

## GULFSTREAM ANALYSIS

By KENNY PECK



**BEST BET: Kiernan's Legacy (4th race)**

**First Race: 1. Can't Stop Lovin 2. Maria's Daughters 3. Slam's Honor**

CAN'T STOP LOVIN is from a barn which shows a flat-bet profit with turf sprinters, and these races are usually won by specialists in the field; the young sire already has two winners from his first seven runners to try the grass and though her siblings were best on dirt this filly does figure to handle the surface switch. MARIA'S DAUGHTERS turns back from routes but the barn does well with such runners, and though this filly has been away since November she's been working well; needs to stay close from the start. SLAM'S HONOR and NIKIMOTO are both firsters from the barn of Wesley Ward, who has been on fire with debuting 2-year-olds this year; the barn also does well with turf runners and SLAM'S HONOR, at least, is kin to several runners who scored on the grass in Europe.

**Second Race: 1. Can't Watch 2. Winter Weather 3. Papal Decree**

CAN'T WATCH didn't break well in his debut and that cost him, as he was never able to recover, but given an alert beginning here he could prove tough, as there's not a whole lot of pace in this race and a forward trip would be a big edge; the dam was a horse who had success early in her career, winning her debut and capturing a stakes race as a 2-year-old. WINTER WEATHER is the other candidate to set the pace in here, and given his inside post and proven speed he may be more likely to shake loose than that top pick; best career Beyer was when he clear on the lead at 5 1/2f, a race he lost right on the wire. PAPAL DECREE gave way as the favorite when last seen but he posted another Beyer in the high 40's, and those figures give him a serious chance in here, especially considering his ability to stay close. CUVÉE ROUGE is the main danger but he takes a suspicious drop off the layoff and the 59 Beyer he earned in his debut came over a synthetic surface.

**Third Race: 1. Sun Scorpion 2. Intaglio 3. Pop Panebianco**

SUN SCORPION had little chance to close ground late in that last one; the pace was set by loose-on-the-lead Vegetarian Soldier, a huge longshot who lasted thanks to the extremely slow splits, but this gelding ran deceptively well there given the race flow, and he should offer some value today. INTAGLIO has the best Beyers in the field and is the one to fear in here as a result; short layoff and move into a \$20,000 claimer a small concern but other than that the expected short price is the lone knock. POP PANEBIANCO got caught up in a duel and tired in his local debut but he ran well in defeat in his other two starts on the turf, at Tampa; could get brave if he gets away with an unpressured lead.

**Fourth Race: 1. Kiernan's Legacy 2. Chicken Wing 3. Quick and Easy**

KIERNAN'S LEGACY disappointed as the odds-on favorite in his return from the layoff but a slow start cost him, and he weakened when he was unable to make the lead; this is a very good spot for him in terms of race flow, as there's little speed in the field, and if he can just get away cleanly he figures to shake loose and control the tempo. CHICKEN WING has the rail and a little speed, and that can go a long way given the expected pace scenario; seems to be rounding into his best form. QUICK AND EASY could be the main threat in the lane, and he figures to improve off his last couple since he comes off races against open claimers; looms tough if an unexpected duel develops between the top pair.

**Fifth Race: 1. Grand Cash 2. Leather 3. Built to Precision**

GRAND CASH was no threat when last seen but he didn't get a lot of help from the pacesetters in that one, and as a stone closer that's what he needs; ENTERTAINING and BUILT TO PRECISION, among others, figure to battle it out early on, and a race-long duel between those runners would set GRAND CASH up for a situation where he can run to his best Beyers, which are good enough to win this. LEATHER didn't run badly at all in his turf debut, making a run in the lane before weakening late; that 66 Beyer puts him in the thick of this, and the expected race flow also seems to work to his advantage. BUILT TO PRECISION was caught up in a duel in that last one, and that cost him any chance, but he may be just faster out of the gate than the filly ENTERTAINING, and if he can shake loose he stands a chance at wiring these.

**Sixth Race: 1. Sneak Peek 2. Grand Black Jak 3. Love On a Wire**

SNEAK PEEK goes back to the main track after running into trouble on the grass in his latest and he seems to be very well spotted in his first start for a tag, as his Beyers are best in this field; ability to lead or rate a plus, and the barn does very well with blinkers, which are added today, as well as with horses making this class drop. GRAND BLACK JAK has seemed to improve with each start, and though he's widest here he's shown that he has the tactical speed to get position; looms a threat given a forward trip in this one-turn mile, which lacks an obvious pace scenario. LOVE ON A WIRE makes his first start off the claim for trainer Peter Walder, which makes him a contender by default, given the barn's record with such runners; stone close does need help from the pacesetters, though.

**Seventh Race: 1. Schleprock 2. Myroslaw 3. Grace's Spirit**

SCHLEPROCK made a big middle move in his return from the short layoff, and though he weakened there it was a solid effort, since he was in against better and he was trying to close into a slow pace; drop in class and improved race flow can make all the difference for him today. MYROSLAW was just up in his latest, his 2nd start on the turf, and he's run well each time; barn does well with last-out winners and that last Beyer fits nicely in this spot. GRACE'S SPIRIT was in a tough spot in the Hallandale Beach Stakes in his last appearance on the green, as that was a deep field, but he wasn't disgraced; much better spot here, clearly, and he has lots of room to improve.

**Eighth Race: 1. Whos Crying Now 2. Mystery Prospect 3. B. B. Best**

WHOS CRYING NOW is almost always a big price but he's worth a long look in this claimer, since he won for this tag two back and his Beyers are on par with the favorites in here; nice work since that last one, which has proven to be a key race. MYSTERY PROSPECT continues to rise in class as he eyes his fourth straight win and he might be good enough to do it, if he can run to that figure he posted two back; he regressed a bit in terms of Beyers in his latest but a slow pace made a big figure tough to come by. B. B. BEST faded in his latest but he's back to one turn today and he may be able to shake loose and dictate a mild pace, which would represent a big edge against this short field.

**Ninth Race: 1. He's Appealing 2. Lean Machine 3. The Silver Tune**

HE'S APPEALING, kin to nine-time turf winner He Flies, has shown speed in his last couple, on the dirt, but he also chased a fast pace before tiring in his lone turf/sprint try; that was a decent effort and it suggests he'll fare well at this reduced level, especially if the pace is milder, as expected. LEAN MACHINE is from a barn which wins at a high rate with all types but with turf sprinters in particular; he's shown speed against better on the main track, and though he tired when in a duel last time a clear lead would move him up today. THE SILVER TUNE was far back in his last three starts but his best effort to date, by far, was his lone turf/sprint try; worth a look at a long price on the strength of that running line alone.