

## GULFSTREAM ANALYSIS

By BYRON KING



**BEST BET: Five Star John (7th race)**

### **First Race: 1. Champagne Lake 2. Converse Girl 3. Perfect Cup of Tea**

CHAMPAGNE LAKE is dropped in class following a series of decent efforts in Florida this winter. She seems a bit quicker on turf than on the main track, but has managed a couple on-the-board finishes on dirt. CONVERSE GIRL ran seventh in her lone start when matched against better. Eligible to improve with added distance, experience, and first-time Lasix. PERFECT CUP OF TEA was not so hot against stronger opposition earlier this meet, fading in the lane after flashing speed. She gets her blinkers off and has the speed figures to challenge.

### **Second Race: 1. Distant Point 2. Rogue Minister 3. Jay Mike**

DISTANT POINT makes his first start for a tag after a dismal return Mar. 4 in allowance company. She starts for a skilled trainer in Allen Jerkens and should respond with much better against \$20,000 stock. He ran well over this track last year. ROGUE MINISTER gamely won against maiden \$15,000 opposition Feb. 4 and now makes his first start vs. winners. He has never raced beyond six furlongs, however - making him an unknown going seven eighths. JAY MIKE let from start to finish against maiden \$30,000 competition with blinkers added. He had a perfect trip on the lead, however.

### **Third Race: 1. Ollollyoxenfree 2. Calvary Charge 3. R B Happy Feet**

OLLYOLLYOXENFREE and CALVARY CHARGE - both stuck on the also-eligible list - figure prominently if they get a chance to start, with OLLYOLLYOXENFREE preferred over CALVARY CHARGE. The former ran third in a maiden \$40,000 turf race Jan. 7, finishing 2.25 lengths in front of CALVARY CHARGE, who was seventh. The latter then returned to run ninth on dirt, a forgivable race, as that came on dirt. Of those in the body of the field, R B HAPPY FEET is somewhat intriguing. She ran an improved fourth in her latest, and is bred to like the grass.

### **Fourth Race: 1. Chapel Run 2. My Daddio 3. Starship Steve**

CHAPEL RUN was outrun in a fast starter \$40,000 race Feb. 18 going a mile after breaking his maiden at today's distance of 6.5 furlongs. The drop into \$35,000 N2L opposition should be to his liking. MY DADDIO enters this race off six straight top-four finishes, suggesting he will prove a likely factor. He has speed and consistently posts quality Beyers. STARSHIP STEVE bombed in his first start against winners after romping in a maiden \$25,000 claimer. Inconsistent but dangerous with his best race.

### **Fifth Race: 1. Beau Jester 2. Pantheras Charge 3. Fog Island**

BEAU JESTER, dusted in a pair of starts against straight maidens, should love the drop to the cellar - the maiden \$15,000 level. High-percentage connections in his corner. PANTHERAS CHARGE comes here by way of Oaklawn, where he ran a clear second in fast time Feb. 15 when matched against slightly richer maiden \$20,000 claimers. FOG ISLAND fell a nose short of victory when second following a slow break Feb. 19. His Beyers are ordinary, but he could prove dangerous if able to break with the field.

### **Sixth Race: 1. Triqueta 2. Beso Del Sur 3. MollyisinthecLOUDS**

TRIQUETA needs to draw in from the also-eligible list to compete, but should outclass these if she gets in. She whipped maiden \$80,000 opposition Feb. 4 and is now in against \$35,000 N2L opposition. BESO DEL SUR also moves down the ladder. After dead-heating for the win against straight maidens at Calder, she ran 12th against allowance company here. Johnny V. and Todd Pletcher team up with her. MOLLYISINTHECLOUDS ran 10th here Feb. 4, a couple lengths in front of BESO DEL SUR, after running competitively at Calder in allowances. She seemingly doesn't have as much room to improve as BESO DEL SUR, however.

### **Seventh Race: 1. Five Star John 2. Pyramyst 3. Stratostar**

FIVE STAR JOHN joins the high-percentage barn of owner Frank Calabrese, whose claiming operation has proven adept over the years. Calabrese and trainer Danny Miller took this one for \$16,000 Feb. 11, and the horse ran a respectable fourth. Now looking for improvement for his new connections. PYRAMYST is a 15-time winner and four for four over the GP surface, but she is a mare matched against males. She figures to be tough, but fillies, in general, fare better against their male counterparts in turf races and dirt sprints - not mile races on the main track, like this one. STRATOSTAR makes his first start of 2009 after going 8 for 14 last year. He is likely better on turf and Polytrack than on dirt, but he has shown a fondness for this particular main track (4-2-2-0).

### **Eighth Race: 1. Pick Six 2. Jamaludin 3. March to Victory**

PICK SIX drops from the G1 GP Turf, a race in which he ran a close sixth after facing victorious Kip Deville in the early stages. He won easily the last time he raced in allowance company and should outclass this group. JAMALUDIN ran into traffic difficulties in finishing sixth in an allowance Jan. 8 here after a fine CD fall meet in which he had a second and a win on the grass there. MARCH TO VICTORY enters this race off three straight Beyers of 90 or higher, capped by a 94 in his latest when he easily defeated second-level allowance horses in his first start with blinkers.

### **Ninth Race: 1. Spanish Comedy 2. Chosin Reservoir 3. Sossego**

SPANISH COMEDY was outrun in his lone start when matched against straight maidens on turf, but should benefit from that race, as well as the drop in class to face maiden \$25,000 opposition. CHOSIN RESERVOIR has twice hit the board in three starts, including last time out when third against maiden \$30,000 here. She makes her third start off a layoff and looks poised for a quality race. SOSSEGO ran a lofty 64 Beyer for finishing a clear second after a slow break in a race against maiden \$15,000 stock. She moves up the maiden claiming ladder, though - which is typically tough to successfully manage.