

GULFSTREAM ANALYSIS

By MIKE WELSCH



BEST BET: Saturn Five (4th race)

First Race: 1. Starship Steve 2. Starship Valor 3. Anythingyouwant

A nice one, two punch for the entry for those trying to beat logical fave ANYTHINGYOUWANT. STARSHIP STEVE the lighter raced of the pair and perhaps more likely to improve off his previous effort when trouncing maiden platers here two weeks earlier. STARSHIP VALOR one of only three multiple winners in the field and another coming off far and away a career best performance. ANYTHINGYOUWANT owns the highest Figs in the field including an 84 earned for beating up on similarly conditioned rivals going five eighths on 12/11. Came back in nine days to finish second in key race which produced trio of next out winners. Has stayed busy in the a.m. ever since. Hard to toss.

Second Race: 1. Can't Stop Lovin 2. French Dip 3. Off She Goes

CAN'T STOP LOVIN ran a zero Beyer when debuting late last summer in N.Y. but deserves a second chance. Took up when runaway winner rushed past in the opening furlong, remained prominent into the stretch then took up again while tiring near the eighth pole after which rider protected her the rest of the way. Working steadily for her return over local soil. Should come away running from the open box. Might not look back if none of the firsters have any gas. FRENCH DIP and OFF SHE GOES looks best of the new faces. Former by Speightstown out of a G1 winning mare although brought less than \$300K at the yearling sales despite such breeding. Still must respect showing usual resume' of Pletcher works in preparation for her bow. Off She Goes has shown speed on several occasions over same PM strip getting ready for her debut and like French D. launches career on Lasix.

Third Race: 1. Tri to Dance 2. Fappies for Chance 3. Meadow Ashlee

TRI TO DANCE returns from Tampa off a clunker albeit against \$15K opposition. Previous try two weeks earlier over same strip much better and this mare held her own with N1X opposition at Calder last summer. Lures top rider, figures forwardly throughout. May be a bit too classy for these. FAPPIES FOR CHANCE hard to fault in her present form winning her last pair for same tag. Wheels back in just 17 days off most recent tally but still the one to fear in her present form. MEADOW ASHLEE drops to the bottom after having little excuse against slightly better at 9-5 here four weeks earlier.

Fourth Race: 1. Saturn Five 2. Mr. O'Toole 3. Ankimo

SATURN FIVE, the day's best, plunges to the bottom off fair effort in his turf boy. Worked well with the addition of blinkers for this. Should be too good for these. MR. O'TOOLE another taking sharp plunge and obviously a major disappointment for his connections after costing more than 7 times this price as a yearling. Did show some speed against MSW opposition on the grass in his debut and had bad luck here last month. Another whose inherent class figures to stand him well at this level. ANKIMO didn't make the cost when launching his career in a race that may ultimately wind up producing a Ky. Derby contender in Alma d'Oro. That said, this one showed very little that day and now wind up on the bottom with, like the preferred choice, blinkers on. Should show marked improvement from the class relief alone.

Fifth Race: 1. Awakino Cat 2. Aircraft Intercept 3. Mr. Silver

AWAKINO CAT one of numerous contenders in this interesting condition which favors those running for the tag. Turned in a couple of corking allowance wins, this distance, within a 17 day span at 3 and barn certainly known for success in turf races including grass sprints. Inside draw could be a plus if he can get decent position behind the dominant speed types in this lineup. AIRCRAFT INTERCEPT is one of the major early players and likely will be overlooked coming over from Calder where he skipped a condition and was outnodded by MR SILVER in his '09 debut. Could turn things around in the rematch if able to shake loose from the inside. Mr. S. a hard knocking turf sprinter who already owns a win over the course and like the preferred choice should trip out nicely just behind the speed. Can take another with a clean trip.

Sixth Race: 1. Remember Robin 2. Flight to Eden 3. Super Whipper

REMEMBER ROBIN well spotted to get back on winning track especially if he remembers how to stalk and close ala his Nov. 8 victory considering all the speed types in this lineup. FLIGHT TO EDEN another late threat who should benefit from expected pace scenario and already with a win here this winter. SUPER WHIPPER withstood race long pace battle to nearly outlast Flight To E. here last month but perhaps better suited to the kind of stalk and pounce trip that resulted in near miss on 10/25 and easy win last June.

Seventh Race: 1. Whirling Thunder 2. Separatist 3. Rocky Engagement

WHIRLING THUNDER finished several lengths behind likely favorite SEPARATIST when the pair met at a mile on 1/14 but took the worst of the trips that day when hung very wide on the opening turn and forced to take up briefly from tight quarters turning for home. Figures to benefit from that outing, his first in nearly 11 months. Separatist turned in a corking debut, finishing with good energy to prove second best at big balloons. Price won't be nearly as generous today for half to multiple turf winner Cute Cognac. ROCKY ENGAGEMENT a bit of a sleeper if taking to the course. Exits huge key race which has already produced three next out grads including runaway MSW winners Formidable and Battle Plan. Should handle the going being by Stormy Atlantic out of a Runaway Groom mare.

Eighth Race: 1. Fly With the Wind 2. Sweetsouthernson 3. Bandit Nailhead

Hard to look past FLY WITH THE WIND even at the short price considering the way he ran down better, this distance, four weeks earlier. Need only repeat that effort to take another with these. Should the drop from \$10K to \$6,260 off the easy win be too much of a red flag to take odds on, SWEETSOUTHERNSON is worth considering. Flashed speed, faded late after drifting around the bend in a very fast race and one from which winner returned to post a 96 Beyer winning a \$10K starter in N Y and runnerup was second in Tampa's Pelican Stakes at next asking. Figures on or with pace from the outset. BANDIT NAILHEAD defeated same kind going a mile in his last and well posted at the distance. Must respect right back in his current form.

Ninth Race: 1. Ruff and Ready 2. Fearless Eagle 3. Smooth Air

Pace scenario could enhance the chances of both RUFF AND READY and FEARLESS EAGLE both of whom figure to improve off their last starts when chasing the loose on the lead Jet Propulsion. Ruff and Ready was hung five wide around the final bend, finished evenly while making his first start since early August. Returned second time back from an even longer layoff to earn triple digit Beyer winning an N3X allow. race here last winter. Loves the course, should get some help with Jet Propulsion from Formal King among others in the rematch. Fearless Eagle was away even longer, turned in corking return after chasing Jet P. most of the trip. Another who'd benefit from a more honest pace. SMOOTH AIR the class of the field and training lights out for his return. Perfect on grass. Lots to like but the short price.

Tenth Race: 1. Mymamadontdance 2. Trusting Heart 3. What's the Deal

MYMAMADONTDANCE debuts for hot barn and like the fact barn's first call rider has signed on to ride a mid-level maiden claimer in the finale. Works have been steady if not spectacular both here and up at PM all winter. TRUSTING HEART took up early, was fanned five wide into the stretch before finishing willingly on the wrong lead in his local bow. Looks like a late threat in a field potentially loaded with speed. WHAT'S THE DEAL turned in very sharp debut when overcoming slow start to open long lead before succumbing at the end. Main caveat the fact he shows no published works since that outing.