

2017 PREAKNESS GUIDE

Presented by:

***Guaranteed
Tip Sheet***



ALWAYS DREAMING OF 2ND JEWEL OF TRIPLE CROWN

Thank you for purchasing the 2017 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 20.

After winning the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness is the next step for Always Dreaming along a possible Triple Crown, looking to repeat the feat accomplished by American Pharoah two years ago.

This "2017 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 19.

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 2017 Preakness field including:
 - Trainer, jockey, projected odds, horse running style (i.e., early speed, presser, closer)
 - 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 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.....	10

Purse:	\$1.5 million
Distance:	1 & 3/16 miles (Dirt)
Age:	3 Year Olds
Post Time:	Sat., May 20 th ~6:45 p.m. (EDT)

The focus of this "2017 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 18):

	Aaron	Jared	Slim	GTS	CONSENSUS*	Pts.
Win	Always Dreaming	Always Dreaming	Classic Empire	Always Dreaming	Always Dreaming	37
Place	Classic Empire	Classic Empire	Always Dreaming	Cloud Computing	Classic Empire	28
Show	Gunnevera	Gunnevera	Cloud Computing	Classic Empire	Cloud Computing	12
4th	Cloud Computing	Conquest Mo Money	Hence	Lookin At Lee	Gunnevera	8

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

Horse Capsules - Win Contenders

#4 Always Dreaming



Coady Photography

**Morning Line
Odds: 4/5**

Trainer: Todd Pletcher

Jockey: John Velasquez

Early/Presser (E/P7)

Pros: Kentucky Derby champ looked strong winning by 2 & 3/4 lengths showing the ability to flash speed early, settle & then take it into another gear in the stretch. Has made his own good trips using similar stalking tactics in both the Kentucky & Florida Derbies after gaining good position early. Undeclared in his four 2017 starts by a combined 24 lengths after joining the Pletcher barn. Sired by 2012 Preakness runner-up Bodemeister, has shown no distance limitations that will hold him back from getting the Preakness distance.

Cons: Derby win can be criticized because he rode the rail most of the race, where early speed was holding up for most of the day. Has shipped into Pimlico early to settle in and will only gallop into the race with no official workout planned. Was never fully relaxed at Churchill training for the Derby. Pletcher needed to add draw reigns & a stronger exercise rider to get him to calm down before the Derby, which was looked at as a negative by many experts, but ended up just being that he was "sharp as a dagger" for the Derby. Still, if he's keyed up at Pimlico for an extended period coming in off only a two-week layoff, he may exhaust himself leading up to the Preakness, so morning reports need to be evaluated. Hall-of-famer Velasquez has never won the Preakness, but Pimlico isn't his backyard and even stating that here is nit-picking about one of the best jockeys of our generation.

Bottom Line: Going to be tough to beat, but also tough to make money playing

#5 Classic Empire



Chris Aplin

**Morning Line
Odds: 3/1**

Trainer: Mark Casse

Jockey: Julien Leparoux

Early/Presser (E/P4)

Pros: Two-year old Eclipse-award winning champion might have been the second-best horse in the Kentucky Derby, but experienced trouble at the start and could only muster a late moving fourth-place finish. Crushed at the beginning of the Derby by McCracken and Irish War Cry to his outside, he was forced farther back in the field than normal and then was floated out very wide while making his run down the stretch. He nearly got up for third, but with his trip, he couldn't make up enough ground late. There is every reason to believe that he can step forward coming in third-off the layoff after he returned to his winning ways in the Arkansas Derby after a tumultuous winter. When he puts it all together mentally, he may be the best horse in the field and physically the most talented. Sired by Pioneer of the Nile, who sired Triple Crown winner American Pharoah, he has plenty of distance influence in his pedigree.

Cons: Casse has said that running him on two-weeks rest in the Preakness is probably easier than breezing him because he's been reluctant to work out in the past. Comes out of the Derby with four or five abrasions on his right front (one was "pretty close" to needing stitches) and a swollen right eye (that healed quickly) because he was crushed early in the race. His propensity to lose his cool and focus before races is his Achilles heel, but hasn't acted up in his last two races. Still, his "bad boy" image can erupt at any time.

