

Globeform's Kentucky Derby Weekend Previews

Churchill Downs, May 4, 2019

GLOBEFORM RANKING

Race 12

KENTUCKY DERBY (G1) 10 furlongs dirt, Churchill Downs

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

Rank	Horse with placings	Globeform	GF past 3 runs	Top3	Trainer / Jockey
				%	
0p	MAXIMUM SECURITY 1-111	120p	108p – 119p – 120p	4-of-4	Jason Servis Luis Saez
0p	ROADSTER 13 - 11	120p	102p – 111p – 120p	4-of-4	Bob Baffert Florent Geroux
1p	GAME WINNER 1111 - 22	119p	119p – 117+ 119	100	Bob Baffert Joel Rosario
2p	IMPROBABLE 111 - 22	118p	118p – 110+ 118p	5-of-5	Bob Baffert Irad Ortiz Jr
5	VEKOMA 11 - 31	115	110p – 113p – 115	4-of-4	George Weaver Javier Castellano
6p	BY MY STANDARDS 22 - 311	114p	? – 100p – 114p	5-of-5	Bret Calhoun Gabriel Saez
7p	TACITUS 41 - 11	113p	94p – 107p – 113p	3-of-4	William Mott Jose L Ortiz
7p	CODE OF HONOR 12 - 413	113p	85+ 113p – 105+	4-of-5	Shug McHaughey John Velazquez
8p	SPINOFF 13 - 12	112p	98 - ?p – 112p	4-of-4	Todd Pletcher Manny Franco
8	BODEXPRESS 9 - 2422	112	72 - ?p – 112	3-of-5	Gustavo Delgado C Landeros
9p	LONG RANGE TODDY 4111 - 2316	111p	105p – 111p – 91	75	Steve Asmussen Jon Court
10p	WAR OF WILL 32451 - 119	110p	105p – 107p – 110p	62	Mark Casse Tyler Gaffalione
10	TAX 21 - 312	110	104p – 105 – 110	5-of-5	Danny Gargan Junior Alvarado
11	PLUS QUE PARFAIT 3312 - 501	109	109 – 93+ 0 – 107	71	Brendan Walsh Ricardo Santana Jr
11	CUTTING HUMOR 231 - 271	109	100 – 90 – 109	83	Todd Pletcher Mike Smith
12p	WIN WIN WIN 1121 - 32	108p	104p – 101 – 108p	100	Micael Trombetta Julian Pimentel
15p	COUNTRY HOUSE 92 - 1243	105p	105p – 102 – 100	66	William Mott Flavien Prat
15	GRAY MAGICIAN 323 - 14522	105	89 – 90 – 105	75	Peter Miller Drayden van Dyke
?	MASTER FENCER 241 - 142	?	? – ? – ?	66	Koichi Tsunoda Julien Leparoux

Globeform's Kentucky Derby Weekend Previews

Churchill Downs, May 4, 2019

2018: JUSTIFY – GLOBEFORM 123

Bob Baffert / Mike Smith

2017: ALWAYS DREAMING – GLOBEFORM 117

Todd Pletcher / John Velazquez

2016: NYQUIST – GLOBEFORM 120

Doug O'Neill / Mario Gutierrez



GLOBEFORM ANALYSIS

MAXIMUM SECURITY goes into the Kentucky Derby as an unbeaten horse, and one that has moved up to a high level of form in the space of just four runs. It is highly unusual to see horses produce Globeform 120, or even close to that mark, at such an early stage of their careers. Don't worry about the fact that this colt ran in a claimer, and could be bought for 'pocket money', on his first start as a three-year-old. Some thoroughbreds surprise even those working closely with them, and Maximum Security seems to be one of those. He looked a top class performer in the making when romping home by 18 1/4 lengths in a 7-furlong allowance race at Gulfstream Park in February, and he confirmed it with a solid win in the Florida Derby on March 30. Yes, Maximum Security got away with an easy lead that day, as he made all to beat Bodexpress by 3 1/2 lengths, but don't forget that he was a very inexperienced horse that acquitted himself extremely well when taking a >>>

Globeform's Kentucky Derby Weekend Previews

Churchill Downs, May 4, 2019

>>> big step up in class. Despite that fact that he was coming off a sprint win, he raced with great zest, without wasting too much energy, and he was very strong at the finish. Bodexpress was a 72-1 shot and appeared to cast a shadow over the value of the form, and he was racing in second throughout. The pace made the race, no doubt about that, though perhaps this should not make us dismiss Maximum Security's chances in the Run for The Roses. After all, he trounced the Fountain of Youth winner Code of Honor by almost seven lengths, with Fountain of Youth runner-up Bourbon War back in fourth. They were both compromised by the slow pace but they were both also outclassed by the winner. How good are they and how badly could they have underperformed on the day? The Fountain of Youth form was given a boost when Vekoma, third in the 'FOY' ran out an easy winner of the Blue Grass Stakes next time out.

