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PREAKNESS STAKES

WAGERING GUIDE

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PIMLICO RACECOURSE

Daily Late-Breaking Online Updates Begin May 12

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Fellow Racing Fan,

Welcome to the fourth edition of XpressBet's Preakness Wagering Guide!

MEC, XpressBet and HRTV are pleased to offer this **FREE Preakness Wagering Guide**.

We hope information contained in these pages helps you enjoy a successful day at the races. Inside you will find everything you need to watch and wager on the **Preakness**.

XpressBet will offer **online** and **phone** wagering on the final two legs of the **Triple Crown** series—**Preakness** and **Belmont Stakes**. We'll also produce a **FREE Wagering Guide** for each event. Hopefully, you were on board for our **Kentucky Derby Wagering Guide** a few weeks ago.

If you already have an **XpressBet** account, then you know that **XpressBet** is the best place to watch and wager on great racing from around the world. **XpressBet** has the best wagering menu available, including **Belmont, Saratoga, Churchill, Calder, Hollywood, Monmouth, Del Mar, Arlington** and many more tracks.

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Preakness is the second leg of the **Triple Crown**, and upset **Derby** winner **Mine That Bird** will look to take another step toward sweeping all three races. That hasn't happened since **Affirmed** in 1978.

We've recruited top handicappers, writers and broadcasters to examine this important race—**Analysis, Main Contenders, Value Plays** and **Wagering Strategies**. You'll also find lots of useful **Stats and Trends**, a handy **Exotic Wagering Chart**, and a host of other information inside the guide.

XpressBet hopes your **2009 Preakness** wagering experience is fruitful and we look forward to serving as your advance deposit account wagering provider for the big day and into the future.

Sincerely,

Ron Luniewski
President
XpressBet

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**PREAKNESS STAKES
WAGERING GUIDE UPDATES
Available Online Daily
Beginning Tuesday, May 12**

Preakness Wagering Facts

by Jeremy Plonk, *Horseplayerpro.com* and *ESPN.com* analyst

*Below are some interesting and informative wagering tidbits from past Preakness Stakes events.
Use them to help you to decide how to play this year's event.*

WIN, PLACE, SHOW ODDS:

(Last 12 Years)

Average Win Odds: **3.98-to-1**

High Win Odds: **12.90-to-1 (Bernardini, 2006)**

Low Win Odds: **.20-to-1 (Big Brown, 2008)**

Notable: 9 of last 12 winners were 3-to-1 or less.

Average Place Odds: **12.70-to-1**

High Place Odds: **45.70-to-1 (Magic Weisner, 2002)**

Low Place Odds: **.30-to-1 (Fusaichi Pegasus, 2000)**

Notable: 3 of last 7 runner-ups have been 20-to-1 or more.

Average Show Odds: **15.13-to-1**

High Show Odds: **58.00-to-1 (Badge, 1999)**

Low Show Odds: **2.10-to-1 (Captain Bodgit, 2001)**

Notable: Twice in the past 3 years the show horse has been 22-to-1 or more.

EXACTA PAYOFFS

(Last 12 Years)

Average \$2 Exacta Payoff: **\$87.20**

High \$2 Exacta Payoff: **\$327.00**

(War Emblem-Magic Weisner, 2002)

Low \$2 Exacta Payoff: **\$14.80**

(Real Quiet-Victory Gallop, 1998)

Notable: 3 of the last 5 exactas have paid \$36.60 or less.

TRIFECTA PAYOFFS

(Wager Available Last 12 Years)

Average \$2 Trifecta Payoff: **\$634.33**

High \$2 Trifecta Payoff: **\$3,912.80**

(Bernardini-Sweetnorthernsaint-Hemingway's Key, 2006)

Low \$1 Trifecta Payoff: **\$19.10**

(Silver Charm-Free House-Captain Bodgit, 1997)

Notable: 6 of the 12 trifectas returned less than \$100 for a \$1 wager.

SUPERFECTA PAYOFFS

(Wager Available Last 11 Years)

Average \$1 Superfecta Payoff: **\$4,625.54**

High \$1 Superfecta Payoff: **\$18,887.60**

(Charismatic-Menifee-Badge-Stephen Got Even, 1999)

Low \$1 Superfecta Payoff: **\$230.70**

(Smarty Jones-Rock Hard Ten-Eddington-Lion Heart, 2004)

Average Odds of Fourth-Place Finishers: **12.98-to-1**

Notable: 3 times the superfecta has paid more than \$10,000.00.

