

# The Wizard's Derby Analysis

Michael Kipness | HorsePlayer Magazine

## GAZING INTO THE WIZARD'S CRYSTAL BALL

*Can this Prominent Handicapper select His Fourth Derby Winner in the Last Five Years? Find Out in this Exclusive Forecast. Courtesy of [HorsePlayer Magazine](#):*

For the third straight year, I am providing The HorsePlayer Magazine with a detailed analysis of the four definitive Kentucky Derby prep races run this year in the U.S. Working closely with longtime Wizard staff member Jeff Rosenberg, I have provided you the most comprehensive, creative and original charts for each of these races.

In each chart you will find a "scouting report," including basic race conditions and my keen observations on track biases (both path and running-style) and the quality of each horse's performance.

But why should you listen to me?

I have been practicing the art of handicapping since 1966. In 1987 I began selling my selections professionally at Aqueduct, Belmont and Saratoga. Two years later, I began selling my products online through BRIS (Bloodstock Research Information Services). In the ensuing years, I came to realize that to be successful in the Thoroughbred selection-sheet business, I had to produce products that complemented the rise of multi-track full-card simulcasting.

So I began to produce selection sheets for all the major circuits, providing solid selections and well-written analysis. It was a start, but I still had a long way to go. I felt there was a great need for selection sheets that focused not on one particular circuit, but all the circuits a simulcast player encountered.

The result is three products. "The Wizard's Pick Three, Pick Six and Trifecta Sheet," pinpoint the strongest plays at major tracks for these three exotic wagers. I provide detailed wagering strategies for all the plays, mapping out tickets where a small wager could yield a nice score.

Similar wagering strategies can be found in my second product, "The Wizard's National Simulcast Best Bets Sheet," listing at least 10 very strong plays from around the country.

And my third daily product, the only one of the three available seven days a week, is called "The Pick of the Day". To my amazement, it has quickly developed into a huge hit.

When I roll out a product, it is months in the making, and I try to come up with a product that I as a bettor would find useful. I felt that giving a single play, the one I thought was the best in the entire county, and limiting it to a horse who was 4-1 or higher on the morning line, would be a benefit to the customer who wanted to make but one solid play, instead of getting involved in multiple plays.

The beauty of this product is that many of these "Pick of the Day" plays have come from racetracks for which I do not have daily selection sheets. I look at 20 to 30 races a day, focusing in on the types of races for which I excel.

In addition to these selection-sheet products, I produce "Triple Crown and Breeders' Cup Scouting Reports," which give the customer an insight into horses' performances from the viewpoint of a professional handicapper.

Every Thursday, I write a column titled "Looking Into The Wizard's Crystal Ball," available free of charge in the Handicappers Edge newsletter, available from the BRISNET Web site, [www.brisnet.com](http://www.brisnet.com), where all my previous days' selection-sheet products can be viewed at no charge.

Additionally, I maintain my own Web site at [www.wizardpicks.com](http://www.wizardpicks.com), which contains, among other things, my bio, an archive of the past six months of my various products and a no-holds-barred weekly newsletter. All the services on wizardpicks.com are free and are my way of giving back

And, yes, I did select Silver Charm, Real Quiet and Fusaichi Pegasus in the Derby in recent years.

So that's what I bring to the Kentucky Derby handicapping process. But now it's time to polish the crystal ball and peer inside...

## WEST

GRADE I, \$750,000 SANTA ANITA DERBY

DATE: April 6, 2002

TRACK: Santa Anita

TRACK CONDITION: Fast

PATH BIAS: None

RUNNING STYLE BIAS: No bias

DISTANCE: 1 1/8 miles (two turns)

FRACTIONAL TIMES: 23.18, 46.92, 1:10.95, 1:36.70, 1:50.02

### ORDER OF FINISH AND MARGINS:

1. CAME HOME
2. Easy Grades 2-1/4
3. Lusty Latin 3
4. Mayakovsky 4
5. U S S Tinoso 5-1/2
6. Jack's Silver 6-1/2
7. Proud Citizen 9
8. Danthebluegrassman 11