Whether Maximum Security will stay 10 furlongs at Churchill Downs, is another matter. He has good tactical speed, and he may turn out to be a natural miler, though note that he rated kindly when winning his allowance race, so perhaps he doesn't need to be on the lead to run a big race. In fact, with just three runs (and only one proper race) under his belt, it is far to early to say exactly what setup this son of New Year's Day does or does not need to perform well.

Looking at his pedigree, it is mainly mile orientated but there is some stamina mixed in. His sire won the Breeders' Cup Juvenile and was a son of Street Cry, a winner of the Dubai World Cup and Stephen Foster Handicap. Maximum Security's dam, Lil Indy (Anasheed), won over 5.5 furlongs and a mile, and she is also the dam of Coastal Hideaway (also by New Year's Day), who won four races over a mile (on dirt and turf), and Prince Tito (Pioneerof the Nile), another four-time winner, who was successful over 7 furlongs and a mile. Maximum Security's dam is a half-sister to Flat Out (Flatter), and he won the 10-furlong Jockey Club Gold Cup twice. This pedigree does not spell out that Maximum Security is a sprinter, nor does it indicate that he will become a champion. Who knows, perhaps he will turn out to be a freak? He is one of three top rated horses in this field, and must have a big chance.

With Omaha Beach out of the race, Maximum Security – who has an ideal post in seven – could get a nice trip around Churchill Downs. He might lead or he might sit just off the pace, depending on what else goes forward – mainly whether War of Will breaks sharply. He is a big player if he does, if not, well then he's probably going to be up against it.

If there is a 'freak' in this Derby field, it is probably Maximum Security, and he is my selection.



Globeform's Kentucky Derby Weekend Previews

Churchill Downs, May 4, 2019



ROADSTER (Benoit photo) burst into the Kentucky Derby favorites' group with a visually most impressive off-the-pace win in the Santa Anita Derby on April 6, when he made up a lot of ground to get up and beat his barnmate Game Winner by half a length. Instagrاند, who set the pace but failed to stay the 9-furlong trip, finished third, beaten another length and a quarter. Roadster had just beaten last year's champion juvenile and for good measure he also put the colt many saw as Game Winner's equal (at least) in 2018 firmly in his place. His trainer Bob Baffert added yet another strong contender to his Churchill team – and perhaps Roadster is the best of the lot. He certainly looks the one who is most likely to appreciate a stamina test. By no means are we guaranteed to see a Derby run at a fast yearly pace, but ten furlongs at Churchill Downs is ten furlongs at Churchill Downs. Winning the Kentucky Derby with a horse lacking in stamina is never easy. The way Roadster finished at Santa Anita indicates that he has enough stamina for the task. He has tactical speed too, by the way, and was quite close to the early pace that day, before dropping out of it and settling nicely at the back of the field. Going into the home turn, he looked like a runner who would do well to finish third, never mind win the contest. It was a big step up for the gray colt. He was coming off a smooth 2 1/2-length win from Nolo Contesto (fourth in the Santa Anita Derby) in a mile allowance win when making his seasonal debut over the same track in early March. Manhattan Up, who was third in that race, franked the form by winning on his start (the day prior to the Santa Anita Derby).