2008 PREAKNESS HANDLE TOTALS

Win, Place, Show: **\$14.3 million**

Exacta: **\$10.7 million**

Trifecta: **\$13.9 million**

Superfecta: **\$6.4 million**

Pick Four: **\$1.4 million**

Black-Eyed Susan/Preakness Double: **\$345,902**

HIGHEST-PRICED RUNNERS IN SUPERFECTA

(Wager Available Last 11 Years)

Odds to \$1	Horse	Finish	Year
58.00	Badge	3rd	1999
45.70	Magic Weisner	2nd	2002
39.90	Macho Again	2th	2008
29.40	Hemingway's Key	3rd	2006
25.20	Hot Wells	4th	1998
25.10	Racecar Rhapsody	4th	2008
24.90	C.P. West	4th	2007

SHORTEST-PRICED PREAKNESS FAVORITES

(Last 12 Years)

Odds to \$1	Horse	Finish	Year
.20	Big Brown	1st	2008
.30	Fusaichi Pegasus	2nd	2000
.50	Barbaro	DNF	2006
.70	Smarty Jones	1st	2004
1.30	Street Sense	2nd	2007
1.90	Funny Cide	1st	2003

PREAKNESS SELECTION GRID

Host	Mike Battaglia (NBC Sports)	Jeff Siegel (HRTV)	Jon White (HRTV)	Dick Jerardi (Phila. Daily News)	Steve Byk (Sirius Radio)	Gary West (FW Star-Telegram)
First	Pioneerof the Nile	Mine That Bird	Pioneerof the Nile	Big Drama	Rachel Alexandra	Big Drama
Second	Papa Clem	Papa Clem	Mine That Bird	Papa Clem	Mine That Bird	Friesan Fire
Third	Hull	Big Drama	Papa Clem	Mine That Bird	Pioneerof the Nile	Terrain
Fourth	Big Drama	Hull	Hull	Musket Man	Papa Clem	Pioneerof the Nile

MEET THE PREAKNESS CONTENDERS

by Johnny D
XpressBet.com

MINE THAT BIRD

It's one thing to win the Kentucky Derby. It's quite another to demolish the field at 50-1 with a rail-skimming journey over a soggy track. **Mine That Bird's** place in the history books is guaranteed, because he won the 135th Kentucky Derby as the second-longest priced runner ever. What can **Mine That Bird** do for an encore? How about win the Preakness. Eight horses in history have won the Derby at odds of 20-1 or more and have returned to run in the Preakness. Three of them came right back to win (two were favored). Four of them finished third. One was fifth. Those are good stats for **Mine That Bird** despite the general consensus that lightning won't strike twice.

PAPA CLEM

Trainer Gary Stute couldn't wait to tell the folks at the Maryland Jockey Club to reserve a stall for **Papa Clem** at the Preakness. But you can't blame Gary for being excited. After all, back in '86, his father Mel saddled Snow Chief to a next-to-last placing as the Derby favorite. Two weeks later Mel and Snow Chief were standing in front of the Preakness cupola as Grinstead & Rochelle's silks were painted on the weather vane. **Papa Clem** ran better than Snow Chief did in the Derby. Now let's see if son can duplicate the feat of 'papa Mel' with **Papa Clem**.

MUSKET MAN

He used his steady running style to beat all but two runners home in the Kentucky Derby at 19-1. He's now raced seven times without ever finishing worse than third—five wins, no seconds and two thirds. He has three stakes wins to his credit. As unusual as **Mine That Bird's** route to the Kentucky Derby was, **Musket**

Man also took an unconventional route to the race. He had three starts at Tampa Bay Downs before winning the Illinois Derby. Only a nose worse than **Pioneerof the Nile** on Derby day, he deserves continued respect in the Preakness.

PREAKNESS WINNERS AS HORSE OF THE YEAR

<u>Year</u>	<u>Horse</u>
2007.....	CURLIN
2001.....	POINT GIVEN
1999.....	CHARISMATIC
1989.....	SUNDAY SILENCE
1978.....	AFFIRMED
1977.....	SEATTLE SLEW
1973.....	SECRETARIAT
1967.....	DAMASCUS
1957.....	BOLD RULER
1955.....	NASHUA
1950.....	HILL PRINCE
1949.....	CAPOT
1948.....	CITATION
1946.....	ASSAULT
1943.....	COUNT FLEET
1941.....	WHIRLAWAY
1939.....	CHALLEDON
1937.....	WAR ADMIRAL

HULL

Undeclared in three starts, this one will be trying two turns for the first time. That's always a challenge for any horse and for **Hull** to attempt the feat for the first time in the Preakness obviously is even tougher. However, he's the only unbeaten horse in the race and that's got to count for something. Right? Plus, he's got speed and speed never slumps.

