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Previews and ratings by Geir Stabell

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GLOBEFORM RANKING THE HASKELL INVITATIONAL (G1) 9 fur dirt, Monmouth Park Saturday July 19

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 | JOURNALISM | 124 | 123 - 120+ 124 | McCarthy / Rispoli | |
| 6 | 6 | GOSGER | 115 | 115 - 111p - ?p | Walsh / L Saez | |
| 11 | 4 | BURNHAM SQUARE | 113 | 113 - 105+ 111p | Wilkes / Hernandez Jr | |
| 11p | 1 | BRACKET BUSTER | 110p | 110 - 80 - 107 | Oliver / Velazquez | |
| 17p | 8 | GOAL ORIENTED | 104p | 102+ 104p - ?p | Baffert / Prat | |
| 27 | 7 | KENTUCKY OUTLAW | 94 | 94 - 94 - 85 | Dunn / Geroux | |
| 28 | 3 | WILDNCRAZYNIGHT | 93 | 93 - 90 - 85 | D Ward / Castillo | |
| 33 | 5 | NATIONAL LAW | 88 | 88 - 86 - ?p | Duarte Jr / I Ortiz Jr | |

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 <u>not</u> its best rating but the horse ran better than the rating suggests

| Most recent winners of the Haskell Invitational | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|---------|------------------|----------------|--|--|--|
| 2024 | DORNOCH | GF 125 | Danny Gargan | Luis Saez | | | |
| 2023 | GEAUX ROCKET RIDE | GF 120 | Richard Mandella | Mike Smith | | | |
| 2022 | CYBERKNIFE | GF 122 | Brad Cox | Florent Geroux | | | |
| 2021 | HOT ROD CHARLIE | GF 121 | Doug O'Neill | Flavien Prat | | | |
| 2020 | AUTHENTIC | GF 117p | Bob Baffert | Mike Smith | | | |

Average winning Globeform: 121

Main events | Saratoga next week

Thursday Curlin Stakes

Friday Amsterdam Stakes

Saturday Jim Dandy Stakes

Lake George Stakes

Sunday Glens Falls Stakes

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GLOBEFORM ANALYSIS

JOURNALISM is head and shoulders the best horse going for the Haskell Stakes, as he ships to Monmouth Park from his Santa Anita base. He has done well on his travels to Churchill Downs, Pimlico and Saratoga, so there's no reason to think that coming to this venue will be a problem. The opposition is much softer than what he was up against in the three Triple Crown races and it would be disappointing if he fails to win. He ran yet another strong race in the Belmont Stakes at Saratoga in June. In taking second 3 lengths behind Kentucky Derby winner Sovereignty, he finished 3 1/2 lengths in front of Baeza. It was a copy of the Derby trifecta. With no Sovereignty or Baeza in the field, he is likely to be long odds-on for the Haskell. He gained a most remarkable and well deserved win in the 9.5-furlong Preakness Stakes. Having almost been brought down when bumped around between rivals at the finish, Journalism showed great guts to get the job done picking up momentum once he was in the clear to pass GOSGER for a half-length win. It was impressive but perhaps a bit too much was made of this performance by the media. Gosger is a nice colt though it would not have been possible to get by him like that if he were a proper G1 performer.

Ratings tell us that Journalism ran a better race both in the Kentucky Derby and in the Belmont Stakes. He produced **Globeform 124** when beaten 1 1/2 lengths by Sovereignty at Churchill Downs, the Preakness win required no more than GF 116 and his Belmont effort was worth GF 123. He would have run to a higher figure at Pimlico given a clean trip and he has been given GF 120+; in other words rated as a 2 1/2-length winner of that contest. Gosger will be up against it as he tries to give him another fight on Saturday.

GOSGER is progressive though; he improved again when running second to JOURNALISM in the Preakness. Going down by half a length in a race where he probably should have been beaten at least a couple of lengths, he moved up to Globeform 115, a nice step up on GF 111p produced as he captured the Lexington Stakes over 8.5 furlongs at Keeneland in April. He took that race by 2 lengths from BRACKET BUSTER, who ran inexplicably badly next time out but then won the sloppy Pegasus Stakes by 7 lengths from WILDNCRAZYNIGHT at Monmouth Park in June. Bracket Buster is also improving and he won the Pegasus with ridiculous ease. Geared down through the last furlong, he was value for at least another two lengths - so do not underestimate him in this race. Still, Gosger beat him readily in the Lexington and he improved again in the Preakness, so one would think that he holds the upper hand against Bracket Buster. He will need something special to get close to Journalism though - and second best is his realistic target. The son of Nyquist is rated above Burnham Square, who is burdened a 3lbs penalty for having won a G1. Gosger thus becomes the B-horse.

