Handicapping Analysis
Sat September 27th, 2025

Emily's Analysis

Santa Anita Race 1

Post Time 3:00 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#6 PAVEL'S ETOILE recorded some of the higher numbers in the field early in her juvenile season and could be flying under the radar of the group with experience as they return off the layoff for their connections.

On the recency side. #5 MENDELSSOHNS ANGEL brings upside from the two shorter turf sprint with today's STRETCH added furlong in play. That comes with trips from the TRAFFIC CLOSE on debut and RUSH TROUBLE WIDE in the recent 8/24 start while also picking up a rider change to J. Hernandez.

#4 SURFIN CANDY showed run in spots on debut though likely needed the race more from a mental standpoint. There was enough visually to suggest they have more to show and making some changes with added work for this second start.

Santa Anita Race 2

Post Time 3:31 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

The lone sophomore #3 BERLIN WALL is worth a value look in this field. They paired up solid figures and BTL efforts in the MSW races earlier this season, both races a similar par to today's event. They have been off since and freshened to remain sprinting at SA and noted a scratch from March from the 8.5f San Felipe (G3) and this a more reasonable go-through-the-conditions placement first against winners.

Santa Anita Race 7

Post Time 6:08 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

A contentious (Sun) early pace and honest 38 SpeedRate looks to make things tougher on ML favorite #4 DEVIL AMONG US in this spot to look for alternatives.

#3 SUPERNAL fits on form class and speed back on the main track and their runstyle to look for first run. They show similar, perhaps even upgraded Plot position/shape to #7 FOUR O SIX CREED and perhaps higher of the two on the board. #5 RAGING WATERS holds a similar Plot position shape to those two rivals and worth a look at the projected ML though could get play coming in off the recent place finishes.

#1 KAHUNA MAGIC also holds races that fit to contend and today's race shape suits their runstyle and a dynamic where they have had success in the past. Value is required as this now 7yo returns from another long layoff and at the same time requires that career top effort.

Santa Anita Race 8

Post Time 6:38 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#5 YELLOW CARD brings in current form and one that loos to appreciate a little more ground coming out of the 5f turf sprints at DMR. Numbers and class stack up on par and when keying off the B OptixGRADE in the G1 KYD stakes last year.

Intent appears in play for #8 FIRST PEACE second off and returning to the 6.5f turf course at SA. They fit on numbers and class and now form second off from the Green Flash (G3) making a WIDE CLOSE after the early TROUBLE_S and SHUFFLE. Common rival, #6 BEYOND BRILLIANT holds as the class of the field. They has some questions returning from the long layoff this summer in the Wicker Stakes though in each race moved forward. That was topped off with the strong CLOSE and GALLOP+ recording a B- OptixGRADE and improved number in the Green Flash (G3) last month at the shorter 5f distance.
#7 KALE'S ANGEL will be tested on class and requiring a top effort. They are returning to the preferred SHORTER distance from Oceanside mile, where they have shown distance limitation not only on the day, but throughout each two turn start. The connections had considered running in the 6.5f Franklin-Simpson (G1) on 9/6 at KYD though remaining here closer to home instead.

Santa Anita Race 10

Post Time 7:38 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#1 WARMING showed class from their debut win and dominant/B+ allowance return at DEL to support the rise in class. She held her own at SAR despite the timing and higher par and graded stakes level to suggest today's placement and lower par to move up naturally.

#13 MISO PHANSY fits on class keying off the B OptixGRADE from the Honeymoon (G3) back in May. She held her own recording a B- despite the outcome in the San Clemente (G2) a compromised dynamic making a MOVE X_FLOW. She projects to improve making the shift back to TURF after keeping fitness on the main track last month at DMR.

#8 FAVOR TO YOU and #9 EIFFLE will step up to make their graded stakes debut and off their races to date deserving of the class test and fit well with this field to compete.

#3 SCHILFLIED has shown some class weakness C+ in the graded stakes races though one to keep in the mix as she is back at her preferred ONE_TURN distance.