BIG DRAMA

He's actually finished first in six consecutive races, including three restricted races at Calder, the Delta Jackpot and the Swale Stakes (where he was disqualified from the win for interference in the stretch). He's a fighter with enough speed to be close to the early pace. In seven starts he never has been worse than second. Fresh, fast and flashy, **Big Drama** certainly will draw lots of attention at the windows and on the racetrack in the Preakness.

PIONEEROF THE NILE

As the well-beaten runner-up in the Derby, expect **Pioneerof the Nile** to retain many of his supporters for the Preakness. Sent off as the third choice in the Derby at just over 6-1, he seemed destined to win the race until **Mine That Bird** exploded on the rail like a shot. **Pioneerof the Nile** did drift outward a bit in the Derby stretch and that may concern some, but he is trained by Bob Baffert, one of the best at getting top performances out of his runners in Triple Crown races.

CONSISTENCY IS PREAKNESS KEY



by Mike Battaglia
NBC Sports Racing Analyst

ANALYSIS: Mine That Bird freaked in the Derby. The main question with this one is: Can he duplicate this performance, or is he just a one-hit wonder? Pioneerof the Nile, on the other hand, is ultra-consistent; he never runs a bad race. He figures to get another good, stalking trip just off of the early leaders and he will be right there when they turn for home. Papa Clem and Musket Man have proven that they belong in this company and have to be respected. The two new shooters look very interesting. Big Drama and Hull both are quality runners with good early speed and both seem to be improving. Either is capable of a good showing.

MAIN CONTENDERS: Pioneerof the Nile looks like a must for all gimmicks. He was bearing out a bit in the final stages of the Derby, but he showed his toughness and hung on for second money. I expect a similar effort in the Preakness. Papa Clem has proven his versatility running well at Churchill, Oaklawn, Fair Grounds and Santa Anita. He is another one who should get a good trip and his best would make him the one to beat. Mine That Bird loved the slop, got a perfect ride by Calvin 'Bo-rail,' and ran an amazing race in the Derby. Anything close to that kind of performance would make him a winner, but I think it will be awfully tough for him to run that kind of race again.

VALUE PLAYS: Hull is undefeated and really untested. He has never been around two turns but looks like he can handle more distance and can't be taken lightly.

WAGERING STRATEGIES (\$100):

- \$10 Exacta Box: PIONEEROF THE NILE, PAPA CLEM and HULL (\$60)
- \$40 Win: PIONEER OF THE NILE (\$40)

*Stats & Trends and Know This information provided by
Jeremy Plonk, NBC Sports Triple Crown researcher.*

STATS & TRENDS:

DERBY WINNERS IN PREAKNESS (Last 11 years)

2008	Big Brown	(1st, 1-5*)
2007	Street Sense	(2nd, 6-5*)
2006	Barbaro	(DNF, 1-2*)
2005	Giacomo	(3rd, 6-1)
2004	Smarty Jones	(1st, 3-5*)
2003	Funny Cide	(1st, 9-5*)
2002	War Emblem	(1st, 5-2*)
2001	Monarchos	(6th, 2-1)
2000	Fusaichi Pegasus	(2nd, 1-5*)
1999	Charismatic	(1st, 8-1)
1998	Real Quiet	(1st, 5-2)

KNOW THIS:

Preakness "Last Times"

The last ...

Kentucky Derby winner to win:

Big Brown (2008)

Kentucky Derby off-the-board finisher to win:

Point Given (2001)

Non-Kentucky Derby alum to win:

Bernardini (2006)

Horse prepped at Pimlico to win:

Bee Bee Bee (1972)

Jockey to win back-to-back:

Pat Day (Tabasco Cat, 1994, Timber Country, 1995 & Louis Quatorze, 1996)

Jockey to win his debut:

Javier Castellano (Bernardini, 2006)

Trainer to win back-to-back:

Bob Baffert (Point Given, 2001 & War Emblem, 2002)

Trainer to win his debut:

Rick Dutrow (Big Brown, 2008)

Gelding to win:

Funny Cide (2003)

Wire-to-wire winner:

Aloma's Ruler (1982) from post position #7 ('96 Louis Quatorze led all but start call)

Winner to close from more than 10 lengths back:

Curlin (2007) from 13 lengths back after half-mile.

SELECTIONS:

1. PIONEEROF THE NILE
2. PAPA CLEM
3. HULL
4. BIG DRAMA

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Exotic Wagering Chart

Preakness Day can produce some juicy exotic payoffs. Use this Exotic Wagering Chart to plan your attack.

