

2016 KENTUCKY OAKS & DERBY GUIDE

Presented by:

*Guaranteed
Tip Sheet*



Nyquist winning Florida Derby



Exaggerator took sloppy Santa Anita Derby



Brody's Cause grinded Bluegrass Stakes win



Thank you for purchasing the 2016 Kentucky Oaks & Derby Guide presented by Guaranteed Tip Sheet and RacingDudes.com!

The Kentucky Derby is a part of the American fabric. During “the fastest two minutes in sports” the whole country turns its eyes to Churchill Downs in Louisville, Kentucky, to see what 3-year old horse will win the “Run for the Roses.”

The Derby has been run every year since 1875 and famous horses that have won the race include Triple Crown winners Secretariat, Seattle Slew, Affirmed and most recently, American Pharoah. The 142nd running of the Kentucky Derby will be on Saturday, May 7, 2016 at approximately 6:34 p.m. (EDT).

The 1¼ mile race ran on the main dirt track is not only a spectacle; it’s also an opportunity to make a wager and hopefully make a major return! This “2016 Kentucky Oaks & Derby Guide presented by Guaranteed Tip Sheet and RacingDudes.com” will give you the information needed to hopefully make that major score!

This Guide includes:

- Kentucky Derby Overview including:
 - Picks from Guaranteed Pick Sheet, Racing Dudes and Saratoga Slim
 - Introduction
 - Post position analysis
- Horse capsules for each of the 20 projected horses in the 2016 Kentucky Derby 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 five 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 place slots), Exotic Plays (horses to use, but only in the 3rd or 4th place slots), Consider (horses to possibly use or toss), Tosses (horses to not include on tickets)
- Historical pace analysis including the running styles of the past 15 Kentucky Derby winners
- Late pace analysis to help pick the winner & longshots to hit the board
- Kentucky Oaks Overview with filly profiles, pace scenario and wagering approach
- Wagering strategy including trifecta, superfecta and Oaks/Derby double approach

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

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Brody's Cause



Coady Photography

**Projected
Odds: 12/1
Closer (S0)**

Trainer: Dale Romans **Jockey:** Luis Saez

Pros: Classy 2-time Grade-1 winner after closing & grinding out win in Bluegrass. Sired by Giant's Causeway with other stamina influences, there is no doubt that he has the pedigree for the Derby distance. Broke his maiden at a mile over a fast Churchill strip last September & Romans has said, "He loves Churchill Downs."

Cons: Some may look at him as a Keeneland "horse for course" since his top races have come in Lexington. His Beyer & Brisnet speed figures are a cut below the top horses in the field. Disappointed in 2016 return over quirky Tampa Bay Downs oval, but just might mean that he needs "one off the bench."

Bottom Line: Must include underneath since he packs possibly the best closing kick in the field

Last Five Races:

Date	Track	Race	Dist.	Fin.	Bris
4/9/16	KEE	G1 Bluegrass	1 1/8 M	1 st	94
3/12/16	Tam	G2 Tampa Bay Derby	1 1/16 M	7 th	83
10/31/15	KEE	G1 BC Juv.	1 1/16 M	3 rd	94
10/3/15	KEE	G1 Breeders' Futurity	1 1/16 M	1 st	95
9/11/15	CD	Mdn 38k	1 Mile	1 st	81

My Man Sam



Coady Photography

**Projected
Odds: 18/1
Closer (S0)**

Trainer: Chad Brown **Jockey:** Irad Ortiz, Jr.

Pros: Powerful closing kick to get 2nd in Bluegrass is impressive because he out-closed Cherry Wine after drawing 14 post & going 8 wide into stretch. Sustained run in maiden breaker & 2nd in allowance to Matt King Coal received high Beyer & Brisnet figures. Plenty of stamina influence on female side of pedigree & sire Trappe Shot is son of Tapit. Ortiz has decided on this mount over Shagaf, so it's a plus.

Cons: Lightly raced with only 4 lifetime starts. Bluegrass was a slow race overall & speed figure there is lacking. Originally brought into Brown barn as a turf horse, but trainer thought his movement was better suited to dirt.

