

15 March 2018

GLOBEFORM NEWS - DUBAI WORLD CUP SPECIAL

COUNTING DOWN TO DWC DAY, 31 MAR 2018

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كأس دبي العالمي
DUBAI WORLD CUP

UAE DERBY: MENDELSSOHN IN FOCUS



Mendelssohn winning the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf. Photo: Breeders' Cup Inc.

MENDELSSOHN, who was conceding five pounds (about 2.5kg) to his runner-up, stable companion Threeandfourpence, when making a winning reappearance in a Listed event at Dundalk three weeks prior to Dubai World Cup night, takes the most solid form into this year's UAE Derby. The win told us little new about the colt, other than the fact that he seems to have trained on at three. A half-brother to the high class mare Beholder, he



landed the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf at Del Mar on his final start last term. The form of that event has worked out quite well since, with Catholic Boy (fourth) taking the Remsen Stakes at Aqueduct next time out, My Boy Jack (seventh) capturing the 2018 Southwest Stakes at Oaklawn Park and Flameaway (eighth) winning the Sam F. Davis and running second in the Tampa Bay Derby this winter.

Trained by Aidan O'Brien, the \$3 million purchase Mendelssohn was second, 2 ½ lengths behind another stablemate, U S Navy Flag, when going off at 50-1 for the prestigious Dewhurst Stakes over 7 furlongs at Newmarket before heading to Del Mar, where he adapted well to the course, was given a peach of a ride by Ryan Moore, and ran out a game one-length winner from Untamed Domain, who had won the Summer Stakes at Woodbine on his previous outing.

The UAE Derby represents new challenges for Mendelssohn. Two 'unknowns' come into the picture; the surface and the distance. He has yet to race over a dirt track and he has never run further than 8.5 furlongs. He is certainly bred to act on dirt, and also to stay further than what he has tried so far – and he has shown himself to be efficient over tracks as different as Newmarket (straight 7-fur course), Del Mar (left handed run around two turns with a short home stretch), Dundalk (left-handed polytrack venue) and the Curragh (where he won his maiden over a mile last August). If he handles the dirt, something one would assume his trainer is confident of, he will go very close here. Mendelssohn has quite a prominent running style – and that has been advantageous at Meydan lately.

A strong, scopey sort, Mendelssohn was foaled as last as on May 17, and there is every reason to believe he will progress as a three-year-old. Whether is will be good enough to make an impact in the Kentucky Derby is hard to say, but he will probably take all the beating in the UAE Derby – a race his connections hope will book his ticket to Churchill Downs in early May.

Attached: Mendelssohn's pedigree page – Keeneland Sep 2016



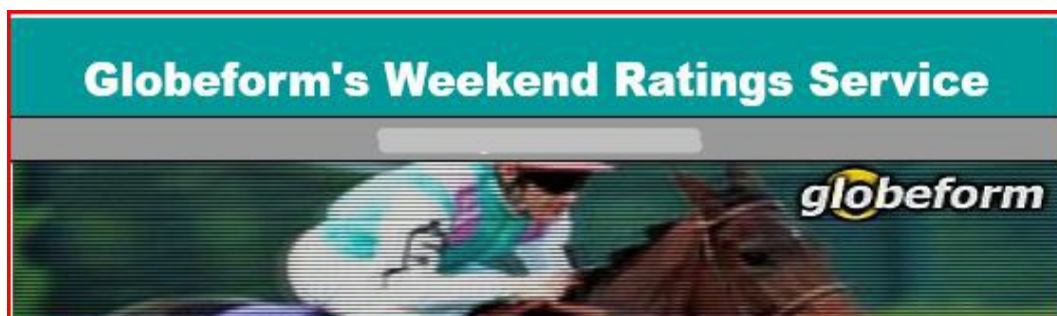
PROJECTED RUNNERS

UAE DERBY (G2)

1900 m / 9.5 furlongs dirt

ALL OUT BLITZ
GOLD TOWN
GOTTI
LAST VOYAGE
MACHISMO
MENDELSSOHN
RERIDE
RUGGERO
SEAHENGE
TAIKI FERVEUR
THREEANDFOURPENCE
YULONG WARRIOR

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|--|---------------------------|-----------|------------------|--------------------|
| Saturday March 10, 2018 | | | | |
| GLOBEFORM RANKING | | | | |
| SANTA ANITA HANDICAP (G1) 10 furlongs dirt, Santa Anita Park, 10 Mar 2018 | | | | |
| Horses ranked in pounds. 1 length = 2 pounds over this distance | | | | |
| Rank | Horse | Globeform | Rank past 3 runs | Trainer / Jockey |
| 0 | HOPPERTUNITY | 119* | 0 - 4 - 7 | Baffert / Prat |
| 3 | GIANT EXPECTATIONS | 115 | 3 - 8 - 7 | Eurton / Stevens |
| 7 | MUBTAAHIJ | 116 / 114 | 7 - 9 - 11 | Baffert / Van Dyke |

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| Saturday March 10, 2018 | |
| EXPLANATORY NOTES | |
| Rank (ranking): Horse best in at the weights (compared to Globeform ratings) is top ranked with rank figure "0" (zero), and all others ranked down in pounds (lbs), i.e. "3" rank means that the horse is 3 pounds worse off than the top ranked horse. The higher the 'rank figure' the worse off the horse is in this race – based on previous form. | |
| Rank past 3 runs: How the horse would be ranked in this race based on his three most recent runs (from left to right). For example: "0 - 4 - 7" would tell us that the horse is top ranked and ran to his best GF rating three starts back ("0") but ran 4lbs below that form on his penultimate race and 7lbs below on his most recent start. This column shows whether the horse is consistent, whether the horse has good recent form, and whether the horse has been progressing / regressing in his most recent races. "X" = ran too badly to get a rating. | |
| Globeform (GF): The horse's best Globeform rating. In cases where it is relevant two GF ratings may be given (i.e. 119 / 114) and this means that the horse has run to GF 119 in the past but it's a long time ago, and the best rating in his more recent form is GF 114. | |
| Globeform Rating codes used | |
| p = improvement expected | |
| P = significant improvement expected | |
| ? = provisional rating or uncertain form | |
| * = best GF rating was achieved over today's distance | |