### RACE SYNOPSIS:

**CAME HOME** stalked the pace in third while a bit off the rail, bid between horses on the far turn and into the stretch, gained a short lead by the eighth pole, then steadily pulled clear under strong handling while also drifting in a bit late. **EASY GRADES** stalked the pace in fourth while wide early, advanced three-wide into the far turn, bid three-wide into the lane, but could not match the winner past the furlong pole. **LUSTY LATIN** was bumped at the start, rated back in last until near the stretch, came wide into the lane and picked up the pieces late for third. **MAYAKOVSKY** stumbled at the start but recovered and pulled to the lead, angled in and set the pace along the rail, fought back when collared from the quarter pole to the eighth pole, but weakened thereafter and lost third late. **U S S TINOSA** was squeezed a bit at the start, steadied when in tight on the first turn, rated off the pace, but could never mount a challenge. **JACK'S SILVER** was in tight along the inside early, settled on the backstretch, but was never much of a factor. **PROUD CITIZEN** stalked the pace in second early, fell back a bit into the far turn, and tired thereafter. **DANTHEBLUEGRASSMAN** broke out and bumped with **LUSTY LATIN**, was rank between horses and almost ran up on the heels of horses in front of him, made a bit of a move leaving the backstretch, but then steadily retreated.

### LOOKING FORWARD:

It's apparently become fashionable among many writers in the racing business to bash Came Home for winning a "weak" Santa Anita Derby that was run in "slow" time. That's OK by me; such scrutiny will only serve to help keep his odds reasonable for those of us who still consider him to be a top Kentucky Derby contender. I'll admit that I had my reservations about a son of Gone West continuing to progress as the distances increased, particularly since his dam was primarily a sprinter. However, all year I've proclaimed that this colt is the best three-year-old in the west, and perhaps in the country, in terms of raw ability. I've been even more impressed this year as he's matured and shown the ability to sit off the pace patiently, as opposed to last year, when he had to go, go, go from the start.

Now, I'm not suggesting that raw ability in and of itself will be enough to win the Kentucky Derby, but in a "down" year for three-year-olds, with no standouts at all among the crop, it just might be. Came Home, aside from his ill-fated Breeders' Cup race, when he engaged in a suicidal speed duel, has done anything and everything asked of him. He has shipped across the country and won, has stretched out to two turns and won twice, and has overcome a number of obstacles in the Santa Anita Derby to prove best yet again. And let's not forget who's training him: Paco Gonzalez knows a thing or two about getting a horse ready for the Kentucky Derby; both Free House and Mane Minister more than held their own when finishing third. Gonzalez and Came Home's owners have been very realistic about their colt's progress this year, and at no time did they commit him to the Kentucky Derby until after they were convinced that he could continue to succeed as the distances of his races increased.

As for Came Home's win in this race, I alluded above to some obstacles he had to overcome. He missed some training time before the race after becoming cast in his stall one morning, and was surely not 100 percent cranked up because of it. He was also dealing with a previously undisclosed foot problem that sprang up two days before the race. Came Home tore off a shoe in a Thursday morning gallop that could very well have prevented him from starting, but ultimately didn't. "The foot came up a little sore, it was pretty hot," Gonzalez said. "I soaked it, and soaked it, and by the time of the race, he was fine." Came Home also came out of the Santa Anita Derby with a bit of a fever, which had subsided three days after the race. Did any of the Came Home bashers take the time to consider any of these circumstances before criticizing him for "only" winning by a couple of lengths while getting a slow final furlong in 13.32 seconds? Evidently not. I believe that Came Home can only move forward off this race, assuming that things go a bit more smoothly leading up to the Kentucky Derby. Let the speed-figure enthusiasts and pedigree pundits knock him from here to Louisville. Personally, I just might end up hanging my hat on this colt who's shown as much heart, raw talent and versatility as any other member of his generation.

EASY GRADES also had a legitimate excuse that could lead one to believe that he'll move forward in his next start, which will most likely be the Kentucky Derby. His bit was apparently attached improperly, giving his new rider, Gary Stevens, diminished control over his mount's actions and direction. Stevens equated it with losing about four lengths. I don't know about that, but any disadvantage like that has to be considered in the overall context of the horse's performance, which was a solid second-place finish. Easy Grades is still lightly raced and eligible for further improvement, although I'm not particularly enthused about trainer Ted H. West, an overall solid conditioner, getting a horse ready for the Triple Crown.

LUSTY LATIN is being considered for the Kentucky Derby after coming on late to gain third at 47-1, but his rally was more a function of him picking off tired horses than it was of him actually finishing with any real authority. This former claimer is not high on my list of contenders.

