

2016 PREAKNESS GUIDE

Presented by:

**Guaranteed
Tip Sheet**



EXAGGERATOR VS. NYQUIST: ROUND 5



Thank you for purchasing the 2016 Preakness Guide presented by Guaranteed Tip Sheet and RacingDudes.com!

The Preakness Stakes is the second jewel of the elusive Triple Crown ran in between the Kentucky Derby and the Belmont Stakes. Called "The Run for the Black-Eyed Susans," the Preakness is run at Pimlico Race Course in Baltimore on the third Saturday of each May and was first run in 1873. The race is 1/16 mile shorter than the Kentucky Derby and ran at a distance of 1 & 3/16 miles for 3 year olds on the main dirt track. This year's edition of the Preakness will be run on Saturday, May 21.

After winning the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness is the next step for Nyquist along a possible Triple Crown, looking to repeat the feat accomplished by American Pharoah last year.

This "2016 Preakness Guide presented by Guaranteed Tip Sheet and RacingDudes.com" will give you the information needed to hopefully make a nice return on the two days at Pimlico including Black-Eyed Susan day on Friday, May 20.

This Preakness Guide includes:

- Preakness Overview including:
 - Picks from Racing Dudes, Saratoga Slim and Guaranteed Pick Sheet
- Horse capsules for each of the horses entered in the 2016 Preakness field including:
 - Trainer, jockey, projected odds, horse running style (i.e., early speed, presser, closer)
 - Last five races including date, track, race (Graded stakes abbreviated to G1, G2 & G3 for Grade-1, Grade-2 & Grade-3), distance, finish and final Brisnet Speed Figure
 - Pros (positive angles on the horse), Cons (negative angles on the horse) and the Bottom Line
 - The horse capsules are broken into four categories – Win Contenders (horses to use to win or on top in exotic wagers), Can Hit the Board (horses to use in the 2nd, 3rd or 4th place slots), Considers (horses to possibly use or toss), Tosses (horses to not include on tickets)
- Pace analysis using Brisnet running styles to help map out how the race will be run & who has the best chance to win & hit the board based on pace.
- Preakness Wagering Strategy including trifecta & superfecta approach
- Undercard & Multi-Race Wagering Strategy including Black Eyed Susan / Preakness Double strategy.

For questions and to discuss more feel free to visit racingdudes.com or tweet us at @SaratogaSlim or @racing_dudes on Twitter. Please note all of the horse capsules, pace analysis and wagering strategy were written by Saratoga Slim.

Thank you,
Saratoga Slim

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Preakness Overview with Picks.....	3
Horse Capsules - Win Contenders.....	3
Horse Capsules – Can Hit the Board.....	4
Horse Capsules - Considers	5
Horse Capsules - Tosses.....	6
Preakness Pace Analysis.....	6
Preakness Wagering Strategy	8
Undercard & Multi-Race Wagering Strategy.....	9



Purse:	\$1.5 million
Distance:	1 & 3/16 miles (Dirt)
Age:	3 Year Olds
Post Time:	Sat., May 21 st ~6:00 p.m. (EDT)

The focus of this "2016 Preakness Guide presented by Guaranteed Tip Sheet and RacingDudes.com" is for our readers to make a score! Let's start off with our Preakness picks and build out from here:

Racing Dudes, Saratoga Slim & Guaranteed Tip Sheet (GTS) Preakness Picks (AS OF MAY 19):

	Aaron	Jared	Slim	GTS	CONSENSUS*	Pts.
Win	Nyquist	Nyquist	Nyquist	Nyquist	Nyquist	40
Place	Exaggerator	Exaggerator	Exaggerator	Exaggerator	Exaggerator	28
Show	Cherry Wine	Cherry Wine	Cherry Wine	Cherry Wine	Cherry Wine	16
4th	Collected	Collected	Uncle Lino	Stradivari	Collected	2

*Consensus scored on 10 points for Win, 7 points for Place, 4 points for Show & 1 point for 4th

Horse Capsules - Win Contenders

#3 Nyquist



Churchill Downs

Morning Line Odds:
3/5

Early / Presser (E/P6)

Trainer: Doug O'Neill | **Jockey:** Mario Gutierrez

Pros: As an undefeated, 5-time Grade 1 winner, champion 2-year old, he has done everything right in his career. Proved to the world that he is a true champion winning Kentucky Derby impressively. He just wins! His speed from the gate will put him on or near the lead in Preakness & this is the key that has given him a good trip in almost all of his races.

Cons: The 2-week turnaround from the Derby is always a question, but O'Neill & Reddam Racing planned out his year to have him fresh by only prepping him twice before the Derby. The pedigree questions about distance limitations on both sides of pedigree were answered in the Derby and shouldn't be an issue at the 1 & 3/16 mile Preakness trip. Drifted out in many of his wins in the stretch and has been known to switch to his wrong lead late in works and races, but O'Neill has said it may just be because he's bored. He is a more slender built horse & not as imposing as other past champions, but the results have been the same.

