

Globeform Subscription Service

Previews and ratings by Geir Stabell



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4:14 ET

GLOBEFORM RANKING

THE CARDINAL STAKES (LR) 9 fur Turf, Churchill Downs Thu. Nov. 27

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

Rank	No.	Name of horse	Globeform	GF most recent runs	Trainer / Jockey
From right to left (most recent first)					
0	2	MIWA	107	90 - 107 - 103p	Sharp / J L Ortiz
1	1	DUVET DAY	106	91 - 105 - 106	M McCarthy / Machado
2	8	PIN UP BETTY	109	109 - 98+ 109	Maker / L Saez *
2	11	PROCTOR STREET	107	106 - 107 - 107	Walsh / Gaffalione
2	6	SHE'S LOOKIN LUCKY <i>GF 105 in Aug 2024</i>	105	104 - 101 - 99	Shirer / Arrieta
3	4	AWESOME CZECH	106	106 - 102 - 100p	De Paz / Santana Jr
3	9	VIVE VEUVE	106	99 - 98+ 106	Sharp / I Ortiz Jr
3	5	STYLISH SUE	104	104 - 100 - 102p	Sharp / J Torres
5	12	ADRASTEIA	102	101 - 0 - 102	Bogle / Geroux
11	10	FLEETINGLY	96	95 - 96 - ?	Brown / Prat
11	3	LUCKY SPEECH <i>GF 96 in Apr 25</i>	96	90 - 85 - 86	S Asmussen / E Asmussen
?+	7	WEIGHTED AVERAGE		?+ 95 - 93	Brown / C Torres
		Also Eligible			
9	13	SABALENKA	100	100 - 99 - 99	Sharp / L Saez *
?	14	TAP THE CHAMPAGNE	?	?	Nihei / W Rodriguez

Globeform rating with a "p" attached = this was the horse's best rating to date and the horse is likely to improve

Globeform rating with a "+" = this was not its best rating but the horse ran better than the rating suggests

Most recent winners of the Cardinal Stakes

2024	DUVET DAY	GF 106	Michael McCarthy	Flavien Prat
2023	STAR FORTRESS	GF 110	Cherie DeVaux	Luis Saez
2022	DALIKA	GF 113	Albert Stall Jr	Brian J Hernandez Jr
2019	KALLIO	GF 113	Brendan Walsh	Tyler Gaffalione
2018	ENGLISH AFFAIR	GF ?	George Arnold II	Corey Lanerie

Average winning Globeform: 110.5

Staged with Grade 3 status up to this year

GLOBEFORM ANALYSIS

This race looks so wide open and it might be tempting to bypass it all together; then again it's the type of turf race that it's tempting to have a crack at, to try and solve the puzzle; something that probably can't be done successfully without a bit of betting luck thrown in; and when a field is as evenly matched as this one luck in running will be vital for the runners. A bad trip or a poor rider call here and there will be too many good enough to take advantage to even think about making it a winning day.

PROCTOR STREET makes a fair bit of appeal, even over 9 furlongs; a trip she has yet to try and a trip that could stretch her stamina. It's hard to assess her stamina limit. She looked like she was at the end of it when third a length behind G1 winner Dynamic Pricing in the Perfect Sting Stakes over a mile at Saratoga's inner track in late August, then won a good allowance heat over 8.5 furlongs at Keeneland in October, when she raced very much like a horse ready to take yet another step up in distance. She came from well off the pace to beat **SHE'S LOOKIN LUCKY**, who held second by a neck from A Lilac Rolla. Proctor Street won an allowance race also prior to the Perfect Sting and she has been very consistent this season. Her dam, Proctor's Ledge, was a G1 placed miler capable of Globeform 117, and she returned GF 113+ when second in the 9-furlong Hillsborough Stakes as a 4yo. Proctor Street seems to take after her mum and she has a good chance of winning the Cardinal. Her **6-1 morning line looks too big**, even in a tricky contest.

MIWA tops the ranking but that's based on her best 12-furlong form at Kentucky Downs, where she won an allowance heat and ran third in the Ladies Marathon (3 1/2 lengths behind Stellify, who was in great form at the time). Miwa has since disappointed over the same distance in the Dowager at Keeneland (slowly run race on a yielding course) and she now drops down in distance while not dropping all that much in class. She raced from off the pace at Kentucky Downs and may find this 9-furlong trip too short.