Bottom Line: Might be getting good at right time, will be "wise-guy" horse on Derby day, watch the board

Last Four Races:

Date	Track	Race	Dist.	Fin.	Bris
4/9/16	KEE	G1 Bluegrass	1 1/8 M	2 nd	92
3/6/16	AQ	OC80k/n1x-N	1 1/16 M	2 nd	100
1/31/16	AQ	Mdn 60k	1 1/16 M	1 st	97
12/19/15	AQ	Mdn 60k	6 furlongs	5 th	70

Creator



Coady Photography

**Projected
Odds: 15/1
Closer (S0)**

Trainer: Steve Asmussen **Jockey:** Ricardo Santana, Jr.

Pros: Split horses, in tight to close strongly to win Arkansas (Ark.) Derby showing running style needed in Derby traffic. Steady increasing Brisnet speed figures over last 3 races. Ran strong 2nd over sloppy Churchill oval in late November. Has strong distance pedigree on dam side averaging 8½ furlongs per win. Unlike many horses sired by Tapit, he is not headstrong & has shown the ability to relax early in races.

Cons: Took 6 races to break maiden, but may be getting hot at the right time with 2 wins in last 3. Those 2 wins are his only in 8 lifetime starts, but has hit the board in every career start except his 2nd lifetime start on turf. Started his career on turf and moved to the dirt, but has always wanted distance. Santana Jr. is a young jockey that will need to navigate the Derby traffic. Has 7 starts in past 5½ months all around 2-turns, so a big question is if all this racing will catch up to him & he'll "bounce" off his big Ark. Derby win.

Bottom Line: Improving type that is trending before Derby is dangerous, a must use in all plays

Last Five Races:

Date	Track	Race	Dist.	Fin.	Bris
4/16/16	OP	G1 Arkansas Derby	1 1/8 M	1 st	100
3/19/16	OP	G2 Rebel	1 1/16 M	3 rd	95
2/27/16	OP	Mdn 70k	1 1/16 M	1 st	93
2/12/16	FG	Mdn 40k	1M 70 yds	2 nd	78
12/31/15	FG	Mdn 40k	1 1/16 M	2 nd	82

Mohaymen



Lauren King

**Projected
Odds: 10/1
Early/Presser
(E/P6)**

Trainer: Kiaran McLaughlin **Jockey:** Junior Alvarado

Pros: Was the top Derby prospect & undefeated before his 4th in Florida Derby, but never seemed comfortable on the wet Gulfstream track with wide trip. \$2.2 million purchase sired by Tapit, should be able to get the Derby distance. Well proportioned, but very small horse, has the agility, can overcome obstacles stalking & has a good mind.

Cons: Will need to bounce back after Florida Derby clunker. Showed immaturity in 2nd career race in Nashua when difficult in post parade and gate. Alvarado has never ridden in a Kentucky Derby, but has 6 Grade-1 wins to his credit. Speed figures have not improved from 2015. Will need to overcome the "Remsen Curse" (no Remsen winner has won the Derby in the past 22 years) - 1 & 1/8 mile race as 2-year old may have "dulled" him. Horses that he beat including Zulu, Greenpointcrusader & Flexibility did not flatter him with dull performances subsequent to running 2nd to Mohaymen. Being sired by Tapit, can tend to be head-strong early pulling jockey.

Bottom Line: Need to include in wagers, but regression no longer makes him a horse to key in wagers

Last Five Races:

Date	Track	Race	Dist.	Fin.	Bris
4/2/16	GP	G1 Fl. Derby	1 1/8 M	4 th	87
2/27/16	GP	G2 Fount. of Youth	1 1/16 M	1 st	102
1/30/16	GP	G2 Holy Bull	1 1/16 M	1 st	97
11/28/15	AQ	G2 Remsen	1 1/8 M	1 st	102
11/4/15	AQ	G2 Nashua	1 M	1 st	91



Turning to this year's Derby, the table below shows the Brisnet running styles for each horse expected in the 2016 Kentucky Derby (horses that are currently outside the top 20 are listed at the bottom of the table).