Roadster's big win was not an absolute shocker, as he had worked really well leading up to the race, but the way he did it was a bit of a surprise. Another surprise came when jockey Mike Smith announced that he would ride Arkansas Derby winner Omaha Beach at Churchill Downs, thus desert Roadster and his good friend Baffert. Could Smith and his agent have made a mistake here? Tough call of course, and his decision should not deter anyone who like Roadster from backing him. Roadster is a serious candidate, that's for sure. He began his career with an easy maiden win over 6 furlongs at Del Mar last summer, before being beaten by both Game Winner and Rowayton in the Del Mar Futurity. The son of Quality Road was odds-on favorite for the Futurity, being considered the best two-year-old in Baffert's care, but it was to be his final raceday appearance as a youngster – Breeders' Cup Juvenile plans were shelved and he underwent a breathing operation. In the meantime, Game Winner continued to thrive, winning both the American Pharaoh Stakes and the Breeders' Cup Juvenile. If the Del Mar Futurity betting is anything to go by, his exploits can be seen as excellent advertisement for Roadster's talent. >>>

www.globeform.com

Globeform's Kentucky Derby Weekend Previews

Churchill Downs, May 4, 2019

>>> The breathing operation has obviously been successful, and Roadster's two runs this term point to a lucrative campaign – which could well begin with a win in the Run for The Roses. As mentioned, he looks a runner who will have no problems with the Derby distance. His sire, Quality Road, was sidelined after winning the Florida Derby but he came back in full force at four, when he won the Donn Handicap, Met Mile and Woodward Stakes. Quality Road is also the sire of Kentucky Oaks favorite Bellafina, and his name made the headlines when his excellent ambassador City of Light won the Pegasus World Cup earlier this year. Roadster's dam, Ghost Dancing (Silver Ghost), was a useful winner of five races at age three and four, but she was a sprinter, including a minor stakes over 5.5 furlongs on turf at Colonial Downs in her collection. She also won over 6 and 6.5 furlongs on dirt. Ghost Dancing has done markedly better as a broodmare. Turf racing enthusiasts might recognize her name, as she is the dam of Ascend (Candy Ride), whose best form came when he captured the 10-furlong Manhattan Stakes at Belmont Park. Moro Tap (Tapit), another good winner out of Ghost Dancing, ran third in the Louisville Handicap (G3) over 9 furlongs turf here at Churchill Downs, and he was a winner at Keeneland, Churchill and Kentucky Downs. Roadster cost \$525,000 at Keeneland as a yearling. So far he has recouped just over a fifth of that amount. There should be more to come. >>>



EXCLUSIVE GLOBEFORM SPECIAL

ROYAL ASCOT – FULL REFUND OFFER

Like last year, when we made good money at the meeting, the Royal Ascot Special will be offered on a full refund basis. Subscription fees fully refunded if selected bets over the five days (June 18 – 22) fail to make an overall profit.

Morning Newsletter each day, analysing the best betting opportunities, and giving detailed betting plans, plus text message alerts when additional value bets are recommended between the races.

Subscription: £125 / \$165

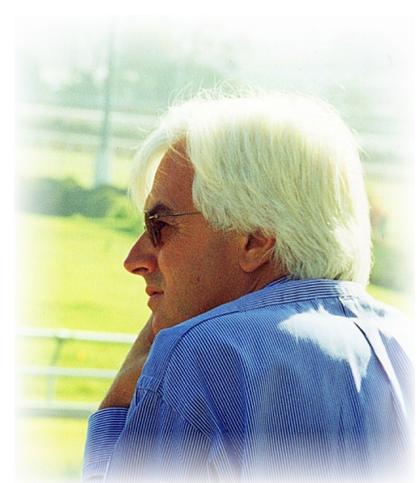
www.globeform.com

Globeform's Kentucky Derby Weekend Previews

Churchill Downs, May 4, 2019

GAME WINNER has been beaten on both of his starts this season. Does this mean we should forget about last year's champion juvenile as a potential Kentucky Derby winner? Probably not. Completing the Breeders' Cup Juvenile / Kentucky Derby double is very hard, and that he has failed to get into the winners' circle at three also counts a bit against this Bob Baffert trainee – but he has run two solid races in defeat, and anything but improved form on the big day would be a bit of a surprise. Game Winner is a colt who should relish the step up to a mile and a quarter, and of course he is in with a chance, in what is quite an open looking Derby.