Burnham Square was sixth, beaten 10 1/12 lengths, in the Kentucky Derby. He put his name in the Derby picture by winning the Blue Grass Stakes at Keeneland. It was a case of silencing some critics after a disappointing fourth in the Fountain of Youth Stakes - when he was beaten 4 lengths as the 2-1 favorite. The reason for that price was an impressive win in the Holy Bull Stakes back in early February. Looking back on the Fountain of Youth result today we see that finishing fourth was better than it might have appeared to be at the time. It was won by Sovereignty. When Burnham Square won the Holy Bull, he did so by beating Tappan Street - and that colt went on to beat Sovereignty in the Florida Derby. The Liam's Map colt was a narrow but deserving winner of the Blue Grass Stakes. Held up for a late run by new rider Brian Hernandez Jr, he finished fast to just get up for a photo win over East Avenue, who almost managed to pull off a gate to wire win. The official margin given was a nose but a short head would have been a better description. Burnham Square confirmed the impression given in the Holy Bull; that he wanted to go long. He should get a good pace in the Haskell and get a piece of the pot. >>>

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BRACKET BUSTER was visually impressive in the Pegasus Stakes over 8.5 furlongs at Monmouth Park in June, powering home by 7 lengths after making virtually all over the sloppy track. He won by 7 lengths from the 31-1 shot **WILDNCRAZYNIGHT**, who had won a 6-furlong allowance heat over the same track in May. With the odds-on favorite Garamond finishing last, Bracket Buster did not have much to beat in the Pegasus but he won the race in an absolute canter and Victor Oliver's charge may be on an upward curve. He moved up to **Globeform 110p** and he is in with a good chance of hitting the board.

GOAL ORIENTED is still an unknown quantity and (although it feels unlikely) if there is as surprise package in this lineup it's probably this Bob Baffert trainee. He came to the Preakness with just two runs under his belt, a 6-furlong maiden win at Santa Anita and an allowance win at Churchill Downs, where he beat next out winner Hypnus by three parts of a length over 8.5 furlongs on a sloppy track; and he ran respectably at Pimlico. He was part of (or shall we say seemingly the cause of) the terrible scrimmaging that almost stopped Journalism in his tracks. At the time Goal Oriented looked like a leg-weary runner. He faded to finish fourth, almost seven lengths behind Journalism. Looking at that run, he does not appear to be a G1 horse in the making but we can't rule it out either. Not quite yet. That he beat Hypnus is not providing much of a clue. Hypnus did win a month later but that was in a race where he would have found it hard to lose.

CONCLUSION: Journalism is 4-5 on the morning line. It would come as no surprise to see him going off at even shorter odds. It must have been mainly as a result of hype following the Preakness when he started favorite for the Belmont - but this time he will be at very cramped odds simply because he is very much the best horse. Backing odds-on favorites virtually never makes any appeal, but a clear A-horse like this can be used as a single in horizontals and as key on top in Tri / Super plans. Gosger is the B-horse, ahead of Burnham Square and Bracket Buster. With three horses well out of their depth, this looks a five-horse race, so we must get involved. Playing Trifectas using three only underneath seems the best option, with more money on the ticket where we have Gosger in second. A small Superfecta plan is also tempting; again with more money on the ticket where we have Gosger in 2nd; and best done with adding a ticket where we include Goal Oriented.

GLOBEFORM SELECTIONS

| Α | 2 JOURNALISM |
|---|------------------------------------|
| В | 6 GOSGER |
| С | 1 BRACKET BUSTER, 4 BURNHAM SQUARE |

Journalism 2nd / Belmont Stakes: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3wPDqkdlcIA&t=187s

Journalism & Gosger / Preakness Stakes: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Twsq2ydLlZk

4th Goal Oriented

Journalism 2nd / Kentucky Derby: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NqrDJmmh1AA 6th Burnham Square

Bracket Buster / Pegasus Stakes: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d41X1R9AWUo