Bottom Line: When he brings "A" game, may still be best in crop & may be value play

#2 Cloud Computing



NYRA

**Morning Line
Odds: 12/1**

Trainer: Chad Brown

Jockey: Javier Castellano

Presser (P4)

Pros: Third-place finish in Wood Memorial was only his 3rd career start and the front-speed track bias at Aqueduct that day stacked up against him after he didn't break well. Was admirable to just get up for third on a track that no one was closing well over all day. Before that had received big speed figures for his 2nd place finish in the Gotham Stakes in his only 2nd career race. Brown was uncharacteristically excited about stretching him out after his impressive maiden win in February at Aqueduct, so the barn has been high on him for a while. Has thrown down two straight bullet 5-furlongs recently at Belmont in preparation for this Preakness target. Castellano chose to move off his mount of Gunnevera to jump on Cloud Computing, which speaks volumes from the three-time Eclipse award winning jockey.

Cons: Lightly-raced colt will be facing his biggest class test to date and first race outside of Aqueduct. Unraced at two-years old, he lacks the foundation that many of the other horses have built up over their more experienced careers. Didn't break well in the Wood, so must prove that he doesn't have possible gate issues. Has been rested 6 weeks from the Wood, so may "need one off the bench," but Brown has been known to fire fresh with his best talent. The jury is still out if his sire Maclean's Music can produce distance classic horses, but has good stamina influence from his damsire A.P. Indy.

Bottom Line: May hit the board on talent alone

#3 Hence



Coady Photography

**Morning Line
Odds: 20/1**

Trainer: Steve Asmussen

Jockey: Florent Geroux

Closer (S0)

Pros: Never got a chance to run in the Kentucky Derby according to Asmussen as he took tons of slop kickback. Finished a non-threatening 11th in the Derby, but gets another chance for Asmussen, who said that the mud kickback thwarted his late run. The late developing Asmussen charge may still be intriguing as he made a huge move to win Sunland Derby from far back early and drew off to win by almost 4 lengths. That win was flattered when 4th place finisher Irap came back to win the Blue Grass Stakes and 2nd place finisher Conquest Mo Money ran 2nd in the Arkansas Derby.

Cons: His Derby 11th and Grade-3 Southwest clunker where he finished 7th do not invoke confidence at this class level. Sired by top sprinter Street Boss doesn't scream distance, but being out of an A.P. Indy mare should help on the female side of his pedigree. The way he was finishing strong in the Sunland Derby should help silence some distance skeptics. He'll have to be nearer to the pace like he was in his maiden score or at least mid-pack in the Preakness to have a chance to win it all. Before the derby Asmussen had said that Hence needed more time between races but brings him back here in two weeks saying that he didn't really run hard in the Kentucky Derby.

Bottom Line: Could be the top closer to use in the Preakness underneath in exotics plays

#10 Conquest Mo Money



Coady Photography

**Morning Line
Odds: 15/1**

Trainer: Miguel Hernandez

Jockey: Jorge Carreno

Early (E6)

Pros: Ran a strong second behind Classic Empire in the Grade-1 Arkansas Derby, where he attended a swift pace and held off all other challengers in deep stretch, including eventual Kentucky Derby runner-up Lookin At Lee. Connections have already paid the \$150,000 late Triple Crown nomination fee to get him entered in the Preakness, so they must be confident in this spot after skipping the Derby, which would've cost only \$50,000 more to enter. Previous efforts at Sunland Park include strong 2nd behind Hence in the Sunland Derby and win over Irap in the Mine That Bird Stakes, so he has back class against Kentucky Derby runners.

Cons: It's a nice story that he keeps his jockey Carreno from New Mexico, but on the big stage of a Triple Crown race, it may be difficult for him to compete against the best jockeys in the country. Will be forwardly-placed and will need to be as game as he was in the Arkansas Derby to stand a chance against the best in the crop, but he did run against two of the same runners in Classic Empire and Lookin At Lee.

Bottom Line: Intriguing, but small time connections have a lot to prove

#6 Gunnevera



Lauren King

**Morning Line
Odds: 15/1**

Trainer: Antonio Sano

Jockey: Mike Smith

Closer (S0)

Pros: Multiple Graded Stakes winner as a juvenile, who won Grade-2 Fountain of Youth by almost 6 lengths, but that may have been his peak performance. Got a normal closer trip in the Kentucky Derby: had some trouble at the start, was taken way back early and then had to make a very wide move on the turn while in traffic. He flattened at the end of the Derby to finish a non-disgraceful seventh. Hall-of-Famer Mike Smith will pick up the mount with Castellano moving to Cloud Computing.

