

## GULFSTREAM ANALYSIS

By MIKE WELSCH



### BEST BET: ( race)

#### First Race: 1. Miss Mecke Mouse 2. Holy Trouble 3. Fappie's Pet

MISS MECKE MOUSE claimed for \$35,000 on Jan. 22, shows up two months later under a \$6,250 tag with a ten pound bug making the first start of his career. Lots of red flags but owner trainer combo of Calabrese and Ward and that bullet half mile drill on 3/8 perhaps enough to give her the edge against this soft bunch. HOLY TROUBLE wired this same kind as an odds on favorite earlier in the session for Lake barn. Back at that level after breaking well behind the field stepping up, stretching out off the claim. The logical alternative to preferred choice. FAPPIE'S PET won this condition in November but idle since mid-December and showing big gaps between her recorded trials. Knows how to win but perhaps a bit of a question mark off the bench.

#### Second Race: 1. Premier Event 2. Osceola Prince 3. Car Thief

PREMIER EVENT drops to weakest level yet while shedding the shades for new conditioner. Turned in wide running, even try against a pretty fair bunch over at Tampa four weeks earlier. OSCEOLA PRINCE another Ward dropper coming off the turn with several very solid works on the resume' since his last. Big danger if able to shake loose early from CAR THIEF. The latter at his best when on the lead himself. Turns back to more suitable distance after setting pressured pace, fading late at a mile when stepping into this category for the first time earlier this month.

#### Third Race: 1. Out of Africa 2. Pick Off 3. Rejoice Royce

OUT OF AFRICA has failed to show his best speed in each of his last two starts but expecting him to be a forward factor throughout on stretch to a mile. Might get brave if able to get his head to the front. PICK OFF finished in front of preferred choice after forcing pace, fading late as the 7-5 favorite on 3/4. Now a beaten favorite in both tries since registering well graded maiden win early in the session. REJOICE ROYCE back on four days rest and perhaps with the best late kick of this bunch if able to fire top effort off the quick turnaround.

#### Fourth Race: 1. Catching 2. Exclusive Hopper 3. Rovina

Little to choose between old nemesis CATCHING and EXCLUSIVE HOPPER both of whom fit the conditions of this race perfectly having yet to win a race in '09. Former second best behind next out, \$50K winner Black Mink in her last. Should get the early jump on Exclusive Hopper who is stuck in second gear of late and a beaten favorite in four of her last six trips. ROVINA also exits key Black Mink affair(three next out winners) when losing best chance when falling far back after steadying at the break.

#### Fifth Race: 1. Formal Diamond 2. This Gal Is Mine 3. Lizzie Grey

FORMAL DIAMOND could not overcome tough inside post for debut types and subsequent eventful trip while still beating five of nine rivals in her debut. Draws a little more favorably the second time around. AS good as any in this spot. THIS GAL IS MINE knocking on the door with this kind although a beaten favorite in four of her last five and certainly vulnerable once again at a short price. LIZZIE GREY stopped badly after sprinting to easy lead going a mile against better two weeks earlier. Sheds the shades, might not stop so readily with these.

#### Sixth Race: 1. Gone Mining 2. Blazing Taurus 3. Fiji Boy

GONE MINING could not overcome slow start, wide trip from bad post when debuting against \$80K rivals in mid-January. Gets ample class relief for return outing and with numerous turf works under his belt since his bow. Dons shades. Enough angles here to give top billing against a weak bunch. BLAZING TAURUS back to the surface over which he figures to be at his best being kin to a trio of grass winners including Grade 3 winner Blazing Fury. Has had a couple under his belt on the main. Looking for major improvement today. FIJI BOY another returning to a surface he should handle considering his breeding. Encountered trouble in both local tries on the main. Daughter of turf winner Fiji Girl showed enough in her turf and career bow to merit much consideration with these.

#### Seventh Race: 1. Thenputitback 2. Bakarar 3. Yes I Am American

THENPUTITBACK stays put for the second straight outing off a claim. Finished behind Babylonian in each of her last two starts, the latter stepping up to beat open \$30K company over the weekend. Should trip out well behind the speed in here. BAKARAR dropped to the bottom, flashed high speed to post relatively strong figure on graduation day. Shows only one work since the outing. YES I AM AMERICAN overcame trouble on the bend to win her maiden when plunging to the depths of the maiden claiming ranks and nicely spotted off that effort. Perpetuity the third member of this field coming off low level maiden win. Visually impressive that afternoon, overcoming extremely slow start to mow down 11 rivals at first asking.

#### Eighth Race: 1. Fair Weather Stan 2. Ballast 3. Murch

FAIR WEATHER STAN, the day's best, a bit overmatched when the real running began in his last start. Drops in against much softer when tagged for the first time today. Former stakes winner taken to assert his class edge, get back on winning track with this kind. BALLAST also showed up under a straight tag for the first time and another who should appreciate the class relief. MURCH comes off a much improved showing when dropped to this level for the first time earlier in the meet. REpeat performance puts him right in the thick of this one down the stretch.

#### Ninth Race: 1. Dancerama 2. Great Doxology 3. Strollin in Paris

DANCERAMA debuts off a couple of good looking half mile drills at Palm Meadows and barn can have one ready to win off the bench. GREAT DOXOLOGY one of two from team Pletcher in the nightcap. Another working well at the training center for her bow. STROLLIN IN PARIS the best of the experienced ones in this lineup and shortening back to a distance she handled well behind repeat winner No Speed Limit when launching career for half this tag in late January.