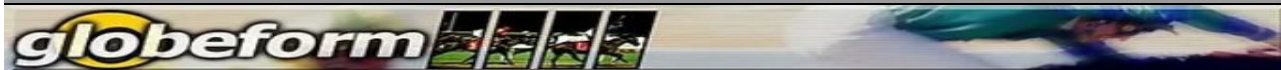


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GLOBEFORM RANKING

THE RAZORBACK HANDICAP (G2) 8.5 fur dirt, Oaklawn Park, Feb 23

Horses ranked in pounds (0.45kg). 1 length = 2 pounds over this distance

Rank	No.	Name of horse	Globeform	GF most recent runs	Trainer / Jockey
From right to left (most recent first)					
0	2	BANISHING	117	117 - 116	Jacobson / Prat
2	3	FIRST MISSION	118	96 - 111 - 118	B Cox / Geroux
6 / 11	1	CRUPI	113 / 108	108 - 103 - 95 - 113	Pletcher / Davis
6	5	SKINNER <i>GF 111 in Nov '23</i>	111	108 - 110 - 103+	DeVaux / J L Ortiz
6 / 17	10	COOKE CREEK <i>GF 109 in June '24</i>	109 / 98	96 - 98 - 108	Maker / I Ortiz Jr
7	9	HENRO <i>GF 108 in June '24</i>	108	98 - 106 - 98	Hartman / Bejarano
7	11	TONKA WARRIOR	107	94 - 106 - 107	Robertson / Esquivel
8 / 12	12	RED ROUTE ONE <i>GF 108 in July '24</i> <i>GF 112 in Mar '24</i>	112 / 108	91 - 99 / 108	S Asmussen / Torres
9	7	DIMATIC	106	101 - 106 - 85	S Asmussen / K Asmussen
10	4	ALEXANDER HELIOS	105	105 - 105 - ?+	Joseph Jr / Gaffalione
12p	8	BADDEST GOOD BOY	102p	102p - ?p	N Casse / Santana Jr
9 / 12	14	SEIZE THE NIGHT <i>GF 107 in Nov '23</i>	107 / 104	0 - 104 - 98	Milligan / H Hernandez
14	6	FULL SCREEN	101	101 - 101 - 92	M Casse / R Vazquez
9 / 17	13	CREATIVE MINISTER <i>GF 104 in Oct '23</i> <i>GF 114 in May '22</i>	104 / 96	96 - 86 - 95	McPeek / B Hernandez Jr

Most recent winners of the Razorback

2024	OCTANE	GF 108	Juan Alvarado	Julien Leparoux
2023	LAST SAMURAI	GF 116	D Wayne Lukas	Christian Torres
2022	PLAINSMAN	GF 114+	Brad Cox	Joel Rosario
2021	MYSTIC GUIDE	GF 122	Michael Stidham	Luis Saez
2020	WARRIOR'S CHARGE	GF 114p	Brad Cox	Florent Geroux

Average winning Globeform: 114.8

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GLOBEFORM ANALYSIS

BANISHING, a shrewd \$80,000 purchase from Godolphin at the Fasig-Tipton June Sale, started improving towards the end of last year, winning allowance races over 7 furlongs at Oaklawn Park and 6 furlongs at Churchill Downs, and he stepped up again when outclassing his rivals in the 6-furlong Byerley Turk Stakes at Oaklawn in January.

Racing by the rail, he was joined on the lead by two others going around the bend. Banishing was traveling marginally the best of the three but it was still interesting to note how relaxed he was. He did not get fired up by this three-way speed duel at all, something that tells us he has every chance of staying the Razorback distance of 8.5 furlongs. There's enough stamina in his pedigree to support this theory and he actually won twice over this distance as a younger horse - albeit in a much lower grade than this. He edged effortlessly ahead as they turned for home in the Byerley Turk, and drew off for an easy 7 1/2-length win under a hand ride. Pricking his ears when galloping out, Banishing seemed to have more left in the tank. Given that he performed to **Globeform 117** that's most encouraging. This son of Ghostzapper could well be capable of 120 though over what distance that barrier might be broken is not easy to say. We should not overlook the fact that his best form has come in sprints. Osbourne and Wendelsohn ran a dead-heat for second in the Byerley Turk. Osbourne was coming off a good allowance win at the same venue (beating **TONKA WARRIOR** by 1 length). Wendelsohn was also exiting an Oaklawn allowance win (by 3 1/4 lengths) and he repeated the feat ten days after the Byerley Turk (winning by 5 1/2 lengths). The Byerley Turk was only an overnight stakes but the form has worked out really well and if Banishing will be very hard to beat if he runs up to same form here. **7-2 morning line** looks very tempting this horse. Let's hope we get that sort of odds.