None of the other five horses exiting this race are expected to make it to the starting gate of the Kentucky Derby. MAYAKOVSKY will probably start next in the Derby Trial Stakes, run at a mile at Churchill Downs a week before the Derby. Trainer Patrick Biancone had his suspicions about his colt's possible distance limitations confirmed in the Santa Anita Derby. "I didn't know if he could get the mile-and-an-eighth," Biancone said. "Fortunately, when he stumbled he didn't hurt himself. He's 100 percent. The horse is most important." Plans for U S S TINOSA were unclear as of this writing, although trainer Jerry Hollendorfer did not rule out the Kentucky Derby. Hollendorfer felt that U S S Tinosa's trouble in the Santa Anita Derby might have been significant enough to warrant giving him another chance in the Kentucky Derby. I disagree, and if he goes, will toss him out of consideration completely in my wagers. JACK'S SILVER, still a maiden, will be pointed for the \$250,000 Snow Chief Stakes for Cal-breds at Hollywood Park on April 28. PROUD CITIZEN was expected to ship to Kentucky, but will not run in the Derby. DANTHEBLUEGRASSMAN will be pointed for the Lone Star Derby on May 11, according to his trainer, Bob Baffert.

#### **MIDWEST**

GRADE I, \$750,000 TOYOTA BLUE GRASS STAKES

DATE: April 13, 2002

TRACK: Keeneland

TRACK CONDITION: Fast

PATH BIAS: None

RUNNING STYLE BIAS: None

DISTANCE: 1 1/8 miles (two turns)

FRACTIONAL TIMES: 22.95, 47.09, 1:11.86, 1:37.96, 1:51.51

#### **ORDER OF FINISH AND MARGINS:**

1. HARLAN'S HOLIDAY
2. Booklet 4-1/2
3. Ocean Sound 4-3/4
4. Straight Gin 6
5. Bob's Image 20
6. Azillion 31

#### **RACE SYNOPSIS:**

**HARLAN'S HOLIDAY** came out at the start and soundly bumped with **BOB'S IMAGE**. Harlan's Holiday quickly recovered to track the leaders while kept well off the rail, edged closer about three-wide nearing the end of the backstretch, collared leader **BOOKLET** at the quarter pole, reached the front upon entering the stretch, was put to a drive soon after, and responded to draw clear in the final furlong while much the best. **BOOKLET** broke on top but then was eased back to avoid a duel with **BOB'S IMAGE**. Booklet pressed that rival while two-wide, settled into his best stride nearing the end of the backstretch, gained a slight lead entering the second turn, fought back for a while after being collared near the quarter pole by the winner, then grudgingly weakened in the drive, holding off **OCEAN SOUND** for the place. **OCEAN SOUND** came out at the start and bumped with **STRAIGHT GIN**, settled in behind horses three-wide while stalking the pace, swung out five-wide entering the stretch, and made a late bid for second. **STRAIGHT GIN** leaned in at the break and bumped with Ocean Sound, was pinched back in tight quarters soon after, angled near the inside, saved ground, edged closer on the far turn, came out four-wide to make a run in upper stretch, but then flattened out in the final furlong. **BOB'S IMAGE** bumped with Harlan's Holiday at the start, moved quickly to vie for the lead inside of **BOOKLET**, gained the advantage entering the first turn, made the pace for six furlongs, but then gradually weakened. **AZILLION** was never a factor in a dull effort.

#### **LOOKING FORWARD:**

The final time of this race, 1:51.51, made it the slowest Blue Grass in 14 years. Although the track was rated as "fast," it was on the slow side, as it had been drying out all day following heavy rains the previous night. While this made for slower times all day, comparisons between the time of the Blue Grass and other races on the card still point it out as being relatively slow. For instance, one race earlier on the card, the promising three-year-old filly Alternate won a first-level allowance race gate-to-wire at a mile-and-a-sixteenth, posting the following fractions: 23.59, 48.17, 1:13.18, 1:38.46, 1:45.04. Her mile fractional split was only half a second slower than the Blue Grass, and her projected final time, if her race was at the same distance, would have been only about 3/5 of a second slower than the Blue Grass. That may not bode well for Harlan's Holiday in the Kentucky Derby, as his previous win in the Florida Derby was also accomplished in rather ordinary time.