Bottom Line: Will be the low-priced favorite & will need to be used in the top spot of exotics

Last Six Races (Lifetime - 8 races, 8-0-0):

Date	Track	Race	Dist.	Fin.	Bris
5/7/16	CD	G1 Kentucky Derby	1 ¼ M	1 st	104
4/2/16	GP	G1 Fl. Derby	1 1/8 M	1 st	97
2/15/16	SA	G2 San Vicente	7F	1 st	103
10/31/15	KEE	G1 BC Juv.	1 1/16 M	1 st	97
9/26/15	SA	G1 Frontrunner	1 1/16 M	1 st	96
9/7/15	DMR	G1 DMR Futurity	7F	1 st	94

#5 Exaggerator



Benoit Photo

Morning Line Odds:
3/1

Presser (P0)

Trainer: Keith Desormeaux | **Jockey:** Kent Desormeaux

Pros: Middle moves in Kentucky and Santa Anita Derbies have been jaw-dropping after changing his running style from being nearer to the pace to a mid-pack closer. Fearless "knifing" between traffic in the Derby to close for 2nd & was 3¼ lengths ahead of competition, so he's proven his 2nd best in this crop. His consistent 100+ Brisnet speed figures over past 5 races are unmatched by any other 3 year old.

Cons: History's stacked up against him in Preakness as it has been 23 years since the 2nd place finisher in the Kentucky Derby has come back to win the Preakness. Last 2 wins were on sloppy, muddy tracks in SA Derby & Delta Jackpot, so even though he has been consistent on fast tracks, he hasn't won on one since his Saratoga Special win in August. Huge moves in last two were into hot paces, so he will always need a strong pace to have a chance to win, but this shouldn't be an issue in this Preakness with lots of speed signed on.

Bottom Line: Lost 4 times to Nyquist, but may be able to turn the table here, need to use in exotics

Last Five Races (Lifetime - 10 races, 4-3-1):

Date	Track	Race	Dist.	Fin.	Bris
5/7/16	CD	G1 Kentucky Derby	1 ¼ M	2 nd	103
4/9/16	SA	G1 SA Derby	1 1/8 M	1 st	102
3/12/16	SA	G2 San Felipe	1 1/16 M	3 rd	101
2/15/16	SA	G2 San Vicente	7F	2 nd	101
11/21/15	Ded	G3 Delta Jackpot	1 1/16 M	1 st	103
10/31/15	KEE	G1 BC Juv.	1 1/16 M	4 th	94

#1 Cherry Wine



Lauren King

**Morning
Line Odds:
20/1**

Closer (S0)

Trainer: Dale Romans | **Jockey:** Corey Lanerie

Pros: Moved from turf to dirt to break maiden & then arrived on the Derby trail scene after impressive 6 length win closing like a rocket at Gulfstream to start year. Will come third off a layoff after showing good closing kicks in Rebel & Bluegrass. Would've been in Derby field if he did not get beat by a head for 2nd in Bluegrass by My Man Sam. Reports from Churchill before Derby were that he looked very good on the track working out Derby week with Romans cranking him up for Preakness as the target.

Cons: Was only able to close in the G2 Rebel for 4th, but was hampered by traffic and finished less than 2 lengths behind eventual Arkansas Derby winner Creator for 3rd. Has shown that he has kept good class in the prep season, but hasn't been able to win at the highest level. The poor Derby performances of the horses he kept closest to in the prep season including Creator, My Man Sam and Brody's Cause can question that class, but all three had traffic issues or wide trips in the Derby.

Bottom Line: May be the key horse to use underneath in the 2nd and 3rd spots in exotic plays

Last Five Races (Lifetime – 8 races, 2-1-2):

Date	Track	Race	Dist.	Fin.	Bris
4/9/16	Kee	G1 Bluegrass	1 1/8 M	3 rd	92
3/19/16	OP	G2 Rebel	1 1/16 M	4 th	93
1/9/16	GP	OC75k/n1x-N	1 1/16 M	1 st	90
11/28/15	CD	Mdn 55k	1 1/16 M	1 st	89
11/1/15	CD	Mdn 55k (T)	1 1/16 M	2 nd	85

#11 Stradivari

**Morning
Line Odds:
8/1**

**Early /
Presser
(E/P8)**

Trainer: Todd Pletcher | **Jockey:** John Velazquez

Pros: Won his last 2 races by a combined 25 lengths! His April 17 allowance win at Keeneland by 14 lengths had everyone calling him "the next big thing" & received a high 101 Brisnet speed rating. Stalked nicely in both wins & pulled away to demolish both fields. Comes in as the top "new shooter" for the Preakness & is the "hype" horse that you see every year around this time. With top connections in Pletcher & Velazquez will take money. Put in a big work at Belmont keeping even with older Stakes winner Stanford on May 13.

Cons: Lightly raced with only 3 lifetime races & only 1 race this year! May not be ready to step up to Grade 1 company. Allowance field he beat has questionable class since 2nd place finisher Pinson returned on the Derby undercard to get 6th in an allowance race. Ran on rail during April 29th Derby work with Destin (who ran 6th in the Derby) at Churchill and didn't kick on, but looked better in works on May 7 and 13.

