

## GULFSTREAM ANALYSIS

By MIKE WELSCH



**BEST BET: Yesbyjimmy (3rd race)**

**First Race: 1. Halo's Verse 2. Valid Humor 3. Desired**

HALO'S VERSE cost \$500,000 as a yearling and is a half to multiple Grade 2 winner A P Warrior. Did not run to her backing when finally debuting earlier this winter at the Fair Grounds albeit in a race which produced pair of next out winners. Gets a mulligan considering his breeding and connections returning in this relatively weak MSW dash. VALID HUMOR back to the main off even effort in five furlong turf sprint. Has shown little since her 2-year-old campaign but may have enough speed to give these the early slip from open, outside box. DESIRED a \$2.2 million yearling who has failed to live up to expectations in two previous tries. Dueled, faded late when trying this distance for the first time off a long layoff and likely ready for best yet wheeling back against softer with that race under her belt.

**Second Race: 1. Untutable Gal 2. Illustrator 3. It's a Miracle**

UNTUTTABLE GAL finally back at the level for which she was claimed and re-claimed here last season. Has proven to be an erratic sort of late and the fact she shows just a single work on the resume' since her last start a bit of a concern but with enough class to take the measure of these. ILLUSTRATER hard to fault in her current form. Has rallied off weak pace scenarios in each of her last three starts including pair of big tries, this distance, over the local strip. Can handle the hike in her present form. IT'S A MIRACLE comes off her best yet in first start since transferring to Catalano barn. Another who demands respect in her current form.

**Third Race: 1. Yesbyjimmy 2. Hypocrite 3. Green Vegas**

YESBYJIMMINY, the day's best, did not handle the Poly-ride at Santa Anita as well as conventional dirt now returns to his favorite surface and should trip out perfectly from the outside gate. HYPOCRITE continues to improve but stretch running sort will need some help up front in a relatively paceless affair. GREEN VEGAS has shown signs of life since shipping across town from Calder base for his last two starts. Was hard used every step of the way still managed to overtake classy pacesetter First Word to get back on the winning track for the first time in more than two years.

**Fourth Race: 1. Stacie's Smile 2. Iberian Gate 3. Soul of Nataka**

STACIE'S SMILE plunges from MSW to maiden claiming company and like the fact Desormeaux climbing back aboard. Repeat of 2yo finale ini Kentucky should be good enough to earn this one her diploma. IBERIAN GATE takes similar drop in class albeit with no previous grass experience and frankly not a lot of turf breeding either. Banking on the fact she should be loose on an easy lead, might get brave over a course which had been favoring speed in recent weeks. SOUL OF NATAKA tries grass for the first time after launching career with a pair of tries over artificial stuff at Woodbine. Bred for the going being by Perfect Soul out of a With Approval mare and kin to three previous turf winners.

**Fifth Race: 1. Miss Catrina 2. Bakarat 3. Tadisha**

MISS CATRINA goes postward for third different set of connections in as many starts coming off yet another claim. Exits her best yet when stretched to a one turn mile for the first time and should trip out well once again from the outside gate. Taked to wear down the speed, hold off the late threats. BAKARAT dropped to the bottom, set a relatively fast pace but still had enough in the tank to hold on for well graded maiden tally. Might be good enough to handle the big jump to starter company especially if able to relax on the lead as expected in this spot. TADISHA has held her own against a big swifter than she'll encounter on drop to \$16K starter level.

**Sixth Race: 1. Cullinan 2. Baronshill 3. Trevelyan**

CULLINAN and BARONSHILL debut for a couple of high profile turf barns. Former by Johar, who is off to a good start as a sire of grass runners, and a half to three time graded stakes winner Rashani. Working steadily if not spectacularly for his debut. Baronshill also well bred for the going being by Mizzen Mast out of a Darshaan mare and a half to five time graded stakes placed Operation Red Dawn. Not working quite as fast as Cullinan at Payson but still capable of coming out firing off the bench. TREVELYAN and Stay Red perhaps best of the experienced ones. Former exits a race that produced a couple of next out winners while also adding blinkers for the occasion.

**Seventh Race: 1. Successful Love 2. Georgian 3. El Poco Diablo**

SUCCESSFUL LOVE and GEORGIAN chased home loose on the lead Post Time under similar conditions on 2/18 and may vie for the top prize with a little more honest pace scenario. Former was fanned extremely wide off the final turn while making first start for Olivares barn. Easily handled Post Time when second best under similar conditions earlier in the meet. Georgian had to check and alter course briefly near the eighth pole before settling for minor award for the 9th time in 16 career starts. The logical choice but a beaten favorite in each of his last four starts. EL POCO DIABLO the one to catch especially with a race under his belt following lengthy hiatus. Return to conventional dirt, especially this particular main track, a major plus looking back on his record.

**Eighth Race: 1. Big Top 2. Discreet Street 3. Custom for Carlos**

Taking a shot with Zito newbie BIG TOP, a Giant's Causeway colt who brought in excess of \$1 million as a weanling. Works have all been good including bullet half mile on full Feb. 28 tab that was three-fifths faster than the next best on the docket that morning. Break will be key to this one's chances. DISCREET STREET turns back in distance off a couple of useful tries to open the session. Had an impossible post while finishing fourth in a race from which runnerup Cool Coal Man returned to earn his diploma on Thursday. CUSTOM FOR CARLOS attended extremely fast pace, just failed to outlast another firster, Pletcher's B Z Warrior, in his debut and the logical choice off that 88 Beyer although fellow pace presser All the Bases bounced badly at odds on exiting same 2/11 dash.

**Ninth Race: 1. Admiralty 2. Wicked B. Havior 3. Song Shan**

ADMIRALITY turned in a big effort off the bench when second best behind odds on Keep Laughing despite an awkward start three weeks earlier. Pace of that race was much faster than what he's expected to encounter stretching to a mile. Already proven at this distance and beyond. May stand some catching. WICKED B. HAVIOR and SONG SHAN took runs at talented Biker Boy, paid the price through the stretch returning from long vacations going seven furlongs on 2/1. Former had been away more than two years prior to that outing and was a winner at this distance early in his career. Song Shan broke slow from the rail, faltered late in a much needed try of his own. Sheds the shades, figures forwardly throughout if he leaves with the others.

**Tenth Race: 1. Wild Promises 2. Love Cove 3. Scolara**

WILD PROMISES brings a six race win streak back to the site of her popular tally on Sunshine Millions day and well posted to take another in this bulky and talented lineup. Need only trip out clean in a race loaded with speed. LOVE COVE and SCOLARA could be the beneficiaries if the preferred one finds some traffic or the pace gets too demanding. Love Cove makes '09 bow for red hot outfit. Scolara overcame trouble to beat softer, this distance, earlier in the meet and yet to run a poor one at a mile.

**Eleventh Race: 1. San Valentino 2. Inquisition 3. Galligan Road**

SAN VALENTINO should have won at first asking after having best chances compromised by a poor start. Continues to work well and capable of handling the hike to MSW company with a clean start, forward move off his debut. INQUISITION has the look of a good one and sporting

top connections for his bow. One of many options in tough finale. GALLIGAN ROAD the likely favorite after posting 94 Beyer in key Captain Rio dash but inside draw and short price not the best combination against what looks like a pretty talented bunch.