Harlan's Holiday may go off as a false favorite in the Kentucky Derby. While he's been a gem of consistency, having won six of his 10 starts, with four seconds, he hasn't run into any of the horses that will provide his main competition in the Kentucky Derby. Harlan's Holiday has already established his class, consistency and ability to adapt to different racing surfaces. He won a Grade III race over the Churchill strip as a two-year-old, and has been training extremely well over that surface since shipping to Kentucky, so we know the track should be to his liking. He also projects to sit a good stalking trip once again in the Derby, as he has in his last two starts. The bottom line: Is he fast enough to win the Derby? He might be, but he'll have to improve a few lengths again to do so, and I don't think he will. At projected underlaid odds in the Derby, I'll be taking my shots against him winning.

OCEAN SOUND responded well to rating tactics by new rider Eddie Delahoussaye, and finished nicely to just miss second. However, losing by five lengths in a relatively slow race doesn't suggest that Ocean Sound's prospects in the Derby would be that bright, if he does go on to that race. Also, he'd lose Delahoussaye, who's committed to ride Perfect Drift.

Nick Zito's STRAIGHT GIN probably needs to go back to the allowance ranks for more seasoning before he takes on stakes company again. He finished a well-beaten fifth in the Spiral, and was really never much of a factor. He has potential down the road.

## **SOUTH**

GRADE II, \$500,000 ARKANSAS DERBY

DATE: April 13, 2002

TRACK: Oaklawn

TRACK CONDITION: Fast

PATH BIAS: Outside paths had a slight advantage; the rail was dull.

RUNNING STYLE BIAS: None

DISTANCE: 1 1/8 miles (two turns)

FRACTIONAL TIMES: 23.22, 47.64, 1:12.26, 1:37.53, 1:50.20

### **ORDER OF FINISH AND MARGINS:**

1. PRIVATE EMBLEM
2. Wild Horses 4-1/2
3. Windward Passage 5-3/4
4. Bay Monster 5-3/4
5. Holdthehelm 6-1/4
6. Mr. Mellon 7-1/4
7. Dusty Spike 7-3/4
8. Gold Dollar 8-1/4
9. It'sallinthechase 11-1/4
10. Outstander 13-1/2
11. Guppie's Secret 18-1/2

*NOTE: Windward Passage and Bay Monster dead-heated for third.*

### **RACE SYNOPSIS:**

**PRIVATE EMBLEM** showed good speed from the start from his outermost post while stalking the pace three-wide. He advanced on the far turn, challenged for the lead into the stretch, then kicked clear with authority in the final furlong while remaining off the rail. **WILD HORSES** settled a bit off the pace inside, was stalled in traffic on the far turn, had his rider lose the whip when in tight entering the stretch, then made a move between horses when he found room to finish nicely for a clear second while his rider used his goggles in place of the whip. **WINDWARD PASSAGE** was rated in the back half of the field, came six-wide into the stretch, and finished willingly to earn a dead heat for the show.

**PRIVATE EMBLEM** had to overcome the difficult outermost post, as well as a three-wide trip, yet let neither obstacle get in his way as he won his third straight stakes race, and first graded stakes. Previously, he had won the faster division of the Southwest Stakes over a muddy track here at Oaklawn. While the post was a tough one in this race, the three-wide trip may have actually been a benefit, as the rail was on the dull side all day, and most riders were trying to avoid it. Private Emblem was clearly best in this race as he kicked away with complete authority inside the eighth pole. Steve Asmussen is a terrific trainer, and I'm certain that Private Emblem will enter the gate for this year's Kentucky Derby as good as hands can make him. However, Asmussen has stated that Private Emblem is the type that needs time between races, which is why he was given six weeks between the Southwest Stakes and the Arkansas Derby. With only three weeks rest heading into the Kentucky Derby, I have to doubt that Private Emblem can move forward off this race, and he may not even be able to run back to it.

**WILD HORSES** could be the best Derby prospect to emerge from this race, although that's not saying a whole lot. The lightly raced son of Saint Ballado definitely moved forward here off his second in the Rushaway, and did so while suffering a tough trip in the latter stages. He was nicely rated down the backstretch, but was down along the duller rail much of the time, then hit plenty of traffic on the far turn. He also had his rider lose the whip trying to make his way through the crossfire of tiring and advancing horses on the far turn and into the stretch. Despite all of that, Wild Horses emerged from the pack to finish with good energy for second.