Bottom Line: Maybe he's a super horse or maybe he's just hype, may need to use defensively

Last Three Races (Lifetime –3 races, 2-0-0):

Date	Track	Race	Dist.	Fin.	Bris
4/17/16	Kee	Alw6200n1x	1 1/8 M	1 st	101
12/5/15	GP	Mdn 50k	1 1/16 M	1 st	92
11/8/15	Aqu	Mdn 60k	7 Furlongs	4 th	81

#2 Uncle Lino



Maryland Jockey Club

**Morning
Line Odds:
20/1**

Early (E7)

Trainer: Gary Sherlock | **Jockey:** F. Perez

Pros: Monster 109 Brisnet speed figure in inaugural running of California Chrome Stakes at Los Alamitos jumps off the page & is highest last out figure in the field. Gutted out that win going gate to wire & was getting faster late. Third behind Exagerrator & Mor Spirit in SA Derby was strong & has kept good class all winter in California.

Cons: After huge Cal Chrome Stakes, may be a "bounce" candidate & that race was only 1 & 1/16 mile. Distance may not be an issue though since he held on for 3rd in SA Derby after contesting the hot pace set by Danzing Candy in the slop. Main question is if he will be the one holding on late in the Preakness to hit the board.

Bottom Line: May be classier than some of the others in the field & may have to use at a huge price

Last Five Races (Lifetime – 7 races, 2-2-2):

Date	Track	Race	Dist.	Fin.	Bris
4/30/16	Lrc	Cal. Chrome Stk.	1 1/16 M	1 st	109
4/9/16	SA	G1 SA Derby	1 1/8 M	3 rd	92
3/12/16	SA	G2 San Felipe	1 1/16 M	4 th	92
2/6/16	SA	G3 Robert B. Lewis	1 1/16 M	2 nd	97
1/3/16	SA	OC80k/n1x-N	6½ F	3 rd	95

**#10
Fellowship**



Lauren King

**Morning
Line Odds:
30/1**

**CLOSER
(S0)**

Trainer: Mark Casse | **Jockey:** Jose Lezcano
Pros: Pat Day Mile around 1-turn not what he wants & had wide trip throughout, so it could be a "cross-out" race. Was working awesome before race, so Casse was looking for a spot for him to run. Consistently showed good turn of foot on far turn in 2-turn races to get 3rd in each of 3 Gulfstream Derby preps. Only horses to beat him in those are Nyquist, Mohaymen, Zulu, Majesto & Greenpointcrusader. Forced wide in Fl. Derby & still ran past Mohaymen. May be able to carry late run at longer Preakness distance.

Cons: Has won only 2 races out of 12 lifetime starts, but in the money 7 times. As a closer, his Brisnet late pace figures have decreased from his remarkable 109 earned in his late running Holy Bull at 40/1 odds. Moved from trainer Stanley Gold to Mark Casse before Pat Day Mile and may still be getting used to new training regimen. Some may be scared off by his non-threatening Pat Day Mile.

Bottom Line: Consistent late closer, will get a good pace setup & may be a big price to use underneath

Last Six Races (Lifetime – 12 races, 2-3-3):

Date	Track	Race	Dist.	Fin.	Bris
5/7/16	CD	G3 Pat Day Mile	1 Mile	4 th	92
4/2/16	GP	G1 Fl. Derby	1 1/8 M	3 rd	92
2/27/16	GP	G2 Fount. of Youth	1 1/16 M	3 rd	95
1/30/16	GP	G2 Holy Bull	1 1/16 M	3 rd	89
1/2/16	GP	Mucho Macho 100k	1 Mile	5 th	78
11/28/15	GPW	Smooth Air 75k	1 Mile	2 nd	90

Collected



Keeneland

**Morning
Line Odds:
10/1**

Early (E/P7)

Trainer: Bob Baffert | **Jockey:** Javier Castellano
Pros: According to DRF clocker Mike Welsch, had the best work of any 3 year old on Derby week on May 5th. Before that, blew away maiden One More Round showing early speed from the far outside post, rating to win Lexington with Castellano up. In Sunland Festival of Racing, won gate-to-wire over a good horse in Gettysburg after setting modest pace & pulled away after being pressed throughout receiving a high 102 Brisnet speed figure at 1 & 1/8 mile. Put in strong 7 furlong work on May 13 at Churchill as final prep. Baffert & Castellano are top connections.

Cons: Last two wins have many hopeful, but both wins were on modest to slow paces. Even though he had some traffic & excuses in the Southwest, overall it was a dull performance. The Sham before that was one of the slowest Derby preps.

Bottom Line: May be near the pace, but may not be good or fast enough to step up in class here

Last Five Races (Lifetime – 6 races, 4-1-0):

Date	Track	Race	Dist.	Fin.	Bris
4/16/16	Kee	G3 Lexington	1 1/16 M	1 st	94
3/20/16	Sun	Sunland Fest. Rac.	1 1/8 M	1 st	102
2/15/16	OP	G3 Southwest	1 1/16 M	4 th	88
1/9/16	SA	G3 Sham	1 Mile	1 st	89
11/29/15	Dmr	G3 Cecille Demille	1 Mile (T)	2 nd	90

#6 Lani



Melanie Martines

**Morning
Line Odds:
30/1**

**Presser
(N/A)**

Trainer: Mikio Matsunaga | **Jockey:** Yutaka Take
Pros: The Lani World Tour continues in Baltimore! After breaking slowly again in the Derby, he came with a decent run after having to go 8 wide to get 9th place. Won the UAE Derby at the Preakness 1 & 3/16 mile distance so distance should not be an issue. Sired by Tapit, has one of the best pedigrees of any 3 year olds in the crop for distance races.