DUVET DAY has also run well over 12 furlongs but she won this event last year and is much more flexible when it comes to trips. She is at her best when coming from well off the pace, however, and there's no guarantee of strong fractions here. She closed in well to get up for a game 3/4-length win from **SHE'S LOOKIN LUCKY** twelve months ago, running to **Globeform 106** in the process. Thoroughly consistent, she ran back to the same mark to be fourth, 2 lengths behind Charlene's Dream, in the 9.5-furlong Beverly D Stakes at Colonial in August, and was almost as good when fourth behind Stellify, Way to Be Marie and **MIWA** in the 12-furlong Ladies Marathon at Kentucky Downs in September. Miwa was a length better then but it's likely that the tables will be turned over 9 furlongs. Like Miwa, Duvet Day was also well below her best in the pedestrian Dowager Stakes last time out. She could take the Cardinal back to back.

PIN UP BETTY also comes into the reckoning. Her best level of form, and she has produced that in four of her five races this season, is good enough to give her a winning chance. Her only blip came at Kentucky Downs, a course that does not suit every horse - far from it. She opened her campaign with a good runner-up effort in the Churchill Downs Distaff Turf Mile in early May, when she lost by just a neck to Simply in Front; and she is now coming off a close fifth behind the same rival in the First Lady Stakes over a mile at Keeneland. In between these runs, Pin Up Betty took the 8.5-furlong Mint Julep Stakes (beating subsequent Beverly D winner Charlene's Dream by 1 1/2 lengths) and the Anchorage Stakes over 9 furlongs, both at Churchill Downs. Coming from off the pace, as is normally her style, she beat **DUVET DAY** by 3/4 length in the Anchorage, and Pin Up Betty is just a pound worse off at the weights here. With a strong record both over this course and at this distance, she's a win contender; but 5-2 makes her too short on the morning line.

AWESOME CZECH is a very interesting contender and, at a **massive 15-1 morning line**, she sticks out as the value bet we simply must have. She has been showing progressive form through her four most recent starts, from a narrow allowance win over a mile at Saratoga in July, when she ran to GF 100, to a very determined win in the 8.5-furlong Ticonderoga Stakes at Aqueduct in late October. Travelling with zest just off the pace, she came with a smooth run to lead inside the last half-furlong, and ran on to deny the late charging Gallant Greta and win by a neck. Awesome Czech, who had won the Yaddo and been third in the Athenia previously, improved to **Globeform 106** in the Ticonderoga. That makes her a player in the Cardinal and she could actually improve again. There's nothing flashy about her but this daughter of Meldelsohn is all racehorse and she gives her best every time she's got a number cloth under her saddle. Note that her Ticonderoga runner-up, Gallant Greta, won an allowance race by almost four lengths two weeks later, easily beating Nonna Lynne, a rival who was coming off a win in similar company on her preceding start. >>>

VIVE VEUVE (two good wins at Saratoga and now coming off a third in the Dowager; but inexplicably short as 3-1 on the morning line) and **STYLISH SUE** (career best when making all to score over 8.5 furlongs in a late seasonal debut at this venue on November 8) are also worth considering as Trifecta horses, though it's hard to see either of them ending up in the winners' circle.

CONCLUSION: Proctor Street gets a narrow vote and that's not only because 6-1 is too big; she been so reliable and if it's correct that she wants more ground (as it seemed last time out), then this lightly raced, and well bred, daughter of Street Sense has a good chance. Sorting out the others is anything but easy and we can't have more than two B-horses in an open race like this. The two that make sense are 15-1 shot Awesome Czech (who is on an upward curve and not too pace dependent) and the more accomplished 5-2 shot Pin Up Betty (who wants pace and has to give weight; but who has made her presence felt against better runners than these). How to play the Trifecta? Bravely; Going for at least one of those two (preferably both) to hit the board, and mix in as many others as possible. Awesome Czech is the value W&S / EW bet.

GLOBEFORM SELECTIONS

A	11 PROCTOR STREET WON @ 3-1	
B	4 AWESOME CZECH 2nd @ 10-1, 8 PIN UP BETTY	33-1 EXACTA HIT WITH 2 LINES
C	1 DUVET DAY, 2 MIWA, 6 SHE'S LOOKIN LUCKY	

Miwa 3rd / Ladies Marathon: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TH3-86tAsGU>

Proctor Street / Keeneland Allowance: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FQyBn0FoPrk>
2nd She's Lookin Lucky

Proctor Street 3rd / Perfect Sting Stakes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GpQXP82sHJI>

Duvet Day / Cardinal Stakes '24: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ztqi2xBesE>
2nd She's Lookin Lucky

Pin Up Betty 5th / First Lady Stakes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ELe3eB7QxG8>

Pin Up Betty / Anchorage Stakes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uVXN901FDqY>

Awesome Czech / Ticonderoga Stakes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FfiXYpW0P6E>

Awesome Czech 3rd / Athenia Stakes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y-DyTntdgXE>