It's unclear whether WINDWARD PASSAGE will continue on to the Kentucky Derby off his third-place finish. His owner, Team Valor Stables, who campaigned his sire, Captain Bodgit, in the Triple Crown, doesn't have a colt of that same caliber here. BAY MONSTER certainly outran his 33-1 odds, but has never done anything to suggest that he's Triple Crown material. HOLDTHEHELM may be a better horse on turf, where he was probably best in the Grade III Baldwin in his previous start.

#### **EAST**

GRADE I, \$750,000 WOOD MEMORIAL

DATE: April 13, 2002

TRACK: Aqueduct

TRACK CONDITION: Fast

PATH BIAS: None

RUNNING STYLE BIAS: None

DISTANCE: 1 1/8 miles (two turns)

FRACTIONAL TIMES: 23.84, 46.98, 1:10.14, 1:35.19, 1:48.61

#### **ORDER OF FINISH AND MARGINS:**

1. BUDDHA
2. Medaglia d'Oro head
3. Sunday Break 3/4
4. Saarland 3-1/2
5. Blue Burner 5-1/2
6. Iwin 26
7. Nokoma 28
8. Laissezaller DNF

#### **RACE SYNOPSIS:**

**BUDDHA** was close-up along the inside from the start while in tight and steadying a bit on the first turn. He pressed pacesetter **MEDAGLIA D'ORO** along the backstretch while saving his rail position, made his bid in earnest entering the far turn, stuck his head in front passing the eighth pole, dug in resolutely on the rail, and proved best after a long drive, galloping out strongly ahead of the field past the wire. **MEDAGLIA D'ORO** was sent for the lead while remaining two-wide, held a slim lead while under mild pressure from **BUDDHA** along the backstretch, battled gamely while between rivals through the stretch, but was outfinished in the final furlong. **SUNDAY BREAK** raced close up three-wide, ranged up three-wide to join the leaders on the second turn, couldn't quite stay with the top two as they quickened in upper stretch, and finished gamely while still three-wide through the lane. **SAARLAND** was bumped after the start, dropped back early and trailed the field for nearly six furlongs, advanced four-wide on the second turn, then put in a decent rally to gain about three or four lengths through the stretch, but was not a threat to the top three. **BLUE BURNER** raced five-wide on the first turn, put in a three-wide run on the second turn, but flattened out in the stretch.

#### **LOOKING FORWARD:**

I believe that this race was clearly the strongest of all the Kentucky Derby preps held this year. Not only was the field very strong, but the time of the race was also quite good. There was only one other route race run on dirt on the same card. In that race, older NW3x allowance males ran a mile in 1:35.41, a tick slower than the mile split of the Wood. While the final furlong of the Wood was run in a relatively slow :13.42, one must keep in mind that there was also a headwind in the stretch, which made for fairly slow final quarter miles the whole day.

The Wood has produced the last two Kentucky Derby winners, and 19 overall. I believe this year it will add one more Kentucky Derby winner to the list.

**BUDDHA**, making his stakes debut, received a brilliant ride from Pat Day, who was wise not to let Medaglia d'Oro steal away to an easy lead. He had Buddha eyeballing Medaglia d'Oro most of the way down the backstretch, as both he and Laffit Pincay Jr. each waited for the right moment to set their colts down for the drive. Neither gave an inch through a torrid stretch duel. However, in the end, not only did Buddha prevail, but he also galloped out more strongly than anyone else in the field, a point which should be given much weight when one is considering how to translate the results of this race into the context of the Kentucky Derby, which is a furlong longer.

Horses as lightly raced as Buddha (four starts heading into the Kentucky Derby) don't have a good history of success in the first leg of the Triple Crown. However, this is not your typical year. There have been no dominant three-year-olds, and the Kentucky Derby is ripe to be plucked by a rapidly improving horse under the care of a top trainer. Buddha had won his first two starts of the year very easily over non-stakes company. He was untested in those two wins, so questions remained as to how he would respond when asked to reach down and dig in through the stretch drive against Grade I animals. Buddha set aside any remaining questions when he refused to lose, showing professionalism and determination while being kept down on the rail the entire time. The winner of this year's best prep race has every right to move forward again in the Kentucky Derby, where he may actually get a better trip. In that race I'd expect him to be able to assume a more comfortable stalking position a bit more off the pace, rather than have to do all of the work while keeping the frontrunners honest, as was the case in the Wood.