	Horse	Brisnet Running Style		
1	Danzing Candy	E8	Early	
2	Outwork	E8		
3	Mohaymen	E/P6	Early / Pressers	
4	Nyquist	E/P5		
5	Destin	E/P4		
6	Shagaf	E/P4		
7	Oscar Nominated	P5	Pressers	
8	Gun Runner	P4		
9	Mor Spirit	P3		
10	Majesto	P3		
11	Exaggerator	P3	Closers	
12	Lani	N/A		N/A
13	Trojan Nation	S3		
14	Tom's Ready	S1		
15	Whitmore	S0		
16	Brody's Cause	S0		
17	My Man Sam	S0		
18	Suddenbreakingnews	S0		
19	Mo Tom	S0		
20	Creator	S0		
	Laoban	E6	Early	
	Dazzling Gem	E/P5	Early / Pressers	
	Adventist	E/P4	Closers	
	Fellowship	S2		
	Cherry Wine	S0		

It should be immediately noted that two E8 horses are expected to be entered: **Outwork** and **Danzing Candy**. If they draw decent post positions (not the 1 or 2 post), there is every reason to believe that they will hook up on the front end and press each other into fast fractions.

Still, it is tough to bet on the fact that they will hook up because as we saw recently in 2014 with Wildcat Red's bobbled start that anything can happen out of the Derby starting gate. Even if they break on top, they may press each other and just fade late while horses in the second flight get the jump on the deep closers.

This second flight of horses pressing the pace will include the favorite **Nyquist**, who has been on or near the lead in all of his races except when he was bumped coming out of the gate in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile.

Mohaymen is a stalking type with tactical speed that will lie close to the lead, but has been headstrong in some of his races, so it's possible he'll be even close to the pace than some expect. **Destin** and **Shagaf** will look for a place to settle in this group.

The third flight of horses will have **Gun Runner** and **Mor Spirit** running steady fractions. Both will be looming throughout and will be dangerous if any of the horses in the second flight decide to go after the leaders.

A major question is where **Exaggerator** will sit early. As noted in his horse capsule, Exaggerator has recently 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 third flight and in front of the deep closers.

They're will be no lack of one-run closers sitting back of the pack into the first turn including **Creator**, **Tom's Ready**, **Mo Tom**, **Brody's Cause** and **My Man Sam**. In total, 8 of the 20 runners are ranked as S-type closers. This is by far the most closers (by Brisnet ratings) entered in a Derby in the past 8 years.

Of these, **Whitmore** has the ability show early speed and should be flanking Exaggerator at the back of the third flight. Brody's Cause also may be more forwardly placed in this back group.

Predicting the 2016 Kentucky Derby Pace:

Predicting a fast pace in this year's Derby is totally contingent upon both Outwork and Danzing Candy drawing good post positions, breaking well and dueling early. 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.

The most likely outcome in the race is that Outwork and Danzing Candy will fade after setting a moderate to fast pace and not be involved in the race late.

A moderate to fast pace is a likely outcome because of the correlation of E8 horses in past Derbies. An all-out blazing fast pace is not likely, though, since in this Derby points system era, pure sprinters are not making the gate and speeding up the pace. The past two years have been very slow paces, but also had a lack of pure E8 horses. This year's pace should not be as fast as the sprinter-induced paces of past years, but should be faster than the past two-years when E8 types were not prevalent.

With a moderate to fast pace expected, horses that have shown the capability to be near the pace, stalk and pounce late may be the top candidates to win the Derby in this new point system paradigm, just like California Chrome and American Pharoah the past two years.

The next section will evaluate how middle and late pace can be used to identify these horses that can put in a long, sustained runs to win the Derby or hit the board at long odds making your day, month or year of wagering.

Picking the Kentucky Derby winner and longshot is a part of American folklore. Hollywood movies have been based on the Derby longshot including the movie "50 to 1" about the aforementioned 2009 Kentucky Derby winner Mine that Bird.

The Derby longshot cannot be picked haphazardly, though. Unlike 2015 when the top echelon of 3 year olds separated themselves from the pack including American Pharoah, Dortmund, Firing Line and Frosted, this year the winners of the Derby preps have been more widespread. The chance for a "bomb" to take the top win spot is still difficult to predict, but there is plenty of money to be made picking the right horses underneath in exotic wagers like the exacta, trifecta and superfecta.

