

Welcome to **The Post Parade**, the free newsletter from Pride's Picks. Every issue: one racing lesson, recent big-race results, a true story from racing history, and a quick fact for the rail. No picks here, just a better eye for the game.

Racing 101: Win, Place, Show & the Exacta

Every bet starts with these four. All examples use a \$2 base bet, the standard at most U.S. tracks.

BET	YOU WIN IF YOUR HORSE...	WHY PLAY IT
Win	finishes 1st	Biggest payout of the three straight bets.
Place	finishes 1st or 2nd	Two ways to cash; pays less than Win.
Show	finishes 1st, 2nd or 3rd	Safest straight bet; smallest payout.
Exacta	you pick the 1st and 2nd finishers in exact order	Bigger payouts. An exacta "box" covers both orders but costs twice as much.

Why payouts move: U.S. racing uses pari-mutuel betting. All the money bet goes into a pool, the track takes its cut, and the rest is split among the winning tickets. Odds keep changing until the gate opens, and the Place and Show pools get shared among more than one horse, so those payouts are smaller.

Recent Results: A Big Fall Stakes Weekend (Oct. 2–3)

RACE	WINNER	JOCKEY / TRAINER	THE STORY
Darley Alcibiades (G1), 2yo fillies	Emphatic	Tyler Gaffalione / Brendan Walsh	Led early and held off favored Summer Starlet to earn a Breeders' Cup spot.
Stoll Keenon Ogden Phoenix (G2), 6f	Nakatomi	Irad Ortiz Jr. / Wesley Ward	A 7-year-old gelding winning this race for the second straight year, by a length. Old horses can still fire.
Breeders' Futurity (G1), 2yo	American History	John Velazquez / Todd Pletcher	Broke slowly, then rallied from last to win by a length.
American Pharoah (G1), Santa Anita, 2yo	Hughes	J. Hernandez / Bob Baffert	Won by six lengths as the 3-10 favorite and is now 4-for-4.
Frizette (G1), Belmont at Aqueduct, 2yo fillies	Dotsy	Kendrick Carmouche / John Grabowski	Upset the favorite by 2¾ lengths and paid \$25.02 on a \$2 win bet.

Sources: keeneland.com (Oct. 2, 2026 recap); TwinSpires Edge results; America's Best Racing "Ten Key Takeaways"; Santa Anita Oct. 3 nightly recap. Breeders' Cup results will be in Issue #2.

History: The Match Race of the Century

Pimlico, November 1, 1938. The country was split. In one corner stood **War Admiral**, son of Man o' War and the 1937 Triple Crown winner: tall, fast and royally bred. In the other stood **Seabiscuit**, a small, knobby-kneed horse who had lost race after race before trainer Tom Smith and owner Charles Howard turned him into the people's champion during the Depression.

Everyone expected War Admiral, a famously quick starter, to take the lead and keep it. Seabiscuit's camp had other ideas. His regular rider, Red Pollard, was out injured, but Pollard told the substitute, George "The Iceman" Woolf, how to beat the Admiral: get out fast, then let him come to you. Smith had even trained Seabiscuit to break sharply to a bell, like the one used to start the match race.

Seabiscuit shot to the lead. War Admiral drew level down the backstretch, and the two ran head to head. Then, as the story goes, Woolf let War Admiral look him in the eye before asking for more. Seabiscuit pulled away to win by about four lengths in front of a packed Pimlico crowd while tens of millions listened on the radio.

The Pride's Picks takeaway: pedigree isn't everything. Seabiscuit had heart, the right plan and a veteran rider who knew what to do.

Sources: Wikipedia, "Seabiscuit" and "War Admiral"; Laura Hillenbrand, *Seabiscuit: An American Legend* (2001); Pimlico Race Course history.

QUICK FACT · Secretariat's 1973 Belmont Stakes time of 2:24 for 1½ miles still stands as the race record. He won by 31 lengths, more than half a century ago.

Want picks for every race?

Pride's Picks members choose their tracks and race days and get Win/Place/Show and Exacta picks for every race on the card, emailed as a PDF before first post.

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