Cons: Very bad sign that Castellano took only two days after the Derby to jump off him to get the mount on Cloud Computing. Castellano had ridden him in 6 of his last 7 races, so had been preferring him over other mounts since last August. Has raced a lot (10 career races) at the highest level, so it is possible that he peaked early in the year and needs a break, so it is somewhat surprising that Sano was so willing to ship him into Baltimore for a Preakness try. Has now been throttled by Always Dreaming in two straight races, so there are slim chances that he can overtake him here. Out of the first crop of sire Dialed In, who ran eighth in the 2011 Derby, there are questions if he is a true classic distance horse.

Bottom Line: May still get bet based on name recognition & better value exists

#9 Lookin at Lee



Coady Photography

**Morning Line
Odds: 10/1**

Trainer: Steve Asmussen

Jockey: Corey Lanerie

Closer (S0)

Pros: Late-moving second-place finish in the Kentucky Derby was impressive since he was one of the only horses chewing up ground late in the slop. Has now finished in the top 4 of four Grade-1 and two Grade-3 Stakes, so his back-class is superb finishing behind top horses Always Dreaming, Classic Empire, and Practical Joke. Has consistently been in the picture late his whole career, except his one dud in the Rebel Stakes. His sire Lookin At Lucky won the 2012 Preakness.

Cons: Breaking from the 1 post in the Derby, was aided by the rail bias that Lanerie rode to absolute perfection around the far turn when he made his big looping move.

Asmussen has said that he's the type that will get better with added distance, so the 1/2 furlong cutback from the Kentucky Derby is not beneficial to his late kick. Hasn't won a race since last August, so highly doubtful he'll win here.

Bottom Line: Time to make money on him was in Derby, may be overbet in Preakness

#1 Multiplier



Four Footed Fotos

**Morning Line
Odds: 30/1**

Trainer: Brendan Walsh

Jockey: Joel Rosario

Closer (S1)

Pros: Grinded down Pletcher-trainee Hedge Fund late to win Grade-3 Illinois Derby. Sat mid-pack early and unleashed a big turn of foot late in the lane. Has been purchased by through private sale by savvy owners Gary Barber, Adam Wachtel and George Kerr, who are excited about the colt's upside, so their keen eyes are a good sign for his future.

Cons: He beat Hedge Fund by a head and that horse he may not even be in Pletcher's top 10 three-year olds, so thinking he can challenge Pletcher's top gun Always Dreaming is far-fetched. Just broke his maiden two-back at Fair Grounds in mid-March, so this is a big ask to enter the Preakness this early in his career. Unraced as a two-year old, his foundation is questionable along with his distance pedigree sired by The Factor, who was best sprinting.

Bottom Line: Too much, too soon & Preakness is a big ask early in his career

#8 Senior Investment



Keeneland

**Morning Line
Odds: 30/1**

Trainer: Kenny McPeck

Jockey: Channing Hill

Closer (S0)

Pros: Won Grade-3 Lexington at Keeneland in mid-April by a head closing late to track down up-and-coming Baffert trainee West Coast. Returned to work a bullet five-furlongs at Keeneland on May 8 in his first work since the Lexington, so he has remained sharp. The third-place finisher in the Lexington, No Dozing, came back to run well to get second in the Pat Day Mile on the Kentucky Derby undercard, so Senior Investment was flattered slightly.

Cons: When tested for class in the Grade-2 Louisiana Derby, could only muster a steady sixth-place finish with no kick late. Took four races to break his maiden and also has an allowance win to his record, so maybe he's a late developer coming on strong at the right time, but has to prove it at this class level.

Bottom Line: Big step-up in class makes him tough to use

#7 Term of Art



Benoit Photo

**Morning Line
Odds: 30/1**

Trainer: Doug O'Neill

Jockey: Jose Ortiz

Closer (S0)

Pros: His decent clunk-up 3rd place finish at 63/1 odds in the Grade-2 San Felipe behind top colt Mastery in March showed that he had the ability to grind out a race behind top competition. In that race he finished in front of eventual Santa Anita Derby winner and Kentucky Derby also-ran Gormley. Has strong distance pedigree sired by Tiznow out of a Storm Cat mare. Gets top jock Jose Ortiz for his trip East, as all his career races have been in California. Has top connections in trainer O'Neill, who won the Preakness with I'll Have Another in 2012.

