Handicapping Analysis
Sun October 8th, 2023

Emily's Analysis

Hawthorne Race 1

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#7 SHADY MAPLE ALSTAR is still looking for that first win this season though has been competitive and that even includes the race last week when credited with the 5th place finish, though the effort as solid as many on the day and those returning here. Also with a “trip” on 9/24, #9 SHATTERED DREAMS one that overall must improve though certainly can step forward from the excuse last week.

#1 FIREBALLS PRIDE has been more consistent especially on the win end over #3 FOX VALLEY NAUTICA, though to his credit he has shown improvement and tough to ignore C. Stewart in the bike as a change today. The lightly raced #4 MOPPIES MOOSS also carries improvement and should be the case taking a step forward here off the 9/24 race visuals.

Hawthorne Race 2

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#4 FUNKY WIGGLE holds the edge in strong back class and returning to top form she stands out strongly in this compact field.

Hawthorne Race 3

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

The pace should be honest here once again given the complexion of the field and with the presence of #2 HE’ZZZ A WISE SKY in the race. HE’ZZZ also a confirmed front runner and can set a fast pace, sometimes to his detriment as was the case last week setting too fast a pace that caught up to him late. Should a similar pace scenario play out #1 FOX VALLEY GEMINI and #4 GET E UP should look to capitalize late.

Hawthorne Race 4

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#4 CALYPSO MOON comes back from one of the two common races on 9/24 and dominated the day and holds the edge coming back in here. #7 CHANGE THE TUNE was BTL way back on 9/10 and since and as one that typically follows an “every other” pattern all around should return to a top effort today. #1 STAND BY YOUR MAN changed the entire 9/17 race when breaking at the start as the favorite and keeping that in mind when looking at that common race. She returns from the 9/24 common race when off the board, though part of that due to starting behind the ground and ground loss on the first turn. With overall upside she will return here with a driver change for the first time this season and intent can be gathered with that adjustment.

Hawthorne Race 5

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

A lot of the horses in this field have been trading places race-to-race and overall similar times and figures as they return here. This could be the time for #2 LOUS PRIVATE EYE to have his day coming off a subtle trip against the flow on 9/10 and returning from an improved effort in the 9/24 common race. #5 LITTLE CHIPPER will have another chance to show his stuff here this season as a slight excuse impacted him here on 9/10 and as projected improved Tuesday (10/3) at HoP. Longshot #10 D’LOUIGI has more to show and while a driver change (and post) might be what he needs would not be surprised for him to show more this evening.

Hawthorne Race 6

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#2 HEATH BAR looked like one of a group on 10/1 that needed and should benefit from a start and comes back with that conditioning under their belt. That similar conditioning follows #6 TALK ABOUT VALOR, the 10/1 “chalk” that did have some excuse with the outside draw and overall visuals to suggest he can improve off that race. They will require a top effort though have the race needed to compete with #4 ON HIGHER GROUND shipping in as one that looks very strong in this race and a solid horse to beat.

Hawthorne Race 7

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#3 APPLE VALLEY has consistently recorded some of the strong efforts both times and figures with a class edge over many in this spot. #6 BOMBAY PARKWAY comes in as part of a group that could be weaker on class though upgraded from the trip (driver change back to C. Leonard) and strong close (despite the 6th place finish) on 9/24 – an effort that was not far off place finisher #8 DOUBLE PARKED, one that had the favorable trip and doing best to hold their position late.

Hawthorne Race 8

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#4 RADIANT DIAMOND was one of the more impressive performances from opening week and had to settle for place coming back on 9/24 though arguably ran the better race and “best” in my opinion.

Might see #10 FOX VALLEY SHANIA the second choice here and while she can improve off the 9/24 debacle, she still has her work cut out for her from the outside and with her run style as well as others in here that can show early positional speed. Alternatives (and value!) for the underneath include #6 SHESPERTIFULIKPERT and longshot #9 ZENA LOU.

Hawthorne Race 9

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

There are a few in this race coming back from “drawing a line through” races: #3 ROCK PARTY was taken well out of the race right from the start on 10/1 and showed run without J. Franco giving an honest effort to compete on the day. His form prior makes him a major contender.

On 10/1, #1 LA LOLITA broke stride, had ground loss, and showed run despite what it shows on paper; and that carries to #9 BLUE DEVIL as he was extra-wide unable to overcome the draw and ground loss still honest for show – those two coming in less “obvious” than place finisher, #5 JUSTA HINTOF SPICE.