EXACTA BOX: (\$2 Wager)

2 horse box	\$4
3 horse box	\$12
4 horse box	\$24
5 horse box	\$40
6 horse box	\$60
7 horse box	\$84
8 horse box	\$112

EXACTA WHEEL: (\$2 Wager)

One Horse with All

6 horse field	\$10
7 horse field	\$12
8 horse field	\$14
9 horse field	\$16
10 horse field	\$18

TRIFECTA BOX: (\$1 Wager)

3 Horse Box	\$6
4 Horse Box	\$24
5 Horse Box	\$60
6 Horse Box	\$120
7 Horse Box	\$210
8 Horse Box	\$336

TRIFECTA WHEELS: (\$1 Wager)

One Horse with All with All

(Example: 1/All/All or All/1/All or All/All/1)

7 Horse Field	\$30
8 Horse Field	\$42
9 Horse Field	\$56
10 Horse Field	\$72

One Horse with Two Horses with All

(Example: 1/2/All or 2/1/All or 1/All/2 or 2/a All/1/1 or All/1/2 or All/2/1)

7 Horse Field	\$10
8 Horse Field	\$12
9 Horse Field	\$14
10 Horse Field	\$16

TRIFECTA KEYS: (\$1 Wager)

1 Horse with 3 others	\$6
<i>(Example: 1/2, 3, 4/2, 3, 4)</i>	
1 Horse with 4 others	\$12
<i>(Example: 1/2, 3, 4, 5/2, 3, 4, 5)</i>	
1 Horse with 5 others	\$20
<i>(Example: 1/2, 3, 4, 5, 6/2, 3, 4, 5, 6)</i>	
1 Horse with 6 others	\$30
<i>(Example: 1/2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7/2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)</i>	
1 Horse with 7 others	\$42
<i>(Example: 1/2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8/2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8)</i>	

SUPERFACTA BOX: (\$1 Wager)

4 Horse Box	\$24
5 Horse Box	\$120
6 Horse Box	\$360

SUPERFACTA WHEELS: (\$1 Wager)

One Horse with All with All with All

7 Horse Field	\$120
8 Horse Field	\$210
9 Horse Field	\$336
10 Horse Field	\$504

(Example: 1/All/All/All or All/1/All/All or All/All/1/All or All/ All/ All/1)

One Horse with Two Horses with All with All

7 Horse Field	\$40
8 Horse Field	\$60
9 Horse Field	\$84
10 Horse Field	\$112

(Example: 1/2/ All/ All or 2/ 1/ All/ All or 1/ All/ All/ 2 or 2/ All/ All/ 1 or All/ All/ 1/ 2 or All/ All/ 2/ 1)

SUPERFACTA KEYS: (\$1 Wager)

1 Horse with 3 others	\$6
<i>(Example: 1/2, 3, 4/2, 3, 4/2, 3, 4)</i>	
1 Horse with 4 others	\$24
<i>(Example: 1/2, 3, 4, 5/2, 3, 4, 5/2, 3, 4, 5)</i>	
1 Horse with 5 others	\$60
<i>(Example: 1/2, 3, 4, 5, 6/2, 3, 4, 5, 6/2, 3, 4, 5, 6)</i>	
1 Horse with 6 others	\$120
<i>(Example: 1/2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7/2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7/2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)</i>	
1 Horse with 7 others	\$210
<i>(Example: 1/2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8/2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8/2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8)</i>	

DON'T MIND THAT BIRD, HE'S PRETTY GOOD



by Jeff Siegel
HRTV Analyst

ANALYSIS: Is it even remotely conceivable that **Mine That Bird's** pulverizing 6 3/4-length victory in the Kentucky Derby wasn't a fluke? Count me among the few who believe that it wasn't. Admittedly, last year's Canadian champion two-year-old had never done anything remotely as impressive, but he had never been anchored early and allowed to produce one late run in his previous eight races, either. This new-found strategy – the brainchild of jockey Calvin Borel – most likely was the key reason for the gelding's sudden form reversal (the off-track obviously didn't hurt, either). In any case, the performance was so thoroughly dominating that anything close to a repeat will once again land him in the winner's circle in the second jewel of racing's Triple Crown. And that's what I'm expecting.

MAIN CONTENDERS: Among the new shooters, **Big Drama** very likely is the most dangerous. After a stall accident set him back earlier this year, the Florida-based colt returned to top form when finishing first (before being disqualified) in the Swale Stakes, and because he previously won two stakes over a distance of ground, the extra distance shouldn't be an issue. **Papa Clem** had a somewhat less-than-deal trip in the Derby and showed grit to finish fourth.

VALUE PLAYS: There's value in backing **Mine That Bird** if the wagering public refuses to embrace his Derby triumph. But they may have to, because the alternatives aren't terribly attractive. The aforementioned **Big Drama** has credentials, and unbeaten **Hull**, who'll be trying two turns and traveling a quarter-mile farther than he's ever been, likely will attract action if for no other reason than they weren't among the also-rans in Louisville.