Cons: His seventh-place finish in his last race in the Grade-1 Santa Anita Derby does not give any inclination that he can compete at this class level. Sat in last early in Santa Anita Derby and showed little kick late. Has some back class and ran in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile, but could only get 9th losing by 19 lengths behind Classic Empire. Owned by Calumet Farm, who also own Hence, they are trying to get as many chances in each of the Triple Crown races, as they also ran Patch and Sonneteer in the Derby.

Bottom Line: Would be a huge surprise if he hits the board

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 good amount 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 of 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 right 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; or 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 entered in the 2017 Preakness Stakes:

Post Position	Preakness Entries	Brisnet Running Style		Morning Line Odds
1	Multiplier	S1	Closer	30/1
2	Cloud Computing	P4	Presser	12/1
3	Hence	S0	Closer	20/1
4	Always Dreaming	E/P7	Early /	4/5
5	Classic Empire	E/P4	Pressers	3/1
6	Gunnevera	S0	Closers	15/1
7	Term of Art	S0		30/1
8	Senior Investment	S0		30/1
9	Lookin At Lee	S0		10/1
10	Conquest Mo Money	E6	Early	15/1

Predicting the 2017 Preakness Pace:

Looking at the chart, it should immediately be recognized that only one early speed horse is entered, **Conquest Mo Money**, looking for the lead from the #10 post. Conquest Mo Money did sit off the early speed in the Arkansas and Sunland Derbies, so he is not an "all-out need-the-lead" type, but his best chance to compete in the Preakness will be to get on the lead with Carreno up.

With four closers to his inside, Conquest Mo Money should have no problem getting over early to get in good position.

Velasquez may not even try to mess around on **Always Dreaming** leaving from the 4 post, though, and may just put him on the lead, like American Pharoah did in the 2015 Preakness. With Always Dreaming looking sharp and aggressive again recently in the mornings at Pimlico, getting him on the lead looking for a gate-to-wire trip may be one of the early pace scenarios based on the break.

Classic Empire will need to show the early speed that he showed earlier in his career leaving from the 5 post just to the outside of Always Dreaming. His recent bad break in the Kentucky Derby can't be held against him, but his mid-pack run early in the Arkansas Derby put him in trouble and he was able to overcome that trip to win. Still, in the Preakness, he will need to show his natural speed earlier, especially if he's trying to chase down a possible loose on the lead Always Dreaming. Assistant trainer Norman Casse has said that Classic Empire will keep close to Always Dreaming early and had wanted to be to his outside, so Classic Empire will be able to stalk Always Dreaming early and often.

The dream scenario for race fans is that Always Dreaming and Classic Empire will likely be able to take-over at the top of the stretch. A stretch duel between the top two horses active in the crop would ensue in a dream match-up for the ages.

Cloud Computing should be able to sit close early in the race leaving from the 2 post and as Conquest Mo Money starts to back up, Cloud Computing will get the jump on the closers to get in contention to hit the board.

It is likely that Florent Geroux will be asked to keep **Hence** in mid-pack, so he doesn't lose touch with the field like he did in the Kentucky Derby. Hence will get a ground-saving trip leaving from the 3 hole.

Multiplier is another that may sit 5th or 6th early leaving from the rail draw inside 1 post. **Gunnevera** may be asked to sit mid-pack, as he was able to be nearer to the pace in his Holy Bull second-place finish.

Lookin At Lee is a dead closer and would need a fast pace to get into contention, but the pace may not be fast enough for him to hit the board like he did in the Kentucky Derby.

Closers like **Senior Investment** and **Term of Art** may not have the talent or running style to compete in this race and lose touch with the field early. Their outside posts don't help them, but both will drop back early.

Pace Conclusions:

Conquest Mo Money may set the pace or Always Dreaming may just take the lead from the start, but either way, the pace shouldn't be fast and will not result in a pace meltdown.

