

GULFSTREAM ANALYSIS

By MIKE WELSCH



BEST BET: Sneak Peek (3rd race)

First Race: 1. Champagne Lake 2. Cacun Cacun 3. A Little Humor

CHAMPAGNE LAKE just failed when dropped back to this level earlier this month and taken to be along in time wheeling back vs. similar in the opener. CACUN CACUN turned in a game effort before succumbing grudgingly stretching to nine furlongs off series of sprints and perhaps the one to beat again. A LITTLE HUMOR drops to the bottom, stretches around two turns for the first time and demands respect being a stranger to this weak category.

Second Race: 1. Girl Can Rock 2. Cheer Up 3. Ivory Empress

Looking at the new faces, all 3yos, considering the older and experienced members of this field have yet to Beyer higher than a 66. GIRL CAN ROCK by El Prado out of a four time Grade 1 winning mare. Has worked steadily for her bow since arriving here in December with a couple of bullets in the holster to recommend her chances at first asking. CHEER UP out of a SW mare and kin to G3 winner Change Up. Barn owns huge ROI with debut types. IVORY EMPRESS out of a multiple SW mare by Seeking the Gold but perhaps better bred for turf than dirt. Still must respect off steady series of five furlong PM drills.

Third Race: 1. Sneak Peek 2. Seven Halo's 3. Mas Macho

SNEAK PEEK, the day's best, set the pace into the stretch before fading late going nine furlongs in his first start on dirt while racing against the grain of a biased strip. Turns back to a mile, ready for best yet making third start of his current form cycle. SEVEN HALO'S another making third start off the layoff and coming off a game showing from deeper going on fence four weeks earlier. MAS MACHO set pace, succumbed grudgingly going a mile and one eighth back on Feb. 14 but a bit conspicuous by his absence ever since. Another turning back to what may be his best distance.

Fourth Race: 1. Our Honor 2. Frozen Prospect 3. Crack the Cognac

OUR HONOR broke slow, did well to pass more than half the field while finishing best of all under similar conditions when a beaten favorite in his local grass bow. Willing to give another look with a cleaner beginning. FROZEN PROSPECT FROZEN PROSPECT chased, prove no match for winner while holding second money in her first start in five months for top turf barn. Hard to ignore. CRACK THE COGNAC a beaten favorite against allowance company earlier this month and getting some major class relief dropping in against N3L types.

Fifth Race: 1. Matchless Orinda 2. Whirling Agatha 3. Halo Hollie

MATCHLESS ORINDA hard to fault in her current form. Continues working smartly since second straight one sided win over the local strip. May have to outlast stablemate WHIRLING AGATHA who comes off her best yet under similar conditions on 2/4. Like the looks of those two six furlong works since that outing. HALO HOLLIE idle a year and making first start for high profile barn. Works appealing enough to give her a look despite the long layoff.

Sixth Race: 1. Awesome Six 2. Kiss the Queen 3. Ash

AWESOME SIX back to Pletcher barn, adds blinkers, drops to fairly soft level for her '09 bow. Lots to like including prospect of stretch running filly getting ample pace to run down at the end. KISS THE QUEEN back to her favorite surface, discards blinkers, off dull main track try. Also getting significant class relief. Showed enough in her local bow to spring the mild upset. ASH returned to the turf to post career best effort from a Beyer standpoint and well posted from the hedge to grab at least a minor share.

Seventh Race: 1. Sweettalkinjerome 2. King's Fleet 3. Saturn Five

SWEETTALKINJEROME idle since even try at a mile at CD in his 3yo finale. Works have been fairly steady of late if not spectacular and the distance should prove no obstacle. Taken to be along if ready for best off the bench. KING'S FLEET overcame tough stop when hopping at the break, wide trip to be second best behind runaway winner and in peak form at the current time. SATURN FIVE back to the bottom where he was a beaten favorite going two turns earlier in the session. Not sure what to make of Blazing Taurus who gets the bends plunging right to bottom from MSW level but obviously a potential win threat with this kind.

Eighth Race: 1. Impressionism 2. Belle Allure 3. Namaste's Wish

IMPRESSIONISM back to allowance ranks after holding her own with Grade 3 company up at Tampa. Overcame early trouble, charged from mid-pack to be second best behind loose on the lead winner under similar N2X conditions early in the session. Shaky nod amongst a very wide open bunch. BELLE ALLURE tries allowance company off the bench in her second U.S. try. Gets full makeover, Lasix and blinkers, for the outing. Barn more than capable off this type of layoff. Class of field having already won a Group 3 across the Pond. NAMASTE'S WISH another vaning down from Payson for top barn for her '09 bow. Held own with some good ones including tough I Lost My Choo at 3. Another of many options in this spot.

Ninth Race: 1. Ginger Brew 2. One Caroline 3. African Violet

GINGER BREW back to conventional dirt for only the second time in her career, the first resulting in near miss behind then red hot Shes All Ellish here last winter. Three time stakes winner has enough class to register the mild upset should odds on ONE CAROLINE not be up to the test. The latter strictly the one to beat and should have no trouble handle the added distance having won her first to career starts around two turns. AFRICAN VIOLET comes off much needed outing when returning from long layoff on the turf earlier in the session. Connections thought enough of her chances to supplement at a cost of \$6,000. Extended Eclipse Award winner Proud Spell to a close decision last summer in the Del. Oaks. Has the talent if not needing one more to be at her best off lengthy hiatus.

Tenth Race: 1. Outstanding Henny 2. Mystic Miracle 3. Queen Caribees

OUTSTANDING HENNY overcame unlucky beginning to beat more than half the field against MSW types in her most recent start now returns to level of near miss behind ultimate B Cup winner Maram last summer at the Spa. May have enough class to handle high claimers in finale with clean sailing. MYSTIC MIRACLE overcame trouble to finish fourth of 12 in promising grass bow. By Unbridled's Song out of a mare who was never worse than third in five starts on turf. Looking for improvement with one under her belt over the course. QUEEN CARIBEES impeccably bred for the going by Cozzene out of a mare who won six races over sod. Looking for best yet coming up tagged for the first time in the nightcap.