

## GULFSTREAM ANALYSIS

By MIKE WELSCH



**BEST BET: Stevil (8th race)**

### **First Race: 1. Take It On Home 2. Have One More 3. Surfer Rooster**

TAKE IT ON HOME showed good speed before fading late going 6.5 furlongs in his debut and eligible to improve from the experience. Could be long gone with these. HAVE ONE MORE broke slow to lose all chance debuting at the MSW level, wheels right back for high tag. Looking for improvement if he leaves with the others. SURFER ROOSTER one of four firsters in the lineup, two of whom debut for a price lower than what they fetched at the yearling sales. Out of a mare whose first three foals to make the races are all winners.

### **Second Race: 1. Mean Demand 2. Caesar Beware 3. Lord Robyn**

MEAN DEMAND turned in a very promising turf bow here four weeks earlier when overcoming tough post to finish with good interest at a big price behind Dutrow's stakes tested Salute the Count. More favorably drawn for return against several who finished behind him that day. Can be along with any racing luck. CAESAR BEWARE had no luck at all when blocked behind rivals before finally extricating himself to rally mildly in aforementioned Salute the Count dash. Owns some big efforts at this level in N Y on his resume'. Dutrow drops LORD ROBYN below price he was claimed for at Keeneland and out of a pretty tough N3X optional claimer at Calder on New Years. Old veteran might still have enough in the tank to handle this kind.

### **Third Race: 1. B Z Warrior 2. Extinguish 3. Zifzaf**

B Z WARRIOR a half to multiple SW E Z Warrior from high profile barn. Outside draw to his advantage. Gate work on 1/25 four-fifths faster than stablemate French Dip who drilled MSW fillies on Saturday. EXTINGUISH has shown speed in each of his first two starts and could be ready for best yet making third start of his form cycle especially if able to clear off early today. ZIFZAF tries conventional dirt for the first time after making a five wide run at the leaders, hanging late going two turns over the local sod. Another who should benefit from his two previous runs.

### **Fourth Race: 1. Diamond Isle 2. Minidrop 3. Mount Wilton**

DIAMOND ISLE the key to this one taking sharp drop off a couple of good local tries which came within a four day span here last month. Reunites with Prado. Just a question of whether he's worth the short price. MINIDROP takes a mini-raise in class but not one he can't handle in his present form. Dominated cheaper here two weeks earlier and appears to be cycling back to his top form at the present time. MOUNT WILTON exits career best effort from a Beyer standpoint in his local bow and another who demands respect in his current form.

### **Fifth Race: 1. Khukuri 2. Tribal Bead 3. Wild Shooter**

KHUKURI turned in a game try in his debut across town and the guy that beat him came back to finish second under a \$50K tag here earlier in the meet. Lures Garcia. Eligible to graduate with any improvement. TRIBAL BEAD also drops for a tag after beginning career in Ky. with steady diet of MSW competition. Handled Poly well enough at Keeneland on 10/5 to suggest he should have no problem switching over to turf for the first time today. WILD SHOOTER by Fu Peg out of a mare who won three of eight starts on grass in Ireland during her racing career. Series of sharp works at PM indicates he could be primed for a big one right off the bench.

### **Sixth Race: 1. Brandy Bai 2. Swing Music 3. Lucky Liza**

BRANDY BAI returns to selling company after breaking last, dropping off slow pace trying \$40K start in her 2yo finale. Working steadily for her local bow and well spotted to get back on winning track from off what figures to be a hotly contested pace. SWING MUSIC another who should benefit from the projected pace scenario. Got bumped early, dropped back off relatively slow pace herself here on 1/28. Must overcome recent gate issues but should be coming best of all at the end. LUCKY LIZA and Truck Ride have shown courage under fire in the past and figure part of the early mix once again. Former in new hands off the claim after getting caught late as 7-5 choice in her 3yo bow.

### **Seventh Race: 1. Champagne Brunch 2. Mecke Me Free 3. Jabbok**

CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH has maintained good form for several months and gets big rider switch to meet's top jock for return to a course he's handle well in the past. Looking for him to lay close from the start in a field lacking much in the way of any real speed. MECKE ME FREE has won three of his last four with his lone loss during that span coming at the hands of the preferred one across town. Logical once again. JABBOK did not run badly in his only previous outing on grass which came much earlier in his career. Can handle the distance. Might try to steal this one from on the lead.

### **Eighth Race: 1. Stevil 2. Sr. Henry 3. Edge of a Shadow**

STEVIL knocking on the door with this kind and coming off a near miss when outgamed late out of the mile chute last month. Finished in front of next out N1X winner Discreet Treasure that afternoon and well posted at this distance. SR. HENRY finished right behind preferred choice when pair met on the 10th when returning to dirt off a steady diet of grass races. Another with a touch of class having finished second in Grade 2 American Derby at 3. EDGE OF A SHADOW makes the switch back to main track after running exclusively on grass for the past year. Has handle the surface well enough in the past to loom an upset threat in his present form.

### **Ninth Race: 1. Mimi's Kids 2. Gold d'Oro 3. Treasure Trail**

MIMI'S KIDS ran well at first asking and eligible to improve for barn spotting 26 per cent success race with horses making the second start of their careers. No question the turf credentials being by Lemon Drop Kid out of a Lear Fan mare. GOLD D'ORO stretches around two turns after opening career with a pair of seven furlong tries. Kin to Adriano working bullets. May ultimately prove the one to catch. TREASURE TRAIL has yet to live up to his breeding being a half to Grade 1 winner Balance and Eclipse Award winner Zenyatta. Perhaps the switch to turf will provide a wake up call considering her dam won twice on the inner.