It's tough to see a lot of the closers making late moves to get into the picture with such talented horses like Always Dreaming, Classic Empire and Cloud Computing getting position on them early and getting the jump on them on the far turn. It's likely that horses that are involved with the pace early will be the ones in the picture late in deep stretch.

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 \$150 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 \$150 budget and you can adjust accordingly to your own budget. I'll be looking to budget about \$80 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 13 of the last 17 years. Additionally, the Kentucky Derby winner has gone on to win the Preakness in 10 of the last 20 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 17 years shown to the right:

With big exotic pay-offs possible, hope isn't lost on the Preakness. The key to the making money on the Preakness is not always trying to beat the favorite and Kentucky Derby winner (this year Always Dreaming), but trying to fill out exotics plays for in-race wagering with the right longshots underneath.

Average Preakness Payouts: Last 17 Years

\$2 Exacta	\$ 108.69
\$1 Trifecta	\$ 611.21
\$1 Superfecta	\$ 3,496.06

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 **Cloud Computing**. Leaving **Always Dreaming** and **Classic Empire** in the top two slots, I will move Cloud Computing around in exotic wagers and play multiple times as follows.

The straight trifecta with Always Dreaming and Classic Empire over Cloud Computing won't break the bank by itself, but playing it for \$10 straight may return a nice payout overall with Cloud Computing being a value play. ***This play comes to \$20 to start.***

As a back-up, I'll play a \$2 trifecta box with my top three choices: Always Dreaming and Classic Empire over Cloud Computing, for **a total \$12 bet**. This is a back-up play just in case Cloud Computing wins, then the trifecta may pay out nicely for only \$2. These **trifecta plays total \$32** and are shown below:

\$10.00	Trifecta			\$2.00	Trifecta Box		
2	1st	Always Dreaming, Classic Empire		3	1st	Always Dreaming, Classic Empire, Cloud Computing	
1	2nd	Always Dreaming, Classic Empire		2	2nd		
1	3rd	Cloud Computing		1	3rd		
\$20.00	Total Bet			\$12.00	Total Bet		

Another idea to play the trifecta in this spot to try to get a longshot underneath, is to key Always Dreaming and Classic Empire on top and use them with another horse in 2nd with 3 more horses in the third slot. An example of this bet is shown below for a \$1 trifecta equaling \$16 (*I will not include this in my base plays, but want to illustrate another way to play the trifecta if you're looking for a price*):

\$1.00	Trifecta	
2	1st	Always Dreaming, Classic Empire
2	2nd	Always Dreaming, Classic Empire, Cloud Computing
4	3rd	Always Dreaming, Classic Empire, Cloud Computing, Hence, Conquest Mo Money, Gunnevera
\$16.00	Total Bet	

When playing exactas, once again I will start with a three-horse exacta box with my top three choices. I will check the exacta probable payouts before the race and weigh my bets properly. I will at least play the Always Dreaming / Classic Empire exacta box again for another \$8. **The total exacta play is \$28** right now and may grow more times, if the Always Dreaming / Classic Empire exacta is paying less than \$14 for a \$2 wager:

\$2.00	Exacta Box		\$8.00	Exacta Box	
3	1st	Always Dreaming, Classic	2	1st	Always Dreaming,
2	2nd	Empire, Cloud Computing	1	2nd	Classic Empire
\$12.00	Total Bet		\$16.00	Total Bet	

So far, we've played some "chalky" plays, but by playing them for larger amounts, we're hoping to maximize our strongest opinions. Based on the consensus picks, we also like **Hence, Conquest Mo Money** and **Gunnevera** on the bottom end of the exotics at longshot prices. As a creative play, I will use them in the 3rd and 4th spots with Cloud Computing in a \$1 superfecta as shown below for a total \$24 bet (*I will not include this superfecta in my base plays, but want to illustrate a way to play the superfecta*):

\$1.00	Superfecta	
2	1st	Always Dreaming, Classic Empire
1	2nd	Always Dreaming, Classic Empire
4	3rd	Cloud Computing, Hence, Conquest Mo Money, Gunnevera
3	4th	Cloud Computing, Hence, Conquest Mo Money, Gunnevera
\$24.00	Total Bet	

So far, I'm at \$60 out of my original \$80 budget, so I'm almost done with my in-race plays.

