Handicapping Analysis
Fri June 5th, 2026

Emily's Analysis

Churchill Downs Race 1

Post Time 2:45 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#2 LOST CHORD is logical as the favorite taking the class drop and coming out of a complete EX/EXCUSE with the TROUBLE+ at the slightly higher MCL level and can IMPROVE off the 11th place outcome. #5 AUTHENTIC BEAUTY also projects upside with the shift in class and distance around ONE_TURN while coming off an EX/EXCUSE in their own right back on 1/31 and a more subtle TACTIC- TRAFFIC trip on 3/26 at Oaklawn, their most recent start.

Churchill Downs Race 2

Post Time 3:14 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#4 SPECIAL CALIBER should hold higher odds given the connections and recent finishing positions. The connections make the right move DROP down in class, something which has been waiting for them this season. In each start has been consistent number wise, and figures in range for today's race. In addition there has been subtle trips WIDE off the layoff at TP, chasing VF over the KEE turf and most recently on 5/2 at CD TACTIC (rider change today noted) while making a MOVE and visually can IMPROVE.

Churchill Downs Race 7

Post Time 5:50 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#9 FANCY SAILOR worth a look wheeling back under similar conditions from the EX/EXCUSE on 5/8. While the "trip" compromised their chances for a better outcome, they showed run making a MOVE through TRAFFIC and with the TROUBLE+ still making a late close. That is consistent with the two B OptixGRADE in MSW company at GP both solid, productive events. #11 PATROL SQUAR SIX also work an upgrade coming out of the 4/19 allowance at KEE with the TACTIC- making a MOVE X_FLOW and picking up a rider change to further intent. Should also note they have been patient for a grass race noting a scratch with the races off the turf back on 5/16 - also a scratch that day for #7 DR. AGNE set to make their layoff return and seasonal debut. A first start back as a 3yo capable of stepping up off their productive juvenile form and efforts in stakes company.

Santa Anita Race 1

Post Time 3:00 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#6 FREE AND HUMBLE wheels back under similar conditions from their most recent $25k claiming start on 4/30. They should hold value of the group from the common race noting an EX/EXCUSE on the day while also wheeling back from a win coming off the layoff and perhaps not the ideal part of their form cycle. K. Kimura picks up the mount, a live call overall and this season three starts in this j/t combination all finishing competitive (B/B-) second just knocking on the door.

#4 SUPER ELLIE gives up recency returning from the layoff and could require the start; at the same time hold form and figures on par for this race over the turf and competitive races under similar open $25k claiming conditions, something buried in past performances and race outcome.

Santa Anita Race 4

Post Time 4:32 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#6 NEVER IN DOUBT wheels back for a second start and upside from their 5/9 debut effort. A lot of their adversity began at the break with the SLOG and TROUBLES+ checking back to avoid the gap from the rail and chased in hand from off the pace (NO_PUSH) while running on late with a sneaky CLOSE behind the open length chalk winner, Christa McAuliffe.

Santa Anita Race 5

Post Time 5:02 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#3 EL REY REY is worth a value look and look on the track for front wrap removal as they return for this second start off the layoff. In terms of the recent layoffs they returned from the longer break on 1/16 with an EX/EXCUSE on the day projecting to IMPROVE and while the time off and front wraps noted on 5/16 it can be taken as a positive with a PRERACE+ appearance, slight flow (VF early) upgrade and the coming wheeling back here in just 20-days.

Saratoga Race 3

Post Time 2:54 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#8 ACCOST is worth a look back following the first two starts and the recent EX/EXCUSE at KEE making their seasonal debut. Prior to the race they made a positive PRERACE+ appearance however in the GATE and TROUBLES+ made a mess of the break and from there and early X_FLOW WIDE move before NO_PUSH late. The top two finishers on the day both quality racehorses both coming back to win in their next starts.

Saratoga Race 9

Post Time 6:28 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#5 TIME TO DREAM brings in current form and subtle trip from the outside in the Edgewood (G2) last month at CD finishing behind the top four (including rival #8 LION LAKE) together at the wire. TIME TO DREAM has been at their best at SAR on the inner course breaking their maiden with a B+ on debut and pairing the B+ for the second start, first against winners taking the PG Johnson stakes. Following that two race win streak recorded a B OptixGRADE, a winning type effort, with the show outcome in the Jessamine (G2) and closing out the season the BC Juvenile Fillies turf (G1) less than ideal outcome given the TACTIC- WIDE though overall projected to IMPROVE and has done just that this year, especially in the figures department.

Saratoga Race 11

Post Time 7:46 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#9 GEZORA was dominant/B+ with the BC F&M Turf (G1) win transferring the level of class from overseas stateside. Coming off the layoff last month in the Modesty (G3) while a win should be expected perhaps they needed the start, and given one with the shorter distance and G3 placement and subtle trip WIDE MOVE after the TROUBLE_S to assist on fitness here.

Value in the field lands with #4 LAURELIN progressive throughout her career, racking up five straight wins and while she has not had her picture taken since then, credit where its due with the B OptixGRADE in both the QEII (G1) and JC Oaks (G3) while coming off the layoff in the Beaugay (G3) last month at the shorter 8.5f distance to set up for a move forward here.

Saratoga Race 13

Post Time 9:04 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#1 ANGEL GIFT requires price compensation to play in this spot coming in she is not fast enough to win. With that said, she ran her career best figure first out as a juvenile at SAR some subtle trips in the three starts which followed while also running in stakes company. Where price compensation comes in for this case is the projection to improve as that is required while should be the time for them to improve first start out as a sophomore with steady works which appear on track to return at SAR.