Bobby Frankel had every reason to be pleased with the effort of his colt MEDAGLIA D'ORO. "Secretariat got beat too, just remember that," said Frankel, making reference to the fact that Secretariat finished third in the 1973 Wood before winning the Triple Crown. "I thought he ran great. I was very happy with his race." While comparisons with Secretariat are a bit premature, the fact is that Medaglia d'Oro was making just his fourth career start, and was facing the toughest field of his young career. He showed heart and determination through the entire stretch while between horses, and proved his San Felipe win to be no fluke. He's improved with each of his four career starts, each one coming over a different racetrack. Bobby Frankel finally has a legitimate chance to win the Kentucky Derby, one of the few jewels of racing that has eluded him throughout his illustrious career.

SUNDAY BREAK, adding bandages for protection (not unusual for Drysdale to do), sat a great stalking trip behind the top two throughout, and appeared as if he could take advantage of the perfect trip as he loomed a threat three-wide in upper stretch. Although he never could get by the top two, this race signified a major step forward who just 17 days earlier looked as green and goofy as a horse possibly could when beating a weak allowance field by just a length. Trainer Neil Drysdale has a way of working wonders with "problem" horses (remember Fusaichi Pegasus?), and also may be the best in the business at pointing a horse for one big race. Looking deeper into Sunday Break's pedigree, I'm convinced that he has more stamina in his blood than one would assume from a son of Forty Niner, and that he should be able to navigate the 10 furlongs of the Derby.

SAARLAND, like the top three finishers, will go on to Louisville. I didn't expect him to win this race, which, by design, was simply part of trainer Shug McGaughey's plan to get Saarland into a position to peak on Kentucky Derby day. Saarland still appears on target to do so, although he'll probably have to begin his drive a bit earlier than jockey John Velazquez chose to do so in this race. Saarland doesn't possess a lot of agility, or a quick turn of foot, and will have to grind it out and avoid traffic problems if he's to win the Kentucky Derby. However, in his favor is the fact that he has perhaps the best distance pedigree of any of this year's contenders, and that he's finished strongly in almost every one of his career starts. He also should get a fast pace in front of him in an expected full field at Churchill Downs. Don't discount him in the Derby off his fourth-place finish in this race, as that extra furlong could benefit Saarland more than any of his rivals.

As of this writing, no decision has been made as to whether or not BLUE BURNER will continue on to the Derby. While his nearly six-length margin of defeat in the Wood was not that disheartening, the fact that he was losing ground in the stretch was cause for concern. It also may have been a good gauge for the top four finishers in this race as compared to Harlan's Holiday, who beat Blue Burner by three-and-a-half lengths in the Florida Derby. If he does run in the Kentucky Derby, I'd be hard-pressed to back Blue Burner off this race.

#### **NOTES ON OTHER TOP CONTENDERS:**

As Derby contenders have fallen by the wayside for various reasons in recent weeks, the stock of **ESSENCE OF DUBAI** has quietly risen. He's won both starts this year, and will come into the Derby as the only winner at the mile-and-a-quarter distance. He showed determination and stamina when going from last to first to win the UAE Derby, running down a very good four-year-old horse in the process. Without any real standouts this year, he just might represent Godolphin's best chance to date. I'll be watching his workouts very closely in the weeks before the Derby. Conversely, the stock of last year's juvenile champion, **JOHANNESBURG**, has plummeted. If he runs in the Derby, it will be with but a single prep race under his girth, and that race was a nose loss to a four-year-old filly. Johannesburg had taken the lead in late stretch, but was run down from behind. That does little to convince me that he'll be ready to stretch out from that seven-furlong turf race to a 10-furlong dirt race. He's been given a very unconventional preparatory schedule this spring, and would be a major surprise to even hit the board in the Derby. **PERFECT DRIFT** looked like an improved horse under new rider Eddie Delahoussaye when coming from off the pace to win the Spiral, and will enter the Derby off works as a relatively fresh horse. At long odds, he's one to seriously consider, at least for spots underneath on exotics tickets.

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*Michael Kipness, aka "The Wizard," lives in Connecticut with his wife of 19 years and their three children. With three 45-inch monitors, two computers and several phone lines, he is able to view many of the races throughout the country and track the updated odds using BRIS Supertote. All races are taped and reviewed for trips, pace and bias information. The Wizard welcomes you to e-mail any questions to: [wizard@wizardpicks.com](mailto:wizard@wizardpicks.com)*

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