Unbeaten in four runs last year, Game Winner took the Del Mar Futurity over 7 furlongs (beating Rowayton and Roadster), American Pharoah Stakes over 8.5 furlongs at Santa Anita (from Gunmetal Gray) and Breeders' Cup Juvenile here over the same distance at Churchill Downs (2 lengths in front of Breeders Futurity winner Knicks Go) in his first season. He came from off the pace at the Breeders' Cup, and it is safe to say that he outstayed the runner-up, who was the only one capable of posing a threat coming down the stretch. Game Winner's superior stamina won the day, and secured an Eclipse Award. Signalman stayed on to finish third, beaten 3 lengths, and he went on to beat Plus Que Parfait by a neck to land the Kentucky Jockey Club on his next start. Game Winner's form looked solid, though perhaps not brilliant. This son of Candy Ride is a bit of a grinder. When he gains momentum it is a gradual thing, accelerating stride by stride rather than with an instant turn of foot. This running style might make him an ideal candidate for the Belmont Stakes, where the more speedy types are normally found wanting through the last half mile. First though, is the small matter of the Kentucky Derby – and Game Winner is a leading contender for the first leg of the Triple Crown.



Bob Baffert, who runs last year's juvenile champion Game Winner, plus Improbable and Roadster in the Kentucky Derby. Globeform Photo

Oamaha Beach enjoyed fitness advantage when beating Game Winner in a tight photo finish to the best division of the Rebel Stakes at Oaklawn Park in March. It was Game Winner's first race since the Breeders' Cup. Omaha Beach had already run three times in 2019. The two were separated by only a nose as they hit the wire, eight lengths clear of the third placed horse horse, Market King. Game Winner was carrying one pound more than Omaha Beach, and he looked like a horse in need of the run in the preliminaries. His next start, the Santa Anita Derby, saw him go off favorite once more, but another runner-up finish was what he had to settle for, as Roadster came with a strong run from off the pace to catch him in the dying strides and win by half a length. The speedy Instagrاند was a non-staying third, while Nolo Contesto finished a well beaten fourth.

We have seen enough of Game Winner on the track to feel confident he will stay ten furlongs. His dam, the unraced Indyan Giving (A. P. Indy), is a half-sister to champion older mare Fleet Indian (Indian Charlie), who won 13 races, including the Beldame Stakes and Personal Ensign Stakes.

Bob Baffert has three of the top names in this Derby; Game Winner, Improbable and Roadster. We all know the old saying "if a trainer thinks he has a bunch of serious Derby horses he probably doesn't have any". Well, those words stem from England, where the prep races are seldom as tough tests as those leading up to the first Saturday in May. We have seen we have these how colts respond when questions have been asked, and it's a fair bet that Baffert is in with a shot – yet again.

IMPROBABLE is, like his barnmate Game Winner, a Kentucky Derby contender with winning form over the track, as he was an easy winner of the non-graded Street Sense Stakes over a mile here at Churchill Downs last year, winning by over seven lengths from Trophy Chaser. The second was not a potential G1 performer but he was no mug either, and it seemed certain that Improbable would be able to hold his own at the top >>>

Globeform's Kentucky Derby Weekend Previews

Churchill Downs, May 4, 2019

>>> level. He had won his only previous race, taking a 6-furlong maiden at Santa Anita by a neck from Stretford End, with Gray Magician third. With these two wins on the book, Improbable went o post as a red hot favorite for the Los Alamitos Futurity in December, and he did not disappoint. The son of City Zip raced prominently throughout the 8.5-furlong contest, and drew right off in the straight – to win by 5 lengths from Much Gusto, another Baffert trainee who went in at first time of asking this year when capturing the Robert Lewis Stakes at Santa Anita. His easy win that day gave the Los Alamitos Futurity form a nice boost.

Improbable's seasonal debut came in the Rebel Stakes at Oaklawn Park in mid March, a race that was run in two divisions. He ended up in what turned out to be the easiest one, but was still beaten. Once more racing over 8.5 furlongs, he shot to the lead at the top of the lane and looked like running away with the contets, but Improbable tired in the closing stages and was passed by Long Range Toddy, in the end losing by a neck. Galilean, another Californian, was third, 2 ¼ lengths behind Improbable while conceding three pounds. Improbable turned the tables on both of these rivals when they met again in the 9-furlong Arkansas Derby, also staged at Oaklawn Park but this race was run over a sloppy track. The wet track did not seem to bother Improbable, but lots of other things certainly did, and he did really well to finish second, beaten a length by Omaha Beach (who had won well over a wet track previously). Improbable was getting edgy as they came on to the track, and even more so in the stalls, where he was bordering on panicking. He was even taken out of the stalls and reloaded, before the field could be sent out their way. He broke well from post one, and ran a game race, though came up short against Omaha Beach. Both colts produced an impressive prep. Country House filled third, almost six lengths behind Improbable, while Galilean (fifth) and Long Range Toddy (sixth) were well beaten. Improbable was trying blinkers for the first time in the Arkansas Derby, and Baffert said after the race that he would not be using them at Churchill Downs, suggesting that they might have been the reason Improbable got upset.

