

12 Pimlico 1 1/16 MILES (1:52.2) Preakness-G1 131st Running of THE PREAKNESS. Grade I. Purse \$1,000,000 For Three-year-olds. \$10,000 to pass the entry box, \$10,000 additional to start, with \$1,000,000 guaranteed, of which 65% of the purse to the winner, 20% to second, 10% to third, and 5% to fourth. Weight: 126 lbs. A replica of the Woodlawn Vase will be presented to the winning owner to remain his or her personal property.



A CLOSER LOOK 12th Pimlico

1 Like Now

Own: John J Dillon
Red Kelly Green, Green Shamrock On White
GOMEZ G K (-) 2006: (440 81.18)
22Apr06-9Kee fst 1 1/16 :231 :464 1:12 1:462 Lexington-G2
18Mar06-9Aqu fst 1 1/16 :231 :473 1:12:11.43 Gotham-G3
11Feb06-8Aqu fst 6f :221 :452 :572 1:094 OC 75k/N1x-N
12Jan06-8Aqu fst 6f :221 :452 :572 1:094 OC 75k/N1x-N
14Dec05-3Aqu fst 6f :223 :462 :584 1:114 OC 75k/N1x-N
2Nov05-6Aqu fst 6f :222 :46 :582 1:112 Md 75000
7Oct05-6Bel fst 6f :221 :462 :591 1:123 Md 50000
17Aug05-5Sar fst 5 1/2 :22 :454 :583 1:051 Md Sp Wt 45k

B. g. 3 (Apr)
Sire: Jules (Forty Niner) \$6,000
Dam: Can't Bluff Me (Pine Bluff)
Tr: John Dillon (Fla)
McLaughlin Kiaran P (-) 2006: (170 33.19)
97 8 1hd 2hd 1 1/2 2hd 2 1/4 Jara F
105 4 13 1 1/2 1 1/2 1 1/2 Jara F
100 1 4 12 13 15 12 1/2 Jara F
85 2 4 1hd 1 1/2 1 1/2 1 1/2 Jara F
59 6 4 3 1 1/2 4 1/2 6 1/2 Jara F
78 4 1 1hd 1 1/2 1 1/2 1 1/2 Jara F
67 5 1 1hd 1hd 1 1/2 2 1/2 Jara F
59 2 4 7 10 66 85 88 1/2 Migliore R

Table with columns: Life, D.Fst, Wet, Turf, Dst, Pim, and race results for Like Now.

Like Now
The projected pacesetter drew the rail, which was the post for his 6-furlong stakes debut victory; was impressive in the Gotham, winning on a dead rail over a track that was playing to closers; reminds me of last year's runnerup Scrapy T, a speedster, who has every chance to upset if left alone up top; main concern is the outside speed of Bernardini and Diabolical with the 'Derby' winner Barbaro lurking in the wings and perhaps 'Saint and 'Derek a lot closer earlier today than in the 'Derby; the one to catch, but unsure he can hold off the top 3.

2 Platinum Couple

Own: Team Tristar Stable
White Black, Red Yoke, Red Stars On Sleeves
ESPINOZA J L (-) 2006: (233 15.06)
8Apr06-8Aqu sly 5 1/16 :461:11 1:372:1:512 WoodMem-G1
22Mar06-7Aqu fst 1 :234 :474 1:131:1:374 3 1/4 OC 25k/N2x-N
11Feb06-8Aqu fst 1 1/16 :23 :464 1:11 1:431 Whirlaway70k
7Jan06-8Aqu fst 170 :23 :46 1:103:1:393 CountFleet74k
11Dec05-8Aqu fst 1 1/16 :234 :493 1:15 1:463 DamonRunyn85k
19Nov05-2Aqu fst 1 :232 :471 1:13 1:391 Mid Sp Wt 42k
22Oct05-4Bel sly 5 1 :222 :452 1:104:1:392 SleepyHilo100k
10Oct05-9Bel gd 6f :224 :453 :58 1:104 Mid Sp Wt 41k
22Sep05-2Bel fst 6f :223 :471 :594 1:122 Mid Sp Wt 41k