WAGERING STRATEGIES (\$100):

- \$26 Win: **MINE THAT BIRD** (\$26)
- \$5 Trifecta Key: **MINE THAT BIRD** over **PAPA CLEM**, **BIG DRAMA** and **HULL** (\$30)
- \$10 Exacta Box: **MINE THAT BIRD** and **PAPA CLEM** (\$20)
- \$1 Trifecta Box: **MINE THAT BIRD**, **PAPA CLEM**, **BIG DRAMA** and **HULL** (\$24)

SELECTIONS:

1. MINE THAT BIRD
2. PAPA CLEM
3. BIG DRAMA
4. HULL

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STATS & TRENDS:

PREAKNESS WINNERS WHO SKIPPED DERBY (Since 1970)

2006	Bernardini
2000	Red Bullet
1983	Deputed Testamony
1982	Aloma's Ruler
1980	Codex
1972	Bee Bee Bee

WIRE TO WIRE PREAKNESS WINNERS (Last 50 years)

1996	Louis Quatorze (all but start)
1982	Aloma's Ruler
1972	Bee Bee Bee
1960	Bally Ache

KNOW THIS:

What's in a Name?

The Minisi, a Northern New Jersey tribe of Native Americans called their area Pra-qua-les, meaning quail woods. The name evolved into Preakness. One of its variations was Preckiness, used by General George Washington to describe where his troops were quartered in the winter of 1776-77. Nearly a century later, Milton H. Sanford's 3-year-old Preakness won Pimlico's first stakes race—the Dinner Party. The Maryland Jockey Club named its newest stakes race "Preakness."

Preakness "Last Times"

The last ...

Kentucky Derby runner-up to win:

Prairie Bayou (1993)

Kentucky Derby show horse to win:

Curlin (2007)

Kentucky Derby exacta to repeat 1-2 in

Preakness:

Charismatic-Menifee (1999)

Kentucky Derby trifecta to repeat 1-2-3 in

Preakness:

Affirmed-Alydar-Believe It (1978)

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SWEET REVENGE FOR 'NILE



by Jon White

HRTV and Santa Anita Analyst

ANALYSIS: After Big Brown took the 2008 Kentucky Derby by almost five lengths, he started as the 1-5 Preakness favorite and won by a little more than five lengths. A Belmont Stakes nightmare thwarted his dreams of Triple Crown glory. This year, the main Preakness question is this: Was **Mine That Bird's** 6 3/4-length Kentucky Derby win at 50-1 on a sloppy track a fluke? How he runs in the Preakness should go a long way toward answering that question. Historically, the 2009 Preakness winner most likely competed in the Kentucky Derby. Deputed Testamony won the Preakness in 1983 without having run in the Derby. Since then, the only other Preakness winners who didn't participate in the Derby were Red Bullet in 2000 and Bernardini in 2006. If Kentucky Derby runner-up **Pioneerof the Nile** starts in the Preakness, I will not be surprised to see him turn the tables on **Mine That Bird**, especially if the track is fast, though I am inclined to think **Mine That Bird** will run well again.

MAIN CONTENDERS: Prominent Preakness possibilities at this writing include Derby starters **Mine That Bird**, **Pioneerof the Nile**, **Musket Man**, **Papa Clem** and **Friesan Fire**, plus talented "new shooters" **Hull** and **Big Drama**.

VALUE PLAYS: Even though he won the Kentucky Derby by the biggest margin since Assault's eight-length triumph in 1946, **Mine That Bird** probably will be a better price in the Preakness than he should be because so many bettors will view him as a "one-race wonder" and/or a "wet-track star."

WAGERING STRATEGIES (\$100):

- \$40 Win: **PIONEEROF THE NILE** (\$40)
- \$15 Exacta Box: **PIONEEROF THE NILE** and **MINE THAT BIRD** (\$30)
- \$10 Exacta Box: **PIONEEROF THE NILE** and **PAPA CLEM** (\$20)
- \$3 Exacta Box: **PIONEEROF THE NILE** and **HULL** (\$6)
- \$2 Exacta Box: **MINE THAT BIRD** and **PAPA CLEM** (\$4)

SELECTIONS:

1. PIONEEROF THE NILE
2. MINE THAT BIRD
3. PAPA CLEM
4. HULL

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STATS & TRENDS:

SUCCESSFUL LOCALS

(Last 20 years)