Cons: Has to be able to break better from the gate, since it has put him far behind to start in both the UAE Derby & Kentucky Derby. His antics have been well documented as he get worked up & "studdish" before morning workouts and often gives out a "scream" before he hits the track, so it's a question how focused he is. His connections have an unorthodox training regimen where they gallop him endlessly, but seemed to work decently in the Derby. Connections are already saying he'll point to the Belmont Stakes, so they may be playing the long game instead of having him fully cranked for the Preakness.

Bottom Line: Will take money based on intrigue - may help the price on better horses

Last Six Races (Lifetime – 7 races, 3-1-0):

Date	Track	Race	Dist.	Fin.	Bris
5/7/16	CD	G1 Kentucky Derby	1 ¼ M	9 th	93
3/26/16	Mey	UAE Derby	1 3/16 M	1 st	N/A
2/21/16	Tok	Hcp 303696	1 Mile	5 th	N/A
11/28/15	Tok	Hcp 154660	1 Mile	1 st	N/A
11/22/15	Kyo	Stk 77737	1 1/8 M	1 st	N/A
10/3/15	Han	Stk 79647	1 1/8 M	2 nd	N/A

**#4
Awesome
Speed**



Maryland Jockey Club

**Morning
Line Odds:
30/1**
**Early /
Presser
(E/P8)**

Trainer: Alan Goldberg | **Jockey:** Jevian Toledo
Pros: Won Preakness "Win & You're In" Federico Tesio Stakes at Laurel Park in April via disqualification after getting bumped hard by Governor Malibu during an extended stretch duel. Has 4 wins (3 in Stakes) in 6 lifetime starts, so he is consistent & knows how to win.

Last Five Races (Lifetime –6 races, 4-0-0):

Date	Track	Race	Dist.	Fin.	Bris
4/9/16	Lrl	Frederico Tesio Stk	1 1/8 M	1 st	97
2/27/16	GP	G2 Fount. of Youth	1 1/16 M	4 th	87
1/2/16	GP	Mucho Macho Stk	1 Mile	1 st	98
11/14/15	Lrl	James F. Lewis Stk	6 furlongs	1 st	96
10/10/15	Lrl	Mdn 40k	6 furlongs	1 st	84

Cons: When stepping up to the Grade-2 level in the Fountain of Youth, ran an uninspiring 4th, but did have an excuse after getting bumped hard early from the gate. Tesio used to be the local prep over the Pimlico oval, but was moved to Laurel recently, so doesn't hold as much weight as it did in the past. Set very slow fractions in Tesio after taking easy lead from gate & still had to hold off a hard-charging Governor Malibu, who recently ran a strong 2nd in the Grade-2 Peter Pan at Belmont on May 14 behind top 3-year old prospect Unified.

Bottom Line: May be a pace presence, but class is a major question that makes him a toss at this level

#8 Laoban



Coady Photography

**Morning
Line Odds:
30/1**
Early (E6)

Trainer: Eric Guillot | **Jockey:** Florent Geroux
Pros: Hung on gamely in both the G1 Bluegrass and G3 Gotham after setting fast early paces. His early speed should get him in a good place in the Preakness and he may be the early pace setter like he was in his past two races, but takes blinkers off for this race, so maybe they will try to rate him. Has raced in three graded stakes in his last three races.

Last Five Races (Lifetime – 5 races, 0-2-1):

Date	Track	Race	Dist.	Fin.	Bris
4/9/16	Kee	G1 Bluegrass	1 1/8 M	4 th	88
3/5/16	Aqu	G3 Gotham	1 1/16 M	2 nd	92
1/9/16	SA	G3 Sham	1 Mile	3 rd	86
12/5/15	Lrc	Mdn 45k	1 Mile	2 nd	85
11/15/15	Dmr	Mdn 52k	1 Mile	7 th	75

Cons: He's a maiden! That means he's never won a race in his life! Another sired by Uncle Mo, outspoken trainer Eric Guillot would love to see a big performance. May set the pace, but when he held on for 4th & 2nd in the Bluegrass & Gotham, respectively, he was decelerating badly based on Brisnet late pace figures. That's a really bad sign as he adds more distance in the Preakness.

Bottom Line: He will add more early speed in the Preakness field, but cannot hold on for even a 4th place finish

**#9
Abiding
Star**

**Morning
Line Odds:
30/1**

Early (E8)

Trainer: Ned Allard | **Jockey:** J.D. Acosta
Pros: Rides a 5 race win streak into the Preakness including an impressive win two back over older horses by almost 9 lengths in an optional claimer, but was only against 3 other horses. Has early speed from the gate & showed it by going gate-to-wire to win the Parx Derby. Another sired by Uncle Mo, his damsire Dynaformer has good stamina influences.