Gr./ro. c. 3 (Apr)
Sire: Tale of the Cat (Storm Cat) \$50,000
Dam: Ingot's Dance Away (Gate Dancer)
Tr: Tri Star Stables LLC (NY)
Lostritto Joseph A (-) 2006: (55 4.07)
82 2 7 13 7 19 8 18 6 12 5 10 1/2 Santos J A
75 4 5 5 5 2 1/2 2hd 2hd 2 1/4 Santos J A
78 5 6 12 6 9 5 10 4 14 4 1/2 Espinoza J L
77 10 8 12 8 10 5 4 3 10 3 1 1/2 Espinoza J L
72 5 8 7 1/2 8 2 1/2 7 1/2 4 2 1/2 1 1/2 Espinoza J L
67 4 5 2 1/2 5 2 1/2 4 1 1/2 1 1/2 Espinoza J L
45 13 7 2 1/2 6 9 9 13 11 20 1 1/2 Espinoza J L
73 2 7 7 1/2 6 7 4 3 1/2 3 1/2 Castellano J J
60 3 9 1 1 1/2 9 7 1/2 6 5 1/2 4 5 1/2 Castellano J J

Table with columns: Life, D.Fst, Wet, Turf, Dst, Pim, and race results for Platinum Couple.

Platinum Couple
Did not show much in the Wood Memorial and this New York-bred is winless this year with his best finish in a state-bred event; he hates an off track, so perhaps the Wood can be excused; still has lots of proving against open company and especially in a classic event; outsider.

3 Hemingway's Key

Own: Kinsman Stable
Blue Royal Blue, Brown Sash, Brown Bars On
ROSE J (1 0 0 0.00) 2006: (382 58.15)
22Apr06-9Kee fst 1 1/16 :231 :464 1:12 1:462 Lexington-G2
25Mar06-10TP fst 1 1/16 :471:1:114 1:38 1:51 LanesEnd-G2
4Mar06-10GP fst 1 1/16 :481:1:121 1:36 1:49 FntnOYth-G2
4Feb06-9GP sly 5 1/16 :461:1:101 1:36 1:491 HolyBull-G3
19Dec05-3Crc fst 1 :243 :493 1:144:1:402 Alw 24000N1x
9Nov05-10CD fst 7f :224 :454 1:112:1:242 Md Sp Wt 41k

Ch. c. 3 (Jan) OBSFEB05 \$210,000
Sire: Notebook (Well Decorated) \$15,000
Dam: Whirl's Girl (Island Whirl)
Tr: Ocala Stud Farm (Fla)
Zito Nicholas P (-) 2006: (180 31.17)
84 4 6 5 1/2 7 1/2 7 1/2 8 1/2 8 1/2 Bejarano R
73 8 9 5 8 1/2 8 1/2 8 1/2 8 1/2 Prado E S
84 3 6 2 1/2 7 1/2 7 1/2 6 1/2 8 1/2 Douglas R R
67 4 5 4 5 5 5 10 16 11 16 1/2 Castellano J J
80 1 5 4 4 2 1/2 3 1 2 3 1 1/2 Castellano J J
72 3 9 7 1 1/2 6 2 1/2 3 1/2 1 1/2 Bejarano R

Table with columns: Life, D.Fst, Wet, Turf, Dst, Pim, and race results for Hemingway's Key.

Hemingway's Key
The trainer has shocked the world in a few Triple Crown events through the years and the rider goes for the Preakness repeat after winning in miraculous fashion on Affleet Alex, overcoming a near spill to dominate the field; 'Key has not shown much since first two career victories, although a 5-wide trip at Keeneland will rarely get it done; needs the speed to collapse late and a career best effort to pick up a minor share.

4 Greeley's Legacy

Own: Donald F Flanagan
Yellow Royal Blue & Peach Diamonds, Peach Bars
MIGLIORE R (-) 2006: (156 22.14)
22Apr06-9Kee fst 1 1/16 :231 :464 1:12 1:462 Lexington-G2
8Apr06-8Aqu sly 5 1/16 :461:1:11 1:372:1:512 WoodMem-G1
18Mar06-9Aqu fst 1 1/16 :231 :473 1:12:11.43 Gotham-G3
25Feb06-3Aqu fst 1 1/16 :233 :474 1:122:1:441 OC 75k/N1x-N
26Jan06-8Aqu fst 1 1/16 :23 :474 1:14 1:461 OC 75k/N1x-N
31Dec05-3Aqu fst 1 1/16 :474:1:132 1:391:1:513 Md Sp Wt 44k
10Dec05-6Aqu gd 1 1/16 :23 :47 1:12 1:434 Md Sp Wt 44k
19Nov05-9Aqu yl 1 :242 :503 1:161:1:402 Md Sp Wt 44k
26Oct05-9Bel gd 1 1/16 :224 :46 1:122:1:451 Md Sp Wt 44k
16Oct05-6Bel fst 1 :23 :471 1:13:1:382 Md Sp Wt 44k

