

GULFSTREAM ANALYSIS

By MIKE WELSCH



BEST BET: Aqab (6th race)

First Race: 1. Just Jane's Girl 2. Sophisticated Lass 3. Openedforbusiness

JUST JANE'S GIRL passed several late in a race she should benefit from when making her local and 3yo bow 23 days earlier. Figures to trip out nicely behind what could be an extended pace duel. SOPHISTICATED LASS the logical choice if able to repeat her sharp effort, this tag, two back, but not likely to see the lead as readily with Samantha's Song in the lineup. OPENEDFORBUSINESS lost all chance when off slow from difficult post in her debut. Has since gone back to the gate for more practice, shading :47 when working from the barrier on 2/26. No works since and the fact she cost \$115K at auction and shows up under a \$30K tag does raise some red flags.

Second Race: 1. Biker Boy 2. Forefathers 3. Green Vegas

BIKER BOY a very talented colt who returned from a long layoff to manhandle N2X opposition here last month. Lone caveat the fact he must break from difficult post at what figures to be a very short price. May face his chief threat from uncoupled mate FOREFATHERS who was hard used contesting the pace while forced to skip a condition for his first start of the season. Multiple graded stakes placed sort has run some big ones on occasion and his best would make him a dangerous threat to the favorite. GREEN VEGAS on the improve. Wheels back on relatively short rest after turning in even try in recent state bred stakes.

Third Race: 1. La Rocca 2. Funny Moon 3. Unrivaled Belle

LA ROCCA lost all chance at first asking, held own vs. winners stretching around two turns over the OBS artificial strip just three weeks later. Dongs blinkers, need only repeat last to earn her diploma in this spot. FUNNY MOON second best after circling field on the turn when launching her career at seven furlongs. Rail draw no bargain out of the mile chute but must respect the potential she showed in her bow. UNRIVALED BELLE and Zesty Brew a couple of intriguing looking new faces. Former apparently did not meet her reserve price at the sale as she runs in the interests of her breeders. Turned in bullet half at Payson in final preparation for her bow but like Zesty Brew facing daunting task launching career out of the mile chute.

Fourth Race: 1. Storm Tease 2. Cocktail Attire 3. Yogi's splashofgold

STORM TEASE turned in a very encouraging turf bow when showing her heels to a more experienced bunch of mid-priced grass specialist before fading to finish third in a relatively well graded dash. Race has since produced a pair of next out winners including also -ran Gypsy Lov who came back to win an N1X allowance dash on grass with an 88 Beyer. Could stand some catching if she leaves running from the hedge. COCKTAIL ATTIRE drops to a little more suitable spot after facing tougher in her first try over the local sod. Has turned in a couple of sharp works since that outing. One to beat on her best. YOGI'S SPLASHOFGOLD has trained smartly over the main course for her return from a 10 month hiatus although still somewhat unproven on grass. Looking for big improvement out of the Irish bred Connie Mac who flashed speed following tardy beginning when trying two turns in her U.S. bow. May find this distance more suitable for her talents.

Fifth Race: 1. Tiffany Rock 2. Officer Cat 3. Barbara's Attitude

TIFFANY ROCK was hung wide, faded late against \$20K conditione claimers in her return to the main track off failed turf experiment now plunges right to the bottom and perhaps well spotted to get back on winning track for the first time since graduation day. OFFICER CAT also gets what may prove to be some significant class relief after losing best chance with an awkward beginning in her first try with winners. Late running sort should benefit from all the speed in this lineup. BARBARA'S ATTITUDE flashed brief speed, faltered badly as one might expect having been idle for well over a year. Like the fact she's had five subsequent works under her belt in preparation for her return. May still be a race away from her best but expecting enough improvement to make her formidable with this bunch.

Sixth Race: 1. Aqab 2. Betelo 3. Intaglio

AQAB, the day's best, has never lived up to the high expectations that came with that \$1.45 million purchase price but he may finally find himself in the right spot to get back on the winning track if able to avoid some of the traffic troubles that plagued him here earlier in the session. BETELO the big question mark returning from a nine month layoff and dropping for low tag after posting 82 Beyer winning his maiden over this course at 3. Workouts have been fast and steady datinb back for more than seven weeks and barn very dangerous off the bench. INTAGLIO a steadily improving sort who comes off well graded maiden win. Must respect in his current form if able to draw in from three deep on the AE list.

Seventh Race: 1. I Am Trouble 2. Mama's Wonder Boy 3. Suave Baron

I AM TROUBLE ran a quarter mile and was virtually eased while taking quick plunge off the claim earlier this month giving the impression there is nothing left in this tank. But the fact he now wheels back in just 10 days and the same rider is willing to sign on again is enough to give him one last chance at may actually be a fair price despite the drop to bottom level open claimer. Should the preferred one be out of gas, MAMA'S WONDER BOY the most logical alternative although he too a little suspect dropping below level of recent claim. Exits one of the biggest "key" races of the meet, a heat which produced four next out winners two of whom returned to win at Laurel and Pha Park. SUAVE BARON has been away since September when finishing second in a race that produced trio of next out winners. Works have been steadily here for some time and barn can have one ready off the bench although does not go to main main Johnny V. here.

Eighth Race: 1. Just Livin a Dream 2. Gold Record 3. Triqueta

JUST LIVIN A DREAM returns to more suitable spot after holding own against stakes opposition in two local appearances this winter. IMproving filly should be along with repeat of last pair. GOLD RECORD has been competitive in both starts at this level during the meet despite less than clean trips. Ready for best yet making third start of her current form cycle with a little better racing luck. TRIQUETA continues to improve with every start. Dominated high priced maiden claimers in her last. Can handle the hike to the next level with another forward move.

Ninth Race: 1. Platina Rose 2. Mambo Jumbo 3. Hustle

PLATINA ROSE not only showed some renewed life but ability to run past horses when dropped to this level for the first time last month. Was good enough to prompt Coa to sign back on after abandoning ship following poor effort caused by bad start on opening day. MAMBO JUMBO has sandwiched a couple of good tries around one stinker and the one to fear if she draws in off the AE list. Like the even running debut turned in by HUSTLE when launching her career against similar bottom level selling types five weeks earlier although she's had only a single published work in the interim. Garcia thought enough of the effort to retain the call.