2006	Sweetnorthern	2nd
2005	Scrappy T	2nd
2002	Magic Weisner	2nd
1997	Captain Bodgit	3rd
1995	Oliver's Twist	2nd

PREAKNESS RECORD FRACTIONS

Dist.	Time	Horse	Year
1/4 mile	:22-2/5	(tied 3 times)	
1/2 mile	:45	Bold Forbes	1976
3/4 mile	1:09	Bold Forbes	1976
1 mile	1:34-1/5	Chief's Crown	1985
		Sunday Silence	1989
Final	1:53-2/5	Curlin	2007
		Louis Quatorze	1996
		Tank's Prospect	1985

KNOW THIS:

BIGGEST DERBY UPSETS / PREAKNESS PERFORMANCE

Only 8 horses in history have won the Derby at 20-to-1 odds or greater and gone on to compete in the Preakness. They own a remarkable 8: 3-0-4 mark in the middle jewel of the Triple Crown. Only 2 of the 8, however, were favored in Baltimore.

Year	Horse	Derby Odds to \$1	Preakness Odds to \$1	Preakness Finish
1913	Donerail	91.45	-	Didn't Run
2005	Giacomo	50.30	6.00	3rd
1940	Gallahadion	35.20	6.70	3rd
1999	Charismatic	31.30	8.40	1st
1967	Proud Clarion	30.10	4.30	3rd
1918	Exterminator	29.60	-	Didn't Run
1953	Dark Star	24.90	11.3	5th
1995	Thunder Gulch	24.50	3.8	3rd
1908	Stone Street	23.72	-	Didn't Run
1982	Gato Del Sol	21.20	-	Didn't Run
2002	War Emblem	20.50	2.8 *	1st
1936	Bold Venture	20.50	1.85 *	1st

* Favorite

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'BIRD SEQUEL OR NEW DRAMA?



by Dick Jerardi

Philadelphia Daily News Columnist

ANALYSIS: Any thoughts about the Preakness have to begin with the obvious question: Can **Mine That Bird** do it again? Or was his dominating Kentucky Derby win (biggest margin since 1946) the result of a horse who loved the going, caught a live rail and was given a brilliant ride by Calvin Borel? Whatever it was or wherever it came from, there was no doubt **Mine That Bird** was flying in the final three eighths after galloping behind the field for the first seven furlongs. It was an amazing display of speed, certainly nothing the horse had ever indicated he could do before the Derby. Back in the day, Pimlico was very much a speed-favoring track, but that has not been the case in years. This year, however, speed has been pretty good, which could be an issue for **Mine That Bird** if he drops far back again.

MAIN CONTENDERS: **Mine That Bird**, obviously. **Pioneerof the Nile**, **Musket Man** and **Papa Clem** all ran to their pre-Derby form to be two-three-four. There's no reason to think one or all of them won't fire again. **Big Drama** ensures a quick pace and could very well get loose on the lead. Unbeaten Derby Trial winner **Hull** should also be up near the pace, but has not yet run fast enough to suggest he can beat these kinds of horses.

VALUE PLAYS: It is not often the Derby winner is value the next out, but the players are going to want to see **Mine That Bird** do it again before they believe it. **Big Drama** is not a big name and could get overlooked as players stick with the horses they know from the Derby.

WAGERING STRATEGIES (\$100):

- \$40 Exacta: **BIG DRAMA** over **PAPA CLEM** (\$40)
- \$20 Exacta: **PAPA CLEM** over **BIG DRAMA** (\$20)
- \$30 Exacta: **BIG DRAMA** over **MINE THAT BIRD** (\$30)
- \$10 Exacta: **MINE THAT BIRD** over **BIG DRAMA** (\$10)

STATS & TRENDS:

DERBY WINNERS WHO FLOPPED

Worst Finishes by Derby Winners in Preakness History

2006	Barbaro	DNF / injured
1923	Zev	12th
1970	Dust Commander	9th
1962	Decidedly	8th
1965	Lucky Debonair	7th
1984	Swale	7th
2001	Monarchos	6th
1991	Strike The Gold	6th
1983	Sunny's Halo	6th

KNOW THIS:

Over-50 Discount

Favorites have won more than 50-percent of the Preakness editions all-time, 69-for-134. Odds-on choices are a strong 18-for-28.

Can't We All Just Get a Price?

It's almost impossible to believe that the biggest upset in the 133-year history of Preakness came at 23-to-1 odds when Master Derby paid \$48.80 in 1975. In fact, 123 of 133 Preakness winners have been 11-to-1 odds or less.

Preakness Distances

The Preakness has been staged at seven different distances since its start in 1873.

1-1/2 miles	1873 to 1888 and 1890
1-1/4 miles	1889
1-1/16 miles	1894 to 1900 and 1908
1 mile, 70 yards	1901 to 1907
1 mile	1909 and 1910
1-1/8 miles	1911 to 1924
1-3/16 miles	1925 to present

RACE OF CHAMPIONS

Preakness Winners have been Champion 3-year-old eight straight years.