Dk. b or br c. 3 (Apr) OBSMAR05 \$120,000
Sire: Mr. Greeley (Gone West) \$35,000
Dam: Deceit Princess (Vice Regent)
Tr: Select Broodmare Fund 2000 (Ky)
Weaver George (-) 2006: (118 14.12)
91 10 4 1/2 5 1/2 4 1/2 4 1/2 4 1/2 Castellano J J
57 6 4 2 1/2 5 1/2 5 1/2 8 1/2 7 1/2 Coa E M
103 9 5 5 4 2 1/2 4 2 1/2 4 1/2 Coa E M
89 5 6 4 1/2 7 1/2 4 2 1/2 15 1 1/2 Coa E M
77 1 6 6 1/2 6 3 1/2 5 1/2 4 1/2 4 1/2 Santos J A
80 5 5 2 1/2 5 1/2 5 1/2 2hd 1 1/2 Santos J A
82 1 1 1 1/2 1 1/2 1 1/2 2 1/2 3 1/2 Santos J A
58 1 9 1 1/2 8 1/2 8 1/2 8 1/2 7 1/2 Santos J A
54 10 4 1 1/2 4 2 3 1/2 3 1/2 Santos J A
54 11 1 1/2 1 1/2 1 1/2 4 1/2 4 1/2 Santos J A

Table with columns: Life, D.Fst, Wet, Turf, Dst, Pim, and race results for Greeley's Legacy.

Greeley's Legacy
Loved his Gotham as he was rolling late on a dead rail; got my money in the Wood and is still running; the Lexington was OK from an impossible post; just hasn't shown he is of this quality to date; would be a surprise.

Continued on Following Page

Advertisement for John Piesen's handicapping service. Text includes: 'WHO'S MAKING YOUR PREAKNESS PICKS?... #7... #10?', 'HOW ABOUT #1?', 'In the Sport of Kings, one selector stands head and shoulders above all others. Well-regarded thoroughbred handicapper John Piesen is a legend in his own time.', 'Guaranteed \$1,000,000 Saturday Pick 4 Yours Free with your call', '1-866-256-5500', 'BONUS! Friday at Pimlico May 19th Black Eyed Susan Stakes Get John's winner and exotics FREE with your order. CALL NOW!', 'PIESEN LOVES THE PREAKNESS He has won six of the last ten and is ready to win again. Yes, Barbaro is the odds-on favorite, but that leaves plenty of room for high paying exotics. And if anyone can find the magic combination that pays a boxcar mutual, it's #1 You always wanted the #1 man. Now you've got him!', 'STEVE ASMUSSEN, #1 Trainer '04 & '05 in number of wins. "John is very accurate in assessing how a race will be run." RAY KERRISON of the New York Post on Piesen's 207 day win streak: "Maybe the most remarkable handicapping feat of all time."'

5 Brother Derek

Own: Cecil N Peacock
Green Teal, Multi-colored Peacock
SOLIS A (-) 2006: (315 69 .22)
6May06-10CD fst 1 1/4 :46 1:10 1:37 2:01 KyDerby-G1

B. c. 3 (Mar) BARMAR05 \$275,000
Sire: Benchmark (Alydar) \$10,000
Dam: Miss Soft Sell (Siyah Kalem)

Table with columns: Life, 9, 6, 0, 1, \$1,242,080, 108
2006 4 3 0 0 \$740,000 108
2005 5 3 0 1 \$502,080 102

Table with columns: D.Fst, 9, 6, 0, 1, \$1,242,080, 108
Wet(361) 0 0 0 0 \$0 -
Turf(287) 0 0 0 0 \$0 -

6 Barbaro

Own: Lael Stables
Black Blue, White Cross Sashes, Lime Sleeves
PRADO E S (-) 2006: (498 87 .17)
6May06-10CD fst 1 1/4 :46 1:10 1:37 2:01 KyDerby-G1

Dk. b or br c. 3 (Apr)
Sire: Dynaformer (Roberto) \$100,000
Dam: La Ville Rouge (Carson City)

Table with columns: Life, 6, 6, 0, 0, \$2,302,200, 111
2006 4 4 0 0 \$2,203,200 111
2005 2 2 0 0 \$99,000 102

Table with columns: D.Fst, 2, 2, 0, 0, \$2,053,200, 111
Wet(367) 1 1 0 0 \$90,000 95
Turf(314) 3 3 0 0 \$159,000 102

7 Sweetnorthernst

Own: Joseph J Balsamo & Ted Theos
Orange Red, Gold Dots, Red Dots On Gold
DESORMEAUX K J (-) 2006: (237 47 .20)
6May06-10CD fst 1 1/4 :46 1:10 1:37 2:01 KyDerby-G1

Dk. b or br g. 3 (Mar)
Sire: Sweetsouthernst (Saint Ballado) \$3,500
Dam: Ice Beauty (Waquoit)

