Cut	6-1	3	\$20 WP #6 Big Exacta: 3-6 Smaller Exacta: 6-3

Notes:

I don't give up on horses I like easily. Here's another horse that has made his way onto this Tip Sheet again. #6 Missed the Cut had a great 2023 - 2024, then fell off the map and struggled to regain that form last year. But now, he's rested up, 2nd off the layoff and a nice effort vs. high-level allowance / stakes-quality foes, going MUCH shorter than his preferred distance. He was far back and made a big run, which sets him up for this. Iavarone private-purchased him just for races like this during the GP meet. I'm hoping Zayas gets him covered up and he makes his typical run. Other than Ohana Honor, that is not the strongest rendition. He's won 1/3 of his starts...perhaps today will be another "W."

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Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
11	3	Jody's Pride	4-1	4	\$20 WP #3 Trifectas: 3 / 1,8,11 / 1,7,8,9,10,12 1,8,11 / 3 / 1,7,8,9,10,12

Notes:

Talk about some class relief? I know today's field is no piece of cake at all, but **#3 Jody's Pride** has lost to Ag Bullet, Halina's Fort, Ways and Means, Thorpedo Anna, and Mystic Lake in the past year. She's a bit of an "in-and-outer", but when she's good, she's REALLY good. The works lately with Hooper S. candidate Nelson Avenue have been excellent, and it feels like she's sitting on "go." Now, it's just a matter of her playing her "A-game" and getting the right trip.

Race #	Horse #	Horse Name	Odds	Stars	Bet(s)
12	4	One Stripe	12-1	3	\$5 Win, \$15 Place/Show

Notes:

The G1 Pegasus Turf Invitational will probably be won by #2 Program Trading if he runs his best and doesn't get into trouble. Therefore, I need to look for some underneath value. I was smitten with the effort by S. African **#4 One Stripe** last time when I saw him in-person in late December. That field pales in comparison to today, but he was in the G1 Woodbine Mile and BC Mile before that, and won the S. African Triple Crown too, no easy feat because that country produces nice, underrated horses. His own rider is coming into ride from Africa, and he was super-duper impressive last time, while sitting a good trip in the clear from mid-pack. I believe in this horse....he's gotta go 9 panels, which he's never done, but I just don't see why he can't, and it feels like Motion has pointed to this spot since the BC all along. I'm hoping he runs big and finishes a likely 2nd or 3rd to fill out a nice exacta or trifecta. For our ROI, I'll go \$1 PS. There are a lot of horses that will take money in here that I don't like at all.

Coast-to-Coast (CTC) Pick 5 Preview

Sponsored by Santa Anita / 1st Racing

1/ST	SATURDAY/JAN 24
SANTA ANITA PARK	RACE 10 - 3:45 ET
GULFSTREAM PARK	RACE 12 - 4:54 ET
COAST-TO-COAST	RACE 13 - 5:39 ET
PICK 5	RACE 6 - 6:04 ET
EVERY FRI/SAT/SUN	RACE 7 - 6:34 ET
RETAIL ONLY	

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Below is my ABC Grid for the CTC Pick 5 today at GP and SA. It's a low takeout (15%), \$1 base bet with no CAW's allowed (retail only).

Race	A	B	C	Caveman Picks	Caveman Bet	Caveman Cost
GP10	7,8,9	2,4,6, 11,12	4,5,6	2,4,6,7,8,9, 11,12	\$1	\$80
GP12	2	4,10	6,8,9, 11,12	2		
GP13	1	7	3,4,8, 9,10,11	1		
SA6	4	5	1,3	4,5		
SA7	5,7	3,4,10	1,6	3,4,5,7,10		

Overall opinion: My main strategy today is to single both Program Trading and Disco Time. While I realize that's not creative, I'll have others as backups in case they lose. By singling both of them, I can spread in the other legs while trying to find a price, which is possible. My backups will have one of those aforementioned horses singled. One of them has to win, otherwise I can accept losing the bet.

YouTube preview...."Wire to Wire Ep. #4": <https://youtube.com/live/un7rjYTeuY4?feature=share>

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