Last Five Races (Lifetime – 11 races, 5-1-1):

Date	Track	Race	Dist.	Fin.	Bris
5/7/16	Prx	Parx Derby 100k	1 Mile 70 yd.	1 st	93
4/12/16	Prx	OC40k/n3x-N	1 Mile 70 yd.	1 st	103
3/12/16	Lrl	Private Terms 75k	1 1/16 M	1 st	92
2/29/16	Prx	Alw52000n1x	6½ Furlongs	1 st	80
1/1/16	Lrl	MC40000	7 Furlongs	1 st	81

Cons: Late addition to Preakness field after being cleared from Parx after an equine herpesvirus quarantine. His win in the Parx Derby was only over 4 other horses. Has never raced over 1 & 1/16 mile, so even though his pedigree points to stamina, will have his toughest distance & class test at the same time. Ran in a maiden claimer at Laurel 5 races back, so tough to think he's Grade-1 caliber.

Bottom Line: Distance & class questions make him tough to use in a Grade-1 race

Preakness Pace Analysis

First off, Pimlico has been known as "a speed favoring track with tighter turns" and favors inside posts. Not to debunk these statements, but if you follow horse racing, you will probably hear that at least a dozen times in the next week leading up to the Preakness.

The tight turns and speed favoring nature of the track does not mean that closers cannot have success in the race, though. Looking at this year's Preakness from a pace perspective, you will see a ton of speed signed on and one must handicap this race and not be overly swayed by overarching themes of the track.

Handicapping the horses in the Preakness is just half the battle. Trying to predict the pace in the race is the next part of putting together the Preakness puzzle.

By using the Brisnet running styles of each horse, the pace can be predicted more easily. For those not familiar with the Brisnet Run Style Definitions, please see the descriptions to the left from the Brisnet.com website / library and a summary below:

Run Style Definitions

[E] A winner exhibiting a typical 'E' (or Early) run style would show the horse leading or battling for the lead through the duration of the race. An 'E' horse is any horse which typically vies for the early lead or whose better races are run on the lead. Most 'E' horses are need-the-lead types which can not reasonably be expected to successfully rate behind a pacesetter.

[E/P] A winner exhibiting a typical 'E/P' (or Early/Presser) run style would show the horse running 2nd or 3rd and within a few lengths early before making the winning move. A 'E/P' horse, like an 'E' horse, may also run on the frontend. However, unlike an 'E' horse, it can reasonably be expected to successfully lay just behind a pacesetter.

[P] A winner exhibiting a typical 'P' (or Presser) run style would show the horse running in the middle-of-the-pack early before making his winning move. A 'P' horse may at times run close to the pace but rarely, if ever, challenges for the lead early. Unlike a 'S' horse, the 'P' horse doesn't typically run from the rear-of-the-pack in it's better races.

[S] A winner exhibiting a typical 'S' (Sustain or Closer) run style would show the horse running in the back-of-the-pack early before making his late winning move.

[NA] A 'NA' (or Not Available) run style is used for first-time-starters and those horses without any meaningful running lines to accurately assess the horse's preferred run style.

[Early Speed Points] Ranging from a low of 0 points to a high of 8 points, this measures the Early Speed ability of the horse based upon its running position and beaten lengths at the 1st Call in recent races at today's distance. The higher the points, the more early speed the horse has shown in recent races. The Early Speed points are displayed in the past performances after the horse name and in parenthesis alongside BRIS Run Style - e.g. (P7).

The run style of the horse is either:

- E = Early
- E/P = Early/Presser
- P = Presser
- S = Sustained or Closer

The number next to the run style represents the early speed points. The numbers range from 0-8 and measure the Early Speed of the horse based on its running position and beaten lengths at the first call of recent races. The higher the number, the more early speed a horse has shown in recent races.

The table to the bottom left shows the Brisnet running styles for each horse expected in the 2016 Preakness Stakes.

It should be immediately noted that 7 of the 11 probable horses have either "E" (Early) or "E/P" (Early / Presser) as their run styles. With the majority of the horses wanting to naturally show early speed, there is every reason to believe that they will hook up on the front end and press each other into fast fractions.

Horse	Brisnet Running Style	
Abiding Star	E8	Early
Uncle Lino	E7	
Laoban	E6	
Awesome Speed	E6	
Stradivari	E/P8	Early / Pressers
Collected	E/P7	
Nyquist	E/P6	
Exaggerator	P	Pressers
Lani	N/A	N/A
Fellowship	S0	Closers
Cherry Wine	S0	

The most likely pace setter may be the maiden **Laoban (E6)** since he set hot paces in both his last two Stakes races (Bluegrass & Gotham), but trainer Guillot is taking the blinkers off him for this big race, so it is possible that he will sit off the pace for once.

Abiding Star (E8) has been leading at the first call in his last 8 races, so is also a likely pace setter, but his early Brisnet pace figures show that he may not have enough speed to capture the lead in a classier group than he is accustomed too.