I may dip back in for more exacta boxes with Always Dreaming and Classic Empire based on the payouts.

In multi-race plays, such as doubles, Pick-3s and Pick-4s, I will only use Always Dreaming and Classic Empire in the Preakness to win.

The only horse that I think can beat Always Dreaming in the field is Classic Empire. Win money on Classic Empire at possibly 5/2 odds is a tough bet to make, but I may be willing to put **\$20 to win on Classic Empire** based on the odds if he's 5/2 or higher.

These bets are playing against both Lookin At Lee and (mostly) Gunnevera, 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 if you play them with Always Dreaming and Classic Empire. By playing against them, I'm looking for a bigger score.

My base bets above equal **\$80 at** my original budget for the Preakness. I have weighted my bets more heavily using my top value play Cloud Computing. I have used the exacta and trifecta box to back-up just in case Cloud Computing wins or gets second.

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 19 to Saturday, May 20, 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 entries for Black Eyed Susans Day and top nominations for Preakness day:

Date	Race #	Post Time (EDT)	Grade	Race	Distance	Age		Surface	Field Size	Entries (in post position order)
Friday 5/19/2017	5	1:34	3	Dupont Distaff	1 & 1/8 M	3YO+	F&M	Dirt	8	Power of Snunner, She's A Warrior, Mo' Green, Terra Promessa, Winter, Carrumba, She's A True Beauty, Serious Happiness
	7	2:39	3	Pimlico Special	1 & 3/16 M	3YO+		Dirt	10	Dolphus, Eagle, Watershed, Discreet Lover, Noble Bird, Shaman Ghost, Name Changer, Bodhisattva, Conquest Windycity, Fellowship
	8	3:13	-	Hilltop	1 Mile	3YO	Fillies	Turf	13	Dance Queen, Romantic Music, Victory to Victory, Dynatail, Compelled, My Sweet Stella, Corporate Queen, Follow No One, Priss, Chubby Star, Sweeping Paddy, Happy Mesa, Mercy Ann
	9	3:44	3	Miss Preakness	6 Furlongs	3YO	Fillies	Dirt	14 + 1 AE	R Angel Katelyn, My Miss Chief, Stormy Embrace, Crabcakes, Our Majesty, Vertical Oak, Bode's Dream, Nonna Bella, Discreet Deceit, Too Much Tip, Astrollinthe park, Pretty City Dancer, Who's the Lady, Deer Valley, Shackelfords Lady (AE)
	10	4:16	-	Jim McKay Turf Sprint	5 Furlongs	3YO+		Turf	14 + 2 AE	Alpha Slew, Amelia's Wild Ride, Grandiflora, Pay Any Price, Ben's Cat, Take Cover, Grand Candy, Uncle Youdge, Triple Burner, Richard's Boy, Made Bail, Black Jet, M C Squared, Platinum Prince, Tale of E Dubai (AE), Cyclogenisis (AE)
	11	4:50	2	Black Eyed Susan	1 & 1/8 M	3YO	Fillies	Dirt	11	Shimmering Aspen, Tapa Tapa Tapa, Dancing Rags, Full House, Lights of Medina, Corporate Queen, Moana, Torrent, Summer Luck, Actress, Yorkiepool Princess
	13	5:54	-	Skipat	6 Furlongs	3YO+	F&M	Dirt	9	Lovable Lady, Summer Reading, Absatootly, Sweet On Smokey, Chanteline, Stormy Sky, Disco Chick, Pleasant Tales, Clipthecouponnie