2008	Big Brown	2004	Smarty Jones
2007	Curlin	2003	Funny Cide
2006	Bernardini	2002	War Emblem
2005	Afleet Alex	2001	Point Given

SELECTIONS:

1. BIG DRAMA
2. PAPA CLEM
3. MINE THAT BIRD
4. MUSKET MAN

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BATTLE OF THE SEXES



by Steve Byk

At the Races with Steve Byk (Sirius Radio) Host

ANALYSIS: Preakness 134 may unfold as one of the most fascinating editions ever of the middle jewel in the Triple Crown. On the heels of **Mine That Bird's** stunning rail run to swipe the Kentucky Derby at 50-1, the sale of Kentucky Oaks runaway starlet **Rachel Alexandra** to Stonestreet Stable's Jess Jackson has opened up the possibility of a match-up between the Derby and Oaks winners—something never before seen in Baltimore. Once you add in Derby superfecta fillers **Pioneerof the Nile**, **Musket Man** and **Papa Clem**, as well as speedy newcomers **Hull** and **Big Drama**, you have the ingredients for a memorable Preakness.

MAIN CONTENDERS: **Mine That Bird** made the most of the conditions at Churchill, and given the lineup expected to face him here, could actually provide shocking value in his attempt to become a dual classic winner. He should not be casually dismissed as there looks to be plenty of pace for him to chase at Old Hilltop. **Rachel Alexandra** may or may not have Calvin Borel if she makes a Preakness try, but will need to call on all her class against at least four boys with interests on or near the pace. And, since **Mine That Bird** is invoking recollections of Giacomo, **Pioneerof the Nile** can potentially play the role of Afleet Alex in Baltimore by annexing the Woodlawn Vase.

VALUE PLAYS: Derby Trial winner **Hull** will look to extend his speed around a second turn here, and recall that in 2008, Macho Again parlayed his Derby Trial score into a 40-1 Preakness placement behind Big Brown. Trainer Derek Ryan continues to laugh at pedigree purists with **Musket Man**, who still has never been off the board in 7 career starts. Pass on him or **Papa Clem**, but know that top Derby finishers have done notoriously well historically in this second stop on the Crown stomp. **Take the Points** was fourth in the Santa Anita Derby, a resume trait that resembles 2004 Preakness runner-up Rock Hard Ten.

WAGERING STRATEGIES (\$100):

- \$2 Trifecta Key: **RACHEL ALEXANDRA** with **MINE THAT BIRD**, **PIONEEROF THE NILE**, **PAPA CLEM** and **MUSKET MAN** with **ALL** (\$96)
- Whatever's Left to Win on **RACHEL ALEXANDRA**

STATS & TRENDS:

DERBY RUNNER-UPS IN PREAKNESS

(Last 11 years)

2008	did not compete	
2007	Hard Spun	(3rd, 4-1)
2006	did not compete	
2005	Closing Argument	(9th, 7-1)
2004	Lion Heart	(4th, 9-2)
2003	did not compete	
2002	Proud Citizen	(3rd, 7-1)
2001	did not compete	
2000	did not compete	
1999	Meniffee	(2nd, 2-1*)
1998	Victory Gallop	(2nd, 2-1*)

KNOW THIS:

Is Experience Overrated?

The past 6 Preakness-winning trainers —Barclay Tagg, John Servis, Tim Ritchey, Tom Albertrani, Steve Asmussen and Rick Dutrow—combined for only 3 prior Preakness bids before visiting the winner's circle. Ritchey had one, while Asmussen had two.

More In The Family

Nine Preakness winners have sired Preakness winners. They are: Bold Ruler (Secretariat); Bold Venture (Assault); Gallant Fox (Omaha); Man o'War (War Admiral); Polynesian (Native Dancer); Citation (Fabius); Native Dancer (Kauai King); Secretariat (Risen Star) and Summer Squall (Charismatic).

June Classics

In 1945, the Derby was conducted on June 9, followed seven days later by the Preakness. It was the only Preakness run in June in Baltimore. The Preakness was held five times in June while run in New York.

