

Globeform's Kentucky Derby Special '26

Previews and ratings by Geir Stabell

Kentucky Derby contender

COMMANDMENT IN FOCUS

COMMANDMENT won the most competitive of all the preps when getting his nose first to the wire in the Florida Derby, contested over 9 furlongs at Gulfstream Park in late March. Coming from off what was no more than a moderate pace, he came out best in an incredibly close photo finish against **THE PUMA**, who has won the Tampa Bay Derby from **FURTHER ADO** on his previous start. **CHIEF WALLABEE**, a neck behind Commandment when they met in the Fountain of Youth a month earlier, was third, beaten half a length. The Florida Derby was a tough contest and the top three in that event all have a chance in the Kentucky Derby - but it was also a bit of a bizarre affair. The pace was rather slow, yet the top two finisher both came from the back. What does that tell us? Perhaps it tells us that Chief Wallabee, who raced in the first three for most of the way, did not get the stamina test one would have liked. Whereas Commandment and The Puma, who both improved to **Globeform 116**, look like horses who will relish a test of stamina, Chief Wallabee may be more of a miler. That's also how he is bred, though anyone who saw his well publicized work at Churchill on April 20 will be keen to question that theory. He did gallop out strongly that morning, but make no mistake; works and races are two very different things.

Commandment won the Florida Derby despite having appeared to be a beaten horse heading toward the home turn - much like what happened on his preceding start and he seems a surefire stayer.

Edged by the disappointing (and now sidelined) Todd Pletcher colt Nearly in the wagering, Commandment went off second favorite in the Florida Derby. He had been favorite as he delivered in the Fountain of Youth Stakes over 8.5 furlongs at Gulfstream Park in February. He was off the bridle as the field went into the home turn in the Fountain of Youth, gradually found his best stride - and he also found a nice gap by the inside rail at the finish. Chief Wallabee, who also came from a few lengths off the pace but went wide (while traveling better than Commandment), was the one to catch; and Commandment got to him in the last few strides. Both colts produced a strong performance, with Commandment prevailing by a neck. The impressive Swale Stakes winner Solitude Dude was 2 lengths further adrift in third place, 8 1/2 lengths in front of Bravaro, who was coming off a second to Nearly in the Holy Bull Stakes. With Solitude Dude's Swale runner-up Class President going on to success in the Rebel Stakes, these formlines also read well. Solitude Dude has also advertised the form by winning the Bay Shore Stakes at Aqueduct (albeit as an odds-on favorite).

Commandment's sire Into Mischief, also represented by Renegade and Potente in this year's Derby, needs no introduction. A highly successful stallion, he has sired Kentucky Derby winners Sovereignty, Authentic and Mandaloun, who was nowhere near as good as the other two but moved up to first place upon the disqualification of Medina Spirit. While last year's champion Sovereignty is out of a daughter of Travers Stakes and Jockey Club Gold Cup winner Bernardini and Authentic is out of daughter of high class sprinter Mr Greeley, Mandaloun's broodmare was a daughter of Belmont Stakes winner Empire Maker. That's also the case for Into Mischief's Dubai World Cup winning son Laurel River; and recent Riyadh Dirt Sprint winner Imagination is also an Into Mischief son out of a daughter of Empire Maker.

Plotting campaigns for racehorses purely based on pedigrees can lead the best of trainers up the wrong alley. Even Bob Baffert would probably agree. He trained Laurel River as a young horse and ran him in sprint races - but when Laurel River moved to Dubai he quickly became a top class 10-furlong horse. When Imagination, (bred along similar lines) came along Baffert set out to make him a Kentucky Derby horse, something that didn't work out. Now, three years later, Imagination is one of the best sprinters around. So the conclusion might be that there is no conclusion; Into Mischief can sire all sorts of horses with mares from all sorts of families. His offspring seldom lack tactical speed though, and that may be the most interesting point in this context - simply because Commandment doesn't quite fit that bill. While he travels well enough early in his races, he is not a horse with excellent tactical speed; he had to be urged along when lying in fifth place heading into the home turn in the Fountain of Youth, a race he won in a way indicating 'the further the better'. In the Mucho Macho Man, where he was 1/2 favorite, the story was a bit similar; he was urged along in fifth around the turn, then he outclassed inferior rivals coming down the lane; and in the Florida Derby he was also a bit 'in a dead spot' before picking up steam. To his credit, he overcame a slow pace that day. What will happen when this colts get the combination of 10 furlongs and a strong pace? The answer should >>>

>>> come on the first Saturday in May. His dam, Sippican Harbor, ran only four times as a juvenile and she was never given a stamina test. She came from well off the pace when winning the 7-furlong Spinaway Stakes at Saratoga, a performance telling us further would suit. Prior to Commandment, she produced Sippican Shop (Medaglia d'Oro), a twice raced maiden who was placed over 6.5 furlongs at Saratoga as a 3yo. Sippican Harbor is a half-sister to Awesome Result (Justify), a Listed winner over 10 furlongs / dirt in Japan, where she has won 8 of his 11 starts. Furthermore, Sippican Harbor is a daughter of Kentucky Derby winner Orb, so there is stamina in the bottom half of Commandment's pedigree.