Uncle Lino (E7) went gate-to-wire in his last race showing early speed and the ability to hold on late, actually accelerating (using his Brisnet late pace figures). He was able to sit 2nd in his previous two races, so he may be pressing the pace instead of setting it in the Preakness.

Awesome Speed (E6) is named suitably, as he likes to show speed as he did in almost winning the Federico Tesio in gate-to-wire fashion (as was placed the winner via disqualification).

Before getting bumped from the gate in the Fountain of Youth, he won on the front end in both of his non-graded Stakes wins, so there is no doubt that he will be on or near the lead in the Preakness.

Nyquist (E/P6) is just too good and has too much front-end speed to let these horses get away from him, though. There is a possibility that jockey Mario Gutierrez tries to take Nyquist gate-to-wire and avoid getting him caught behind horses or in traffic. More likely, Gutierrez will find a nice spot to flank outside of one or two of the "E" horses and stalk from there.

The "hype horse" **Stradivari (E/P8)** has shown the same ability to flank outside one horse in his two wins and demolish them late. Based on post position, he will be looking for a similar spot like Nyquist to sit outside of Laoban, Abiding Star, Uncle Lino and Awesome Speed.

Javier Castellano is just too good of a jockey not to get **Collected (E/P7)** in a good spot early. He's another one that has shown the ability to win gate-to-wire in the Sunland Festival of Racing Stakes. He sat 2nd flanking a maiden in the Lexington, so he will most likely be looking for a stalking trip, too. With four horses looking for the lead and another three horses looking to get in perfect stalking position, there is no doubt that these horse will be pressing each other into fast fractions early.

Exaggerator (P) has changed his running style to be more off the pace and make one big run late. Earlier in his career, he had been nearer to the early pace. Most likely, Exaggerator will be at the back end of the mid-pack horses and in front of the deep closers. Desormeaux will time his run and Exaggerator's fearless nature to go in between horses will undoubtedly allow him to get his closing kick in earlier than the late closers.

It's anybody's guess what **Lani (N/A)** will do from the gate. He broke badly in both the UAE Derby and the Kentucky Derby, so it has put him further back in the field than he may naturally want to be. What he has shown in both races and in his Japanese races is that he has late kick, so he will most likely be somewhere near the back of the field looking for that one-run.

Both **Cherry Wine (S0)** and **Fellowship (S0)** have closed late to hit the board in some of the biggest Kentucky Derby prep races. Of the 12 Derby preps giving 50 or 100 points to the winner in the United States run on dirt, Cherry Wine & Fellowship combined to close in 4 of them (33%) to get into the trifecta or superfecta.

Predicting the 2016 Preakness Pace:

Predicting a fast pace in this year's Preakness is almost a foregone conclusion. If this happens, a "pace meltdown" may occur and allow mid-pack horses and closers to get up in the final strides to hit the board.

Nyquist has shown the ability to thrive at the 1¼ mile trip, so is the most likely of the early pace horses to be around late. Uncle Lino showed great late pace in the California Chrome Stakes and may also be able to hold on for a piece. Exaggerator is the 2nd best horse in this crop and will undoubtedly be flying late. Cherry Wine and Fellowship both have a good chance to be closing late into the fast early fractions to hit the board.

Preakness Wagering Strategy

As always, handicapping is only a part of the Preakness puzzle. Wagering correctly and knowing where to focus your money is as important as picking the winner.

Before looking at wagering strategy, money management must first be discussed. You will lose your shirt if you don't decide on your budget going into Preakness weekend. There have been many days at the track where I start chasing, lose track of where I'm at with my budget, start betting and even if I hit a few races late, I still come out behind for the day. Deciding on your budget going in and being disciplined to keep to those bets will make you more confident going into the big 2 days of wagering for the Black Eyed Susan and Preakness days.

On Preakness weekend, I am looking to wager only \$100 over the two days of racing. I follow the axiom, "Bet a little to win a lot!" The Preakness is no time to start spreading and betting a lot of combinations when the favorite wins the race so often.

You can decide what you are willing to wager on these two days. It might be more than I am willing to wager or less. The wagering strategy below will be based on my \$100 budget and you can adjust accordingly to your own budget. I'll be looking to budget about \$40 on betting on the Preakness by itself and use the rest of my budget on multi-race wagers and undercard race plays.

Preakness Ticket Structure:

From a wagering standpoint, the Preakness is usually a more "formful" race historically than the Kentucky Derby on the win end. The Preakness winner has gone off at odds of less than 3-1 in 12 of the last 16 years. Additionally, the Kentucky Derby winner has gone onto win the Preakness in 10 of the last 19 years. There are still opportunities to make a score on the Preakness though.

The exacta, trifecta and superfecta have paid handsomely with averages over the past 16 years shown to the right:

Average Preakness Payouts: Last 16 Years	
\$2 Exacta	\$ 109.96
\$1 Trifecta	\$ 644.84
\$1 Superfecta	\$ 3,694.75

With big exotic pay-offs possible, hope isn't lost on the Preakness. The key to the making money on the Preakness is not trying to beat the favorite and Kentucky Derby winner (this year Nyquist) in the Preakness, but trying to fill out exotics plays for in-race wagering with the right longshots underneath. Another key is to not spread too much at the bottom of these plays and have conviction on who you think can round out the exacta, trifecta and superfecta. If you spread too much with the favorite on top, you may start betting too much on too many combinations and even if you hit, your overall profit will be small.