Table with columns: Life, 7, 3, 0, 1, \$377,000, 109
2006 5 3 0 1 \$375,800 109
2005 2 0 0 0 \$1,200 81

Table with columns: D.Fst, 5, 2, 0, 1, \$347,000, 109
Wet(339) 1 1 0 0 \$30,000 104
Turf(211) 1 0 0 0 \$0 12

8 Bernardini

Own: Darley Stable
Pink Maroon, White Sleeves, White Star On
CASTELLANO J J (-) 2006: (431 69 .16)
29Apr06-3Aqu fst 1 :23 :46 1:10 1:35 Withers-G3

B. c. 3 (Mar)
Sire: A.P. Indy (Seattle Slew) \$300,000
Dam: Cara Rafaela (Quiet American)

Table with columns: Life, 3, 2, 0, 0, \$110,480, 104
2006 3 2 0 0 \$110,480 104
2005 0 0 0 0 \$0 -

Table with columns: D.Fst, 3, 2, 0, 0, \$110,480, 104
Wet(427) 0 0 0 0 \$0 -
Turf(300) 0 0 0 0 \$0 -

9 Diabolical

Own: Puglisi Stables & Steve Klesaris
Turquoise Black, White 'P' In Red Diamond Frame
DOMINGUEZ R A (2 0 0 0 .00) 2006: (532 133 .25)
25Apr06-8Del fst 1 :24 :48 1:12 1:37 1:54 Alw 36860N1x

Ch. c. 3 (Feb) OBSFEB05 \$300,000
Sire: Artax (Marquetry) \$10,000
Dam: Bonnie Byerly (Dayjur)

Table with columns: Life, 8, 2, 4, 1, \$171,930, 101
2006 3 1 1 0 \$43,800 101
2005 5 1 3 1 \$128,130 91

Table with columns: D.Fst, 6, 2, 3, 1, \$140,930, 101
Wet(327) 0 0 0 0 \$0 -
Turf(244) 2 0 1 0 \$31,000 84

Brother Derek

That was a rugged trip in the 'Derby as post 18 was a terror; he was never worse than 4th at the 1st call in any career race, but began 9th in the 'Derby, then dropped back to 14th before rallying to finish 4th; believe he will be aggressively handled here and placed up or near the front, perhaps stalking the top threesome with an eye to his outside on the 'Derby winner; was at the top of his class prior to Churchill Downs and clearly deserves a 2nd chance vs. Barbaro from a more favorable draw; main rival.

Barbaro

The easiest and most impressive Kentucky Derby winner in a long time; was much the best despite nearly going down after stumbling at the start; only knock is that he's been a runner who has enjoyed time off between starts; will not have that luxury in the grueling Triple Crown series of 3 races in 5 weeks; 46-43-34-56-35; those are the number of days off between each of his career races and must return in just 14 days for the 2nd jewel; recovered from a nightmare gate break, sat behind a rapid pace, pounced on the field on the turn, then pulled away from the field with a lightning burst under a hand ride to stay undefeated; would be a lot more concerned about the bounce theory, but he was hardly used in the 'Derby victory; the pick.

Sweetnorthernst

16 of the 20 runners encountered trouble, but his journey ranked as one of the worst in the Kentucky Derby; from post 11, he somehow ended up on the dead inside part of the Churchill Downs track; was moved prematurely up the inside after narrowly finding a path while very close to being completely shut off; had nothing left for the drive after the early move; beside dealing with Barbaro and 'Derek from the 'Derby, he will be trying to avenge Like Now's Gotham; has been explosive in victory and did not get a fair enough trip in the 'Derby to totally dismiss; was the surprising Ky. Derby betting favorite, but won't have that problem today; obviously must work out a better trip to have any chance of knocking off the top pair.

Bernardini

Rapidly-developing son of a Belmont stakes winner is out of a Grade 1 dam (884K); won the Withers impressively and even more impressive to find out that the jockey lost the whip in victory; the 2-back Gulfstream tally is eye-catching after seeing High Finance Beyer 91 in a 9-length graduation victory at Keeneland, then a 101 Beyer in a Belmont 5-length allowance tally; best scenario is to be sitting tightly off a sensible pace, then get 1st jump on the more-seasoned 'Derby runners; racing in between horses dueling is not the trip that will get it done here; view as only a serious pace factor.

Diabolical

Wired allowance runners last month at Delaware, while gearing up for this rematch with Barbaro, who easily handled him on turf last November; Barbaro was able to make the lead on him from the gate and was the easy winner when they met; both of his career victories occurred wire-to-wire, so no doubt what the strategy will be here; obvious concerns about inside speeds Like Now and Bernardini flying early and leaving him a wide pace presser.

-Art Gropper

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