With three wins from three starts last year, and two runner-up efforts this spring, Improbable is an interesting horse. He looked like a runner who would stay well last year, but his performances this term may have told us that ten furlongs will be a touch too testing for this colt. His sire was a speedy runner, who won the Hopeful Stakes at two and Amsterdam Stakes at three. City Zip is a half-brother to Ghostzapper, an absolute freak who was top class over sprint distances before winning the Breeders' Cup Classic. Improbable is the first foal out of Rare Event (A. P. Indy), a mare who comes from the same family as Hard Spun, a King's Bishop Stakes winner who managed second behind Street Sense in the Kentucky Derby twelve years ago.

VEKOMA has done nothing wrong in his four runs to date and, although he is not one of the favorites, he is an interesting contender for the Kentucky Derby. He was won three times and been third once, when beaten three parts of a length and two lengths behind Code of Honor and Bourbon War in the Fountain of Youth Stakes at Gulfstream Park in early March. Vekoma, unlike the two others, was making his first start of the year and he was also giving them six pounds. Ratings wise, he ran as well as Code of Honor, as they both performed to GF 113p. Vekoma has since moved past Code of Honor in terms of ratings, by winning the 9-furlong Blue Grass Stakes at Keeneland in April. He was a clear favorite for that contest and ran a solid, no-nonsense, race to win by 3 ½ lengths from Win Win Win. He did get first run on Win Win Win, who stayed on in the manner of a horse needing further, but Vekoma won with authority and he is a smart, game and genuine runner. Like Game Winner, he is a son of Candy Ride but while Game Winner is out of an A. P. Indy mare, Vekoma is a son of Mona de Momma, who is a daughter of champion sprinter Speightstown. Stamina might well be an issue with this contender – meaning that a moderate early pace would increase his chances. He is by the same sire as Gun Runner and Shared Belief but his dam was a smart sprinter who won the Humana Distaff and Las Flores Handicap. Furthermore, Mona de Momma is a half-sister to the speedy pair Jigadee (2nd in the Sapling and 3rd in the Sanford) and Treasure Hunt (both by Prospectors Gamble), and she comes from the same family as high class sprinter Mr. Greeley.

Vekoma won an above average maiden over 6 furlongs at Belmont Park and the one-mile Nashua Stakes at Aqueduct last year. He has raced over four different tracks already – giving him valuable experience – and George Weaver's candidate looks a possible value longshot play in this Derby, or the sporting each-way alternative if you prefer. He is likely to go off a fair bit higher than what he ought to be based on form. >>>

Globeform's Kentucky Derby Weekend Previews

Churchill Downs, May 4, 2019

>>> When noting his race record, bear in mind that – because of the weight assignment – Vekoma can be seen as the 'winner' also of the Fountain of Youth. If that race had been run at level weights, he might have come to Churchill Downs as an unbeaten contender with four straight wins in the book – and been considerably shorter in the betting.

BY MY STANDARDS is a bit of a 'dark horse' in this Derby field. A son of top class miler Goldencents, this colt certainly turned a corner in his fourth start, when breaking his maiden by over four lengths at Fair Grounds in February. He was stepped right up in class for his next task, and followed up with a 22-1 win in the Louisiana Derby over 9 furlongs at the same venue in March. By My Standards raced just off the pace, and outbattled **SPINOFF** to win by three parts of a length. Sueno was 5 lengths further adrift in third place. This vital Triple Crown prep did not quite live up to expectations, as the favorite, War of Will, picked up an injury and ended up nearer last than first, but take nothing away from By My Standards. He ran a game race and could well be a horse about to blossom into something seriously nice. He moved markedly up in terms of ratings. Another jump up would make him an interesting player – and he should not be left out of trifecta and superfecta plans.

TACITUS has been steadily improving, and he stayed on gamely to win both the Tampa Bay Derby, where he beat Outshine and **WIN WIN WIN**, and the Wood Memorial at Aqueduct, a race he won readily from **TAX** and **HAIKAL**. If one of these four proved good enough to make an impact on the Run for The Roses, it must be Tacitus, who is still learning and seemed to idle in front at Aqueduct, though he has been shaping more like a decent candidate for the Belmont Stakes, where stamina will be even more of a factor. A strongly run Derby would suit him best.