Note that Wendelsohn is set to run in the Commodore Stakes at Oaklawn on Monday

FIRST MISSION has not raced since performing well below his best to finish seventh in the Whitney Stakes at Saratoga last August. He ran no sort of a race there and perhaps something was amiss (he was absent from the work tab the next four months). He preceding run, in the Stephen Foster at Churchill Downs, was better; he ran fourth, 4 3/4 lengths behind Kingsbarns. His very best form, however, dates back to the Alysheba Stakes on Kentucky Oaks day at Churchill Downs, when he improved to **Globeform 118**. Like he had done in the Essex Stakes (over a fast track), he raced prominently throughout and won both veary easily, beating T O Saint Denis by 5 lengths. First Mission is well drawn in stall 3 to go forward here - it seems unlikely that Banishing (in stall 2) will take the lead, and there's not that much pace in the field otherwise, so First Mission is likely to get a good set up. Whether he is fully cranked up on his come back is another matter. With 3lbs more than Banishing he probably needs to be all of that to beat him.

CRUPI had no chance in the Pegasus World Cup and he drops down in class here - but he is also cutting back in distance, something that might not be to his liking. His inside post, with the prominent trio Banishing, Alexander Helios and First Mission to his outside, means that he is likely to drop back and have ground saving trip. Based on ratings, Crupi is in with a shot but 8.5 furlongs is a bit too short and he would need a hot pace to come into his own at the finish. He improved to **Globeform 113** as he finished well from off the pace to take second, 2 1/4 lengths behind Arthur's Ride (who he was spotting 4lbs) in the 9-furlong Whitney Stakes at Saratoga last summer.

RED ROUTE ONE's best performance to date, worth **Globeform 112**, came when he beat Touchuponastar by 2 lengths to capture the 9-furlong New Orleans Stakes at the Fair Grounds back in March 2024. Touchuponastar franked the form by winning a minor stakes on his next outing, and take second in the Sexton Mile after that. Like Crupi, Red Route One is a runner who needs a strong pace to close into, and he would also have a better chance over further. His two runs following a July to November break were both well below what he is capable of. After the New Orleans, he ran third in the Oaklawn Stakes and fourth in the Pimlico Special, then he won the Cornhusker Stakes over 9 furlongs at Prairie Meadows (beating next out stakes winner Unload by half a length). >>>

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SKINNER captured the Native Diver Stakes over 9 furlongs at Del Mar last November and, before being moved from John Shirreffs to Cherie DeVaux (whose team is in great form). Cherie ran him in the 8.5-furlong Louisiana Stakes at the Fair Grounds three weeks after the Native Diver. The track was sloppy and the race was won by Hit Show from Komorebino Omoid (who was a good second in the Mineshaft last weekend), while Skinner finished third. It was not quite up to his best but it was a good performance and Skinner is a horse who might improve this season. He was making only his second start of 2024 when beating Tarantino by a length in the Native Diver, winning the race with a strong run from off the pace. Tarantino advertised the form when running a good second to J B Strikes Back in the Laffit Pincay Jr Stakes a month later and Skinner is an interesting horse.

COOKE CREEK is a potential pace setter though post 10 could be problematic. His two best races last year, an easy allowance win over a fast track and a game runner-up effort, just a neck off of Hit Show, in the Lukas Classic over a sloppy track (both at Churchill Downs) represent form good enough to consider him as a Trifecta filler here, but his two most recent runs have been dull.

HENRO is a bit of a sneaky longshot in the Razorback. A good second to Otto the Conqueror over 6.5 furlongs at Churchill Downs last June, he went on to win the Iowa Derby over 8.5 furlongs the following month (beating Blue Grass runner-up Just a Touch by a head), and allowance win over 6 furlongs here at Oaklawn Park in December showed that he retains that sort of ability. He is a bit inconsistent though.

BADDEST GOOD BOY is the dark horse in the mix. With two wins from two starts, he is obviously open to improvement, though quite a big leap will be needed to match strides with Banishing and First Mission. This 4yo son of Bernardini won readily over 8.5 furlong at this venue in January - coming home 1 3/4 lengths in front of Lat Long, who was well clear of the third placed Gewurztraminer, who won on Tuesday. Lat Long is set to run in race 9 in Saturday.

GLOBEFORM SELECTIONS

A	2 BANISHING
B	3 FIRST MISSION, 5 SKINNER
C	8 BADDEST GOOD BOY, 9 HENRO

Banishing / Byerley Turk Stakes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=048beXCpFh0>

First Mission / Alysheba Stakes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ofRDuQp6bJ0>

Skinner / Native Diver Stakes: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xq6CYm0B_0A&t=6s

CHANGE | Races covered February 22 - March 2

Please note important schedule change; due to bad weather causing postponements / cancellations at Aqueduct, Oaklawn and Turfway Park this week (the Rebel card has been moved to Sunday) and the lack of suitable races at Gulfstream Park and Santa Anita, the Razorback will be the only race covered this week.

The good news is that the change means that there will be **10 Globeform previews next week**, when there will be plenty to choose from. Fountain of Youth day at Gulfstream Park and Big 'Cap day at Santa Anita both offer a high quality menu.