In the past 7 years including the 50-1 longshot Mine That Bird in 2009, a total of seven horses with odds of more than 20-1 have finished in the top four of the Kentucky Derby. Six of these seven horses came off the pace to close into their final position as can be seen in the table below (only Shackleford in 2011 was on or near the lead and faded to 4th to hit the superfecta at long odds):

Year	Horse Name	Position at 1/2 Mile	Finish	Derby Odds
2009	Mine That Bird	19 th	1 st	50.6
2010	Make Music for Me	20 th	4 th	30
2011	Animal Kingdom	12 th	1 st	20.9
2011	Shackleford	1 st	4 th	23
2012	Went The Day Well	17 th	4 th	30.6
2013	Golden Soul	15 th	2 nd	35.4
2014	Commanding Curve	18 th	2 nd	37.8

Spotting these horses as they progress during the Derby prep races is the key to picking the longshot. Horses coming into the Derby in top form from their final prep have shown to be the most successful. To prove this point, a full chart of the top four finishers in the past seven Kentucky Derbies are shown in the table below with their final prep and speed figures (courtesy of Brisnet):

		Name	Run Style	Final Prep	Final Prep Finish	E1	E2	LP	Bris	Derby Odds
2009 (Sloppy)	Average Pace	1 Mine That Bird	E/P4	Sunland	4	81	89	79	88	50.6
		2 Pioneerof the Nile	E/P5	SA Derby	1	72	81	105	95	6.3
		3 Musket Man	P4	Ill. Derby	1	87	93	110	104	19
		4 Papa Clem	E/P5	Ark. Derby	1	89	89	106	100	12.2
2010 (Sloppy)	Average Pace	1 Super Saver	E6	Ark. Derby	2	89	97	96	99	8
		2 Ice Box	P3	Fl. Derby	1	78	90	108	101	11.7
		3 Paddy O'Prado	E/P5	Bluegrass	2	101	109	76	94	12.3
		4 Make Music for Me	P1	Bluegrass	6	88	97	80	90	30
2011	Slowest Pace	1 Animal Kingdom	P3	Spiral	1	76	84	101	97	20.9
		2 Nehro	S3	Ark. Derby	2	78	84	109	99	8.5
		3 Mucho Macho Man	E/P6	La. Derby	3	88	90	98	96	9.3
		4 Shackleford	E6	Fl. Derby	2	102	112	84	101	23
2012	Fast Pace	1 I'll Have Another	E/P7	SA Derby	1	77	82	109	98	15.3
		2 Bodemeister	E8	Ark. Derby	1	96	100	105	105	4.2
		3 Dullahan	S	Bluegrass	1	102	106	93	102	12.1
		4 Went The Day Well	P5	Spiral	1	83	94	101	103	30.6
2013 (Sloppy)	Fast Pace	1 Orb	P2	Fl. Derby	1	76	87	103	97	5.4
		2 Golden Soul	S2	La. Derby	4	83	96	100	100	35.4
		3 Revolutionary	S3	La. Derby	1	95	112	94	105	6.4
		4 Normandy Invasion	S2	Wood	2	71	80	114	99	9.3
2014	Slow Pace	1 California Chrome	E/P7	SA Derby	1	103	110	97	106	2.5
		2 Commanding Curve	P1	La. Derby	3	84	102	91	98	37.8
		3 Danza	E/P5	Ark. Derby	1	89	97	106	104	8.7
		4 Wicked Strong	P	Wood	1	103	114	86	103	6.5
2015	Slow Pace	1 American Pharoah	E/P7	Ark. Derby	1	98	103	95	102	2.9
		2 Firing Line	E/P8	Sunland	1	99	104	94	101	9.5
		3 Dortmund	E8	SA Derby	1	111	118	89	106	4.3
		4 Frosted	E/P4	Wood	1	94	108	101	107	10.3
7 Year Average =						89.0	97.4	97.5	100.0	

Races ran on synthetic tracks