CODE OF HONOR has been a bit in and out, but he ran a fine race when coming from off a wickedly strong pace to land the Fountain of Youth Stakes at Gulfstream Park in March. Finishing to some effect, while finding a nice seam by the rail, the son of Noble Mission outstayed his rivals, then saw off a late charge from Bourbon War to win by three parts of a length. Vekoma, making his seasonal debut and conceding six pounds was beaten 2 ¾ lengths in third – and went on to win the Blue Grass next time out. Code of Honor failed to build on his 'FOY' success in the Florida Derby and he needs to bounce back, once more, from a below par effort. Stamina is his forte and he is another who would appreciate a fast early fractions.

SPINOFF stepped up nicely from an easy 11-length allowance win (when 3/5 in the betting) at Tampa Bay Downs, to run second behind By My Standards in the Louisiana Derby at Fair Grounds. The Todd Pletcher trainee looked a likely winner a furlong out on that occasion, but By My Standards had more stamina. This run, plus the speed Spinoff showed at Tampa, may tell us that he is horse who will prove best when dropped back to a mile, rather than stepped up to a mile and a quarter. His sire, Hard Spun, ran second in the Kentucky Derby but he was also a winner of the 7-furlong King's Bishop Stakes, and Spinoff's dam, Zaftig (Gone West), won the Acorn Stakes over a mile and the Nassau County over 7 furlongs as a three-year-old.

BODEMEISTER, who was a surprise runner-up in the Florida Derby - when he ran in the slipstream of the winner, **MAXIMUM SECURITY**, from gate to wire - is still a maiden. He drew into the Derby field after defections, and he is a bit of a dark horse – though it is hard to see him making an impact. He was favored by the pace scenario at Gulfstream, and he will not be able to get a similar position here, especially from the widest post.

LONG RANGE TODDY was disappointing in the Arkansas Derby last month, when beaten 14 lengths into sixth place behind Omaha Beach, who won by a length from Improbable – the colt Long Range Toddy had defeated by a neck when taking a division of the Rebel Stakes on his previous outing. Long Range Toddy continued built on gradual progression that day, improving to Globeform 111p from GF 104 and GF 105 on his preceding starts and – willing to forgive one poor run – we have to respect this colt. He needs to take another step forward to be a major player but this is an open Derby and he may come away with a valuable slice of the pot. >>>

www.globeform.com

Globeform's Kentucky Derby Weekend Previews

Churchill Downs, May 4, 2019

WAR OF WILL drew the dreaded 'one hole' – a very tricky starting point, but at least he will break from post two, as all horses move out one lane following Haikal's late defection. Some bookmakers have him as big as **25-1** and that really makes him a tempting each-way bet. Forget his run in the Louisiana Derby, when he took a couple of bad steps soon after the stalls opened, got injured and ran accordingly. Jockey Tyler Gaffalione was not hard on the colt as it was obvious something was amiss and he was without a winning chance. War of Will coasted home in ninth. He three previous runs, all winning efforts, had marked him down a seriously smart performer and he is fully recovered, so do not underrate his chances. Like Omaha Beach, he is a son of War Front, who thus has two interesting ambassadors in the Kentucky Derby. War of Will won impressively, clocking a sharp time while on the bridle, in a maiden heat at Churchill Downs last November. It was his first run on dirt, after four good efforts on turf (including a nice fifth in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf), the track was sloppy and War of Will raced prominently throughout. Understandably, his turf days were over. He set out on the Derby trail by winning the LeComte Stakes at Fair Grounds in January, beating Hog Creek Hustle very smoothly, and followed in the Risen Star over the same track in February, when he was in the first two all the way, pulled right off in the straight and kept on far to well for the oncoming **COUNTRY HOUSE**, who was second, beaten 2 ¼ lengths. This form made sure War of Will was an odds-on favorite for the Louisiana Derby. Imagine if he had bypassed that race, and come here off three straight wins. Would it be possible to back him at 25-1 then? Probably not.

GEIR W STABELL

GLOBEFORM SELECTIONS

A: 7 MAXIMUM SECURITY

B: 5 IMPROBABLE, 16 GAME WINNER, 17 ROADSTER

C: 1 WAR OF WILL, 3 BY MY STANDARDS, 8 TACITUS