Hawthorne Race 10

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

Giving #7 WHISKEY LOU the edge over #2 GJLINDAGRIT as the two should be the clear 1-2 betting favorites. Coming back from the common race with WHISKEY LOU on 9/24, #1 LOUS ESMERALDA and #3 PEEKABOO SAL carry upside as both were hindered right from the start and tough to turn the tables though can get into the mix.

#8 FOX VALLEY JESSIE must continue to improve, though she caught the eye with a BTL effort on 9/24 and prefer her (especially at the higher number) from the GJLINDAGRIT common race.

Hawthorne Race 11

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#6 NIKO MAN had the better of #5 GOOMSTER on 9/24 and tough to see a reversal of those two here. #3 WHATTA YEAR was upgraded from his first couple starts here this season when getting up to spice up the trifecta at 78.5-1 on 9/24. He looks to rebound to a top effort today as he was not asked last Sunday and that effort especially a strong late move gives him a look to get back into contention today.

Hawthorne Race 12

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

This is a competitive race and contentious enough to look outside #5 KING OF ACES shipping in and #4 MISTER SLEEZE as the favorite/shorter odds alone.

Longshot, #9 INCREDIBLE BOMBAY turned in a BTL effort on 9/29 one that should have him overlooked in this spot and off the recent running lines. The races on his best day stack up at this level and with his main rivals.

#6 NOT ME GRAM has recency on his side, the win from 9/16 and flow upgrade setting the solid pace on 10/1. #2 WESTERN VINNY can improve off the overall trip on 9/29. Also returning from the 9/30 race, #7 BOBS TIME has a notable driver change after not being asked and wide and #10 BAGMAN was also off the pace not asked – both have improving form while a top effort is still required.

Hawthorne Race 13

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#3 TREY ROCKETTE is going to make his second start on this circuit and improvement expected from a decent run closing ground late with ground loss and continued to run on after the wire. The outside draw could assist the number on #9 ALBERGO HANOVER coming back from a higher level event on 10/1 and makes his second start on this circuit.

Class relief comes into play for #5 ALWAYS A WARRIOR as he ships in for this event. #6 LUCKYCHRIS returns with some class relief and back to the level where he was competitive on 9/24. #7 GUSSY'S TRUMP CARD will be required to improve though another that finds some overall class relief from the races earlier this season and could be further intent with K. Husted in the bike today – he was the driver for Fox Valley Carlin, the 10/1 show finisher.

Keeneland Race 1

Post Time 12:00 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#4 G T FIVE HUNDRED could present a pace advantage in addition to being logical as he fits on class and speed coming off a series of competitive efforts under similar conditions here at Hawthorne. #6 NAVY SOUL is moving forward this season as a lightly raced four-year-old. He figures to be under the radar for the connections and off the recent running lines/finishing positions - despite a BTL effort last out, 9/19.

Keeneland Race 2

Post Time 12:32 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#2 QUEEN OF MISSOULA is another logical type - she fits with improving form and should handle the added distance. Arnold has sent out live runners as of late and shows up here with #5 GATHER a filly that was scheduled to run at Keeneland in April to suggest intent for this meet. As far as the debut, she had adversity from the start shown some interest, has more to show and the added ground is also to her benefit.

Keeneland Race 5

Post Time 2:08 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#1 SOUPER QUEST could be super tough in this spot with their early speed, rail draw and proven turf sprinter with figures that are consistent and on par. #6 MOUNSIEUR COCO has subtle back class and numbers that are buried and could be overlooked coming back from the 9/9 KD G3 ($1 million) event dealing with traffic and has a slight excuse. The rider change suggests intent and especially with trip as they should show more tactical speed today.

Santa Anita Race 1

Post Time 3:00 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

Longshot on the morning line, #11 GOLD FOOT turned in a sneaky good, BTL debut race where he had legit TROUBLE+ dealing with inside TRAFFIC still turning in a strong CLOSE and GALLOP+ after the wire.

Santa Anita Race 4

Post Time 4:35 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

Sean McCarthy could have a day with a few live runners on the card and coming back with #5 QUICKLY PARK IT off the freshening from Del Mar. She will return to the starter allowance condition, the level of her most recent start where the trip/TACTIC- compromised her chance to compete on the day and projects to IMPROVE.

Santa Anita Race 7

Post Time 6:09 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

This is a competitive race where a case can be made for many in this group. If the morning line sticks, #4 ZE'BUL has a look as a horse that has struggled to find where he fits and the connections placing him in some tougher spots where he should appreciate the class relief today. The surface/distance change should not be an issue.