Date	Race #	Post Time (EDT)	Grade	Race	Distance	Age		Surface	Field Size	Entries (in post position order)
Saturday 5/20/2017	5	12:51	-	The Very One	5 Furlongs	3YO+	F&M	Turf	11	Elusive Joni, Everything Lovely, J La Tache, Euroboss, Pretty Perfection, Animal Appeal, Nite Delite, Eila, Sunnysammi, Royal Renegé, Most Beautiful
	7	2:07	-	Chick Lang	6 Furlongs	3YO		Dirt	9	Three Rules, Always a Suspect, Even Thunder, Liar's Dice, Proforma, Aquamarine, Recruiting Ready, Theory, Bobby Abu Dhabi
	8	2:47	-	James W. Murphy	1 Mile	3YO		Turf	13	Mo Maverick, Total Tap, Caribou Club, Dover Cliffs, Berks County, Yoshida, Bird's Eye View, Undulated, Conquest Bandit, Adonis Creed, Cheyenne's Colonel, Cool Arrow, Chubby Star
	9	3:27	3	Maryland Sprint	6 Furlongs	3YO+		Dirt	9	Laki, Classy Class, Never Gone South, A.P. Indian, Whitmore, Holy Boss, Sonny Inspired, Rockinn On Bye, Awesome Banner
	10	4:07	3	Galorette	1 & 1/16 M	3YO+	F&M	Turf	10	Grace is Ready, Zipessa, Danilovna, Laur Net, Gone Away, On Leave, Elysea's World, Come to Mischief, Queen Caroline, Cambodia
	11	4:43	-	Sir Barton	1 & 1/16 M	3YO		Dirt	10	Honor The Fleet, Hedge Fund, Greek Prince, Society Beau, No Mo Dough, Watch Me Whip, True Timber, Liar's Dice, Time to Travel, Resiliency
	12	5:39	2	Dixie	1 1/16 M	3YO+		Turf	10	Security Risk, World Approval, Top of Mind, Projected, One Mean Man, Talk Show Man, Blacktype, Catapult, Conquest Typhoon, Ring Weekend
	13	6:45	1	Preakness	1 3/16 M	3YO		Dirt		See Capsules

Multi-Race Wagers: With ~\$70 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: The BES looks like a “wide-open” race, so spreading with three or four fillies in the BES and playing only Always Dreaming and Classic Empire in the Preakness may be the best approach. **Lights of Medina** and **Moana** both for Todd Pletcher look like two of the top possible winners in the BES that may need to be included on tickets.

Dixie / Preakness Double: A key horse to target in the Dixie is **Projected** to play in doubles to Always Dreaming and Classic Empire in the Preakness. Projected comes out of a nose win in an allowance at Keeneland on April 9 over Divisidero, who just came back to win the Grade-1 Woodford Reserve on Derby Day. Trained by Eclipse-award winner Chad Brown and owned by Juddmonte, Projected will be running here in his third race on U.S. soil.

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 few key horses to target on the undercard based on the entries in the table above include:

- **Ben's Cat** in Jim McKay Turf Sprint: The 11-year old is one of the most beloved horses in Maryland racing history and would get a lot of sentimental money making him a possible bet against, even though he's won this race an incredible 5 of the last 6 years. A strong use in this race is **Pay Any Price**, who may be the “speed of the speed” in the 5-furlong turf sprint.
- **Three Rules** in Chick Lang: Originally rumored for the Preakness, would be very dangerous on the cutback to 6 furlongs as he's entered here. Has back class running in the Breeder's Cup Juvenile and Florida Derby. **Even Thunder** is another to target here as a longshot at 12/1, who ran very strong behind top three-year old sprinter Long Haul Bay in the Grade-3 Bay Shore last out.
- **Dover Cliffs** in James W. Murphy: Looked like a big time 3-year old turf prospect for trainer Christophe Clement winning Cutler Bay stalking at Gulfstream last out on the Florida Derby undercard.
- **Whitmore** vs. **AP Indian** in Maryland Sprint: This match-up will be worth the price of admission as two of the fastest horses on the planet will be facing off with multiple Grade-1 winner from 2016 AP Indian facing off against one of the most impressive sprinters this year in Whitmore. Using only these two in multi-race plays is a good way to go “skinny” here.
- **On Leave & Elysea's World** in Galorette: This is another spot where you may be able to go “skinny” in multi-race plays with the two top choices looking strong in this field.
- **Watch Me Whip** in Sir Barton: Lightly raced with only one smashing maiden win at Keeneland last month, but at 12/1 morning line odds is worth a shot here. Trainer Dale Romans has been very high on this horse since February and called him “his Travers horse” after his maiden win. **Hedge Fund** as the morning line 9/5 favorite may be tough to beat here coming in with lots of back class losing only to three Preakness runners (Multiplier, Hence and Conquest Mo Money) in his last two races.

Thank you once again for reading through this 2017 Preakness Guide presented by Guaranteed Tip Sheet and RacingDudes.com!

GOOD LUCK TO ALL!