Commandment / Florida Derby: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RIwtNvI9hk>
2nd The Puma 3rd Chief Wallabee

Commandment / Fountain of Youth Stakes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6uSDARQeagE>
2nd Chief Wallabee

From Globefom's Kentucky Derby Weekend Special 2025

*How an easy 13-1 winner
on Derby day was selected*

Pat Day Mile boss Macho Music won by 3 1/4 lengths

From our race preview:



MACHO MUSIC may be a tough contender and **morning line 12-1** is far too big a price about this fast improving colt. Like Gate to Wire, he could be a horse that doesn't care much for further than seven panels, but he was visually impressive when winning at Tampa Bay Downs in late March, powering home by 'half the stretch' from P Four and Cajun Venom. Macho Music's time was almost 2 seconds better than the time recorded by Win N Your In in the fillies' divisions (she won by 7 lengths) and he did not beat cheap claimers in this race. P Four was exiting a 5 1/4-length maiden win and Cajun Venom won an allowance race by almost three lengths next time out. This is one of those case where we need to ask ourselves "how moderate can the horses he beat actually be?". Even when assessing his runner-up to Globeform 70 only, Macho Music comes out on Globeform 110. If we compare him to Win N Your In using their times, well, then he comes out with an even higher ratings. Either way, he has clearly turned a corner in recent weeks and the way he was ridden out, and kept going, indicates that a mile is within his compass. His dam won 4 of her 7 races, including a stakes event over 7 furlongs; but she was also third in an 8.5-furlong allowance heat at Keeneland as a juvenile, so could not have been all about speed. [Download the full preview](#)

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A	8 JOURNALISM	2ND
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Editor Geir Stabell

Testimonials

Some of our subscribers' emails below. This service was launched for Saratoga 2024 and it's been a pleasure to get so much positive feedback. During this period there has been one negative email; from a new subscriber who joined in for two weeks when we had a bad run. He was unlucky, and given two weeks free of charge as a compensation - and guess what; he was still complaining saying he missed our recommended 12-1 and 5-1 winners. He wanted text message alerts between all races. In other words; he wanted "quick picks" - but this isn't a quick fix service, like those infamous sheets recommending 20 bets or more per day.

This is a service where selective betting, the only way to get an edge, is the priority. First, the right races to play are selected, then 3 to 4 hours of handicapping per race goes into the previews.

"This is the absolute best service I have ever signed up for. So much more confident in my wagering. I can't thank you enough for all that gets put in to the handicapping. Your races are the only ones I bet now.

Again Many thanks" - Nick, Florida

"This appears to be the most disciplined way to play.

I can focus on my business, responsibilities and family for the majority of the week and slice out a window on Saturdays for myself, with Globeform previews. Great stuff. My life has changed for the better.

Thank you again for the disciplined approach helping me to gain an edge in this game. - Mike, New Jersey

"Greetings!

From the very last sentence of the report for the Seabiscuit:

"Call Sign Seven is the longshot play. At 20-1 he's worth an across the board wager"

Wow, what a call - I still can't get over the price this horse went off at... 68-1...

THANKS again and as always, great work on the reports!" - David G. / NY

Globeform testimonials

"Don't waste your time trying to handicap these near impossible to figure races.

Instead go with a professional organization that does this for a living.

Globeform provides the best overall analysis and selections I have seen."

- Tom Console, Handicapping Author

"Good morning, Geir! I have been following racing my entire life and

the analysis you put together of stakes races is just superb!

Thank you again for doing all the work!!!

Thanks again for all the work and contemplation which leads

to the rare insight you provide! Just loving it! - Paul, Seattle

"Your well researched work and previews are top class" - Phil, Cambridge

"My compliments on your truly exceptional in-depth analysis.

The best I've ever seen". - Regards, Thomas, Washington

"Your expertise at assessing how a horse runs is so valuable,

as it provides you (not most of us but certainly you) with great

insight into the likelihood of progression versus regression.

My point is that while times are crucial, never underestimate the value

of your expertise at assessing how a horse runs.

- Stephanie, New York

Nice job again on the Santa Anita series. Your consistency is impressive

and your ability to find the right longshot is unique.

- Eric, Ohio

"These previews and ratings really are excellent.

And it's great to get previews days before race days.

Often, Saturdays mean tons to digest and finding the right races to play isn't easy.

You have solved that problem - well done! - Joe M., Saratoga

Globeform testimonials

"I just want to **thank you so much for your in-depth information** for Breeder's Cup.

I play handicapping contests on Horsetourneys and for the first time they had a contest for the Breeder's Cup, for all the races at Del Mar.

*I picked Balantina (\$43) in the contest and **without your information there is no way I would have had that horse.***

I was awarded \$941 for my fourth place finish for day one.

I had several other wins and ended up finishing 9th in the tournament and picked up \$8,466, plus \$941 for the first day for a total of \$9,407.

So thanks again, and as long as you keep putting out the Breeder's Cup Report I will be a loyal customer."

Best Regards,

Richard, California

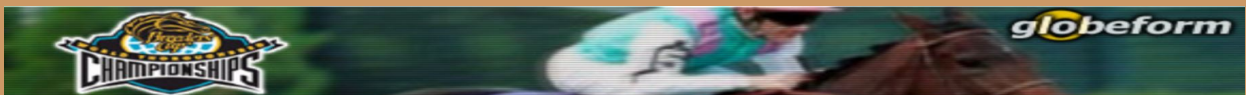
"You recommended Desvio at **34-1** at Keeneland, Balantina at **20-1** at the Breeders' Cup then Del Mar winner Call Sign Seven at **68-1**. All within a few weeks. I have enjoyed this!

This can't be by coincidence. You are very good at finding the horses with a winning chance and way too big odds. Nothing seems to be overlooked.

Your previews are educational too. Thanks." - Bill, Ft Lauderdale

Many thanks for your reports. Your finding J B Strikes Back at **16-1** and **your analysis of that race was incredible.**

Not many others found that one. - Chris, London



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