SELECTIONS:

1. RACHEL ALEXANDRA
2. MINE THAT BIRD
3. PIONEEROF THE NILE
4. PAPA CLEM

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A 'DRAMATIC' PREAKNESS



by Gary West

Fort Worth Star-Telegram Columnist

ANALYSIS: Without Quality Road, I Want Revenge and Old Fashioned, the Triple Crown cast lacks star power, but some potential stars should step in from the wings for the Preakness, most notably **Hull** and **Big Drama**. **Hull** is unbeaten in three races, most recently winning the Derby Trial; but he has done nothing but sprint, and he's very questionable at this distance. Nevertheless, he ensures there will be a lively Preakness pace. **Big Drama** has finished first in each of his last six, including the Swale, where he led virtually throughout but was disqualified to second. But **Big Drama** has given some of his best performances stalking the pace, and he should enjoy a perfect trip doing so here. And he can finish. In the Swale, he ran the final three-eighths in :35.17. If **Big Drama** can avoid getting too involved with **Hull** early, he should be able to provide a dramatic finish.

MAIN CONTENDERS: Was it a fluke? Maybe. But **Mine That Bird** gave an incredible performance in the Kentucky Derby. He may not get the same kind of track or trip here; and he's a little horse, so I suspect he ideally needs more than two weeks between races. After a rough start, **Friesan Fire** didn't have a chance in the Derby. He came out of the race with cuts and scrapes, front and back, for his efforts. Like **Big Drama**, he's at his best stalking the pace. **Pioneerof the Nile** ran well in the Derby, but if that's all he has, he may not be good enough to win here.

VALUE PLAYS: **Terrain** was headed to the Lone Star Derby, but the Kentucky Derby results convinced his connections that he'll have a chance in Baltimore. And he does. He has defeated **Mine That Bird** and **Pioneerof the Nile**, and if a pace battle develops, **Terrain** could benefit greatly. **Papa Clem** has improved since he has started coming from off the pace.

WAGERING STRATEGIES (\$100):

- \$2 Trifecta Key: **BIG DRAMA** over **FRIESAN FIRE, PAPA CLEM, TERRAIN, PIONEEROF THE NILE** and **MUSKET MAN** (\$40)
- \$4 Exacta Part-wheel: **FRIESAN FIRE, PAPA CLEM, TERRAIN, PIONEEROF THE NILE** and **MUSKET MAN** over **BIG DRAMA** (\$20)
- \$8 Exacta Part-wheel: **BIG DRAMA** over **FRIESAN FIRE, PAPA CLEM, TERRAIN, PIONEEROF THE NILE** and **MUSKET MAN** (\$40)

SELECTIONS:

1. **BIG DRAMA**
2. **FRIESAN FIRE**
3. **TERRAIN**
4. **PIONEEROF THE NILE**

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STATS & TRENDS:

TURNING IT AROUND

A bad Kentucky Derby performance can be a mulligan for Preakness contenders. Note that five Preakness winners since 1991 alone have exited finishes of fifth or worse in the Kentucky Derby, topped by Hansel (10th in the 1991 Kentucky Derby) and Louis Quatorze (16th in 1996).

THE "ODDS" OF RUNNING BACK

Since 1980, the record for most Derby alumni coming back in the Preakness is an astounding 10. That happened after 50-1 Derby winner Giacomo in 2005, and after 31-1 Derby winner Charismatic in 1999. When favorite Big Brown won the 2008 Derby, only Gayego returned for a Preakness rematch.

KNOW THIS:

SPEED AT PIMLICO? HARDLY.

Year	Half-Mile Leader	Finish
2008	Gayego	11th
2007	Xchanger	8th
2006	Like Now	7th
2005	High Limit	5th
2004	Lion Heart	4th
2003	Peace Rules	4th
2002	Menacing Dennis	10th
2001	Richly Blended	10th
2000	High Yield	7th
1999	Cat Thief	7th
1998	Baquero	7th
1997	Crypt Too	9th

Preakness "Last Times"

The last ...

Filly to win:

Nellie Morse (1924), last of 4 fillies to have won this race

Filly to compete:

Excellent Meeting (1999), did not finish

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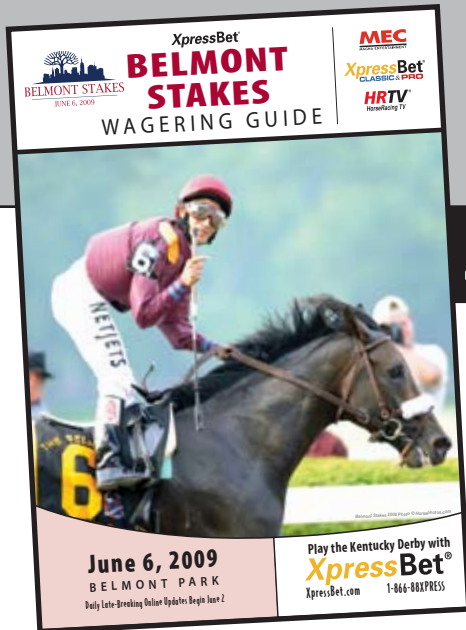
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