The key horse underneath in this year's Preakness is **Cherry Wine**. Leaving **Nyquist** in the win slot in exotic wagers, I will move Cherry Wine around in exotic wagers and play multiple times as follows:

\$10.00 Trifecta		
1	1st	Nyquist
1	2nd	Exaggerator
1	3rd	Cherry Wine
\$10.00 Total Bet		

\$6.00 Exacta		
1	1st	Nyquist
1	2nd	Cherry Wine
\$6.00 Total Bet		

The straight trifecta with Nyquist over **Exaggerator** over Cherry Wine won't break the bank by itself, but playing it for **\$10 straight** may return a nice payout overall with Cherry Wine being a longshot.

\$2.00 Trifecta		
1	1st	Nyquist
1	2nd	Exaggerator
2	3rd	Fellowship, Uncle Lino
\$4.00 Total Bet		

\$4.00 Exacta		
1	1st	Nyquist
2	2nd	Fellowship, Uncle Lino
\$8.00 Total Bet		

As a back-up, putting Cherry Wine in the 2nd place spot in a straight exacta for a few times under Nyquist would be a decent return. Checking the exacta probable payouts before the race and weighting properly is recommended.

I also like **Fellowship** and **Uncle Lino** on the bottom end of the exotics at huge longshot prices. As a back-up play, I will play them in the 3rd spot in a \$2 trifecta as shown above and also play them in the place spot in a small \$4 straight exacta under Nyquist.

I only think one horse can beat Nyquist in the field and that horse is Exaggerator. Win money on Exaggerator at possibly 3/1 odds is a tough bet to make, but I may be willing to put **\$10 to win on Exaggerator** based on the odds if he's 3/1 or higher.

\$1.00 Superfecta		
2	1st	Exaggerator, Nyquist
1	2nd	Exaggerator, Nyquist
3	3rd	Cherry Wine, Fellowship, Uncle Lino
2	4th	Cherry Wine, Fellowship, Uncle Lino
\$12.00 Total Bet		

A more lucrative play may be to box Exaggerator and Nyquist in a \$1 superfecta over the three longshots that I like Cherry Wine, Fellowship and Uncle Lino, as shown to the left, for a total \$12 bet.

These bets are playing against both Collected and Stradivari, who project to be the 3rd and 4th choices in the wagering. If either one jumps up in this spot then my wagers won't look so good, but if you use these two horses, the payouts will be miniscule. By playing against them, I'm looking for a bigger score.

These bets above equal the **\$40** that I wanted to bet for the Preakness. I have weighted my bets more heavily using my top longshot Cherry Wine. I have protected using my other two longshots Uncle Lino and Fellowship for smaller wagers. All of those bets used Nyquist in the top spot. I have protected against a Nyquist upset using Exaggerator in the one hole with Nyquist in my superfecta play. If the odds are right, I may play a \$10 win wager on Exaggerator to bring my total to \$50 or as a back-up play shift that win money to Stradivari, if he's 10/1 or higher in the Win pool.

Undercard & Multi-Race Wagering Strategy

With some of the best horses in North American converging on Baltimore over these two days, opportunities to bet on Graded Stakes winning horses at long odds will be available and it will be important to pick your spots, always looking for value.

From Friday, May 20 to Saturday, May 21, Pimlico will hold a total of 15 Stakes races covering all the major divisions in North American horse racing as shown in the table below with some potential entries:

Date	Race #	Post Time (EDT)	Grade	Race	Distance	Age	Surface	Field Size	Entries	
Friday 5/20/2016	3	12:32	-	Skipat	6 Furlongs	3YO+	F&M	9	Fantastic Style, Thirteen Arrows, Disco Chick, Sweet On Smokey, Sweetrayofsunshine, Flattering Bea, Dallas Cowgirl, Raging Smoke, Printasticat	
	7	2:39	3	Pimlico Special	1 & 3/16 M	3YO+		Dirt	8	Stanford, Page McKeney, Noble Bird, Idolo Porteno, Hesinfront, Warrioroftheroses, Savoy Stomp, Golden Glint
	8	3:13	-	Jim McKay Turf Sprint	5 Furlongs	3YO+		Turf	8	Ben's Cat, Rocket Heat, Big Guy Ian, Spring to the Sky, Night Officer, Expected Ruler, Jack's in the Deck, Rapid Dan
	9		3	Dupont Distaff	1 & 1/8 M	3YO+	F&M	Dirt	10	Mei Ling, Ahh Chocolate, Theogony, Tiger Ride, Super Majesty, Engaginglee, Camille Claudel, Savings Account, America, Joint Return
	10	4:16	-	Hilltop	1 1/16 M	3YO	Fillies	Turf	14 + 2 AE	Spinamiss (IRE), Family Meeting, Thundering Sky, Wessex, Miss Katie Mae (IRE), Koala Queen, Channel Regatta, Gone Away, Princess Princess, Cowgirl Tough, Melody Croon, Look Who's Talking, La Piba, Morethanjusthelo, AE - Lookout Sister, AE - Lady Oak (IRE)
	11	4:50	2	Black Eyed Susan	1 & 1/8 M	3YO	Fillies	Dirt	14	Land Over Sea, Go Maggie Go, Dothraki Queen, She's a Warrior, Kinsley Kisses, Ma Can Do It, Flora Dora, Midnight On Oconee, Cced, Mom's On Strike, In the Navy Now, Double Entendre, Downdraft, A P Majestic
	12	5:54	3	Miss Preakness	6 Furlongs	3YO	Fillies	Dirt	10	R Girls a Charmer, She's All Ready, Moment Is Right, Lost Raven, Banree, Simple Surprise, One True Kiss, Right There, Ultra Brat, Quick Release
Date	Race #	Post Time (EDT)	Grade	Race	Distance	Age	Surface	Field Size	Entries	
Saturday 5/21/2016	5	12:51	3	Maryland Sprint	6 Furlongs	3YO+		Dirt	7	Salutos Amigos, Always Sunshine, Cinco Charlie, Rockin On Bye, Negrito, Sonny Inspired, All Star Red
	6	1:28	-	James W. Murphy	1 Mile	3YO		Turf	9	Conquest Windycity, Ousby, Copingaway, Isofass, I Came to Party, Aquaphobia, Marengo Road, Easy River, He'll Pay
	8	2:40	-	The Very One	5 Furlongs	3YO+	F&M	Turf	12	Lady Shipman, Hope Cross, Exaggerated, Disco Barbie, Miss Matzoball, Seeking Paradise, My Celeste, Two Wonders, Everything Lovely, Rumble Doll, Joya Real, Moldavite
	9	3:21	-	Chick Lang	6 Furlongs	3YO		Dirt	8	Justin Squared, Big Louie D, Counterforce, Formal Summation, Never Gone South, Discreet Angel, Quijote, Cozze Cat
	10	4:02	3	Galorette	1 & 1/16 M	3YO+	F&M	Turf	12	Tiger Ride, Josdesanimaux, Mississippi Delta, Ol' Fashion Gal, Heath, Mizz Money, Flying Tipat, Nisharora (IRE), Peace Prize (IRE), Monster Sleeping, Camille Claudel, Vielsalm
	11	4:40	-	Sir Barton	1 & 1/16 M	3YO		Dirt	14	American Freedom, Dazzling Gem, Gettysburg, Moon King, Donegal Moon, Cadeyrn, Discreet Lover, Charmed Victory, Voluntario, Kingslayer, Lazarus Project, Fearless Dragon, Gone Local, I Came to Party
	12	5:39	2	Dixie	1 1/16 M	3YO+		Turf	13	Conquest Typhoon, Force the Pass, Grand Arch, Long On Value, Ring Weekend, Take the Stand (ARG), Za Approval, Takeover Target, Cage Fighter, El Kabeir, Prince Gagarin (IRE), Golden Sabre, Captain Dixie
	13	6:45	1	Preakness	1 3/16 M	3YO		Dirt	11	See Horse Capsules

Multi-Race Wagers: With \$50 to \$60 remaining in my original budget, I will spread money and pick my spots over the two days of racing on individual race play and some multi-race wagers, as follows:

Black Eyed Susan (BES) / Preakness Double: With **Land Over Sea** likely in the BES, it will be very difficult to bet this wager with Nyquist. The payouts will be microscopic using the two O'Neill trainees in this double play. The Dixie / Preakness double may provide more value as the turf race before the Preakness should allow for a much larger price to win including possibly **Conquest Typhoon**, who has had good reports recently. If you are looking to play single Land Over Sea in a double then a better bet would be to spread in the wide-open Hilltop. Horses to target in the Hilltop are Thundering Sky and Koala Queen.

Pick 3s, Pick 4s and Pick 5s: Opportunities to break the bank will be abundant over the two days in these pools, if you are willing to handicap the undercard races. The \$0.50 minimum wager makes these wagers manageable on a smaller budget. The Pick-6 pool is a \$2 minimum wager and very tough to manage on a small budget.

A great tool named DRF Ticket Maker is available on-line and on your smart phone to create these multi-race tickets. You are able to rank the chance of a horse winning each leg of these wagers as either A, B or C and the program creates the tickets for you based on your budget. You will need to go "skinny" in a few legs in these wagers or your tickets will get expensive quickly. A few single options on the undercard based on the potential entries in the table above include:

- Land Over Sea – Black Eyed Susan on Friday (2nd in Kentucky Oaks)
- Lady Shipman – The Very One on Saturday (2nd in 2015 Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint)
- Justin Squared – Chick Lang on Saturday (Undeclared 2-0 lifetime, won season debut at Santa Anita)
- Nyquist – Preakness on Saturday (Kentucky Derby champion)

Thank you once again for reading through this 2016 Preakness Guide presented by Guaranteed Tip Sheet and RacingDudes.com!

GOOD LUCK TO ALL!