

MARK BELLING'S KENTUCKY DERBY PICKS

OVERVIEW

Everything is different about this year's race and it must be approached differently. These three year olds have established form and are not undeveloped improving types like you see when the race is run four months earlier in May. This year's race has an overwhelming favorite in Tiz the Law who has won all four of his starts this year in dominating fashion. He has already won the Belmont Stakes and if he wins the Derby, he will be an overwhelming favorite to win the Triple Crown at next month's Preakness (yes, it's in October this year). But Tiz the Law is being asked to win back to back races at a mile and a quarter after winning the Travers last month at Saratoga. Unless he's an absolute freak, his tank might be emptying. He'll be an overwhelming favorite and it is worth a shot to try to beat him.

Honor A.P., like Tiz the Law, is trained by an old veteran trainer who has won the Derby. He is bred to relish the distance, is training great and used a meaningless race a few weeks ago at Del Mar as a useful prep. There are **two** longshots worth considering. Attachment Rate has run well despite legit excuses in each race this year. Max Player is a stamina horse who will be coming late and received a key trainer switch for this race.

PREDICTED ORDER OF FINISH

HORSE	PROGRAM ODDS
#16 Honor A.P.	5-1
#17 Tiz the Law	3-5
#13 Attachment Rate	50-1
#2 Max Player	30-1
#12 Sole Volante	30-1
#10 Thousand Words	15-1
#18 Authentic	8-1
#15 Ny Traffic	20-1

SUGGESTED WAGERS

Bet #16 and #13 to win place and show

\$1 trifecta 13-16-17 with 2-12-13-16-17 with 2-10-12-13-14-15-16-17-18 (\$84)

\$2 exacta box 2-13-16-17 (\$24)

\$6 exacta box 13-16-17 (\$36)

OTHER RACES

Several other Saturday Churchill Downs races that present good value:

#4 Midnight Sands (4-1) in Race 1

#12 Alex Joon (10-1) in Race 6

#7 Pico d'Oro (5-1) in Race 10, the Iroquois Stakes

#8 Sacred Life (6-1) in Race 13, the Turf Classic

KENTUCKY OAKS

In Friday's classic race for three year old fillies, #5 Gamine trained by Bob Baffert, has run like a freak but she may not do as well stretching out in distance. I'll try to beat her with #4 Speech (5-1).

WHERE TO WAGER

The OTBs at Wisconsin casinos are closed so your only real option is to sign up for an online account at a US-based site that bets into the track's pools. Xpressbet, NYRA Bets, Twin Spires and DRF Bets are among many options. All can be funded easily online