Globeform's Weekend Service

May 18 - 19, 2018
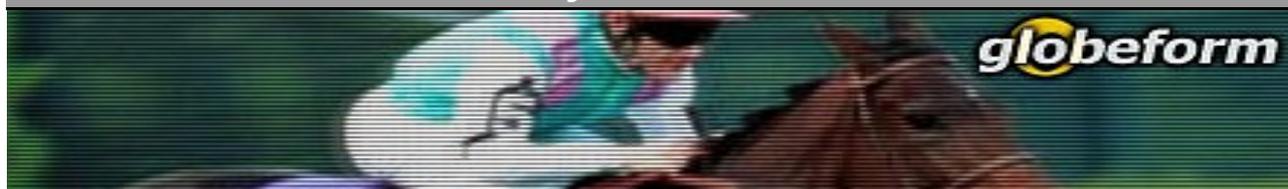
By GEIR STABELL

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7 RACES COVERED

PIMLICO SPECIAL (FRIDAY)

**PREAKNESS STAKES, DIXIE STAKES, GALORETTE S.,
JAMES W. MURPHY S., SIR BARTON S., MARYLAND SPRINT**

ABOUT GLOBEFORM'S WEEKEND SERVICE

Globeform previews with ratings / rankings, plus rank figures last three starts, and video replays leading contenders. 5 to 6 selected US weekend stakes races.

Also post-race ratings every Monday included – this is the complete service. Subscriptions only.

**Available from 2.00pm Eastern every Friday
PDF publication directly to your email**

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GLOBEFORM RANKING   Race 13
PREAKNESS STAKES (G1), 9.5 fur dirt, Pimlico, 19 May 2018

Horses ranked in pounds (0.45kg). 1 length = 2 pounds over this distance

Rank	Horse	Globeform	Rank past 3 runs	Top3 %	Trainer / Jockey
0p	JUSTIFY	125p	17+ 3p – 0p	4of4	Baffert / Smith
0p	GOOD MAGIC	125p / 120	0p / 14+ 6+ 5	100	Brown / J L Ortiz
9p	QUIP	116p	32p / 9p – 18+	4of5	Brisset / Geroux
13p	SPORTING CHANCE	112p	25 – 13p – 29	57	Lukas / Contreras
14	LONE SILOR	111	30+ 14 – 18	55	Amoss / I Ortiz Jr
16	BRAVAZO	109	19 – X – 16	55	Lukas / Saez
18	TENFOLD	107	?p – 28p – 18	2of3	Asmussen / Santana Jr
22	DIAMOND KING	103	?p – 23 – 22	5of6	John Servis / Castellano

2017: CLOUD COMPUTING – GF 118p
Chad Brown / Javier Castellano

GLOBEFORM NOTES

This year's Preakness looks a two-horse race. This is not a field with strength in depth but it has brilliance and if the top two turn up in top form it should be a great contest. It's excellent news that the first two from the Kentucky Derby clash again, and their second encounter also means that an unbeaten, Apollo curse crushing and fast improving young horse meets last year's champion juvenile – a colt who broke his maiden when winning the Breeders' Cup Juvenile – once more, in what could well develop into this season's big rivalry. Justify and Good Magic are unusual talents in their own ways.

JUSTIFY got the better of his chief rival at Churchill Downs, where he superior stamina made him a convincing 2 ½-length winner from **GOOD MAGIC**, who just held on for second as Florida Derby winner Audible finished fast from off the pace. Justify was very much part of the pace that day – racing over a sloppy track – and Good Magic was in close attendance throughout. He threw down a serious challenge early in the straight but 1 ¼ miles is probably as far as he wants to go, and Justify soon had matters under control. He had showed speed when winning his three preceding races at Santa Anita, so there was reason to doubt his stamina – but Justify saw the trip out. On the other hand, the wet track meant that the front end was by far the best place to be in the Derby, and his final furlong was a moderate 26.85 seconds, after a 26.35 clocking of the penultimate furlong. Something that supports the theory that Good Magic did not truly stay the trip. Funny Duck – an upset winner of the Pat Day Mile – ran the last two furlongs in 25.24 and 25.99. His race was considerably shorter of course, and this is not an ideal comparison but remember that Funny Duck (who was two lengths off the pace at the ¾ pole) is nowhere near Grade 1 calibre. Still, he ran the last quarter mile <u>almost ten lengths faster</u> than Justify did (51.23 / 53.20). The prominent runners in the Derby did slow down at the finish, no doubt about that, and no wonder, as the opening fractions were 22.24 and 23.53. The opening fractions of the Pat Day Mile were 22.31 and 23.22. >>>

Audible, Instilled Regard and My Boy Jack were all closing in on Justify at Churchill Downs. This may not be all that relevant when we are assessing his chances of following up in the Preakness, as he is likely to be the controlling speed at Pilmlico, but it is definitely something to bear in mind if Justify proceeds to the Belmont. A win at Pimlico, and a sound horse, will almost certainly mean a trip to New York in June, while defeat at Pimlico probably rules out such a journey.

If Justify runs like he did at Churchill Downs he will be hard to beat and there's just one horse in this field who might get the better of him, Good Magic. He will appreciate the shorter distance and he will – rightfully so – have his supporters. With Justify likely to be odds-on, the Derby runner-up is the value bet. What will it take, for him to come out on top then? One crucial question is; which of these two colts took the Derby best? They both must have had a hard race at Churchill Downs, and it may have been mentally tougher on Justify, given that he is so inexperienced and that the Derby was the first time he found himself in a real fight. Good Magic had done that before, lost, won, lost and won again, and it's interesting in itself that Chad Brown sends him to Pimlico. It would have been easy to understand the opposite decision; a rest leading up to opportunities like the Haskell Invitational and Travers Stakes. Most likely, it was Good Magic who told Brown that they were in good shape to go up against Justify once more, not the other way round.

QUIP, who has been rested since running second to Magnum Moon in the Arkansas derby on April 14, looks the most likely trifecta filler. A scopey colt with improvement likely, he was compromised by the slow pace when going down by 4 lengths to Magnum moon over 9 furlongs t Oaklawn Park. He had previously won the Tampa Bay Derby, beating Flameaway – who ran a good second to Good Magic in the Blue Grass Stakes next time out.

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Saturday May 19, 2018

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Globeform's Ratings & Rankings

2018

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Rank (ranking): Horse best in at the weights (compared to Globeform ratings) is top ranked with rank figure "0" (zero), and all others ranked down in pounds (lbs), i.e. "3" rank means that the horse is 3 pounds worse off than the top ranked horse. The higher the 'rank figure' the worse off the horse is in this race – based on previous form.

Globeform (GF): The horse's best Globeform rating. In cases where it is relevant two GF ratings may be given (i.e. 119 / 114) and this means that the horse has run to GF 119 in the past but it's a long time ago, and the best rating in his more recent form is GF 114.

Rank past 3 runs: How the horse would be ranked in this race based on his three most recent runs (from left to right). For example: "0 – 4 – 7" would tell us that the horse is top ranked and ran to his best GF rating three starts back ("0") but ran 4lbs below that form on his penultimate race and 7lbs below on his most recent start. This column shows whether the horse is consistent, whether the horse has good recent form, and whether the horse has been progressing / regressing in his most recent races.   "X" = ran too badly to get a rating.

Top3: Each horse's top three % strike rate – used only for horses with six runs or more. For horses with fewer runs info given like '3for5' = 3 times in top three from 5 runs.

Overweights: Globeform ratings are expressed in pounds (lbs). Globeform rankings are based on Globeform ratings compared to riding weights. In cases of overweight, add the overweight to the Globeform rank figure. For example; The Big Horse has ranking figure "2", telling us that he is ranked 2lbs below the top ranked horse – but when changes are announced The Big Horse is set to carry 2lbs overweight. His new GF rank figure becomes "4" (2+2).

Globeform Rating codes

p = improvement expected
P = significant improvement expected
+ = improvement expected from this run, but the
     horse had already run to a higher rating in the past.
? = provisional rating or uncertain form
* = best